



strengthening our faith

by rebuilding our heritage

October 2010

Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird I would fly about the earth seeking the successive autumns.
—George Eliot

My dear parishioners,

We certainly have much cause to rejoice and give thanks this year. In a few weeks, I will travel to Rome with many others to celebrate the elevation of Cardinal-designate Donald W. Wuerl to the College of Cardinals! Please keep our archbishop in your prayers in the coming weeks as he prepares for this honor, which should be a source of joy for all the faithful of the Church of Washington.

October is quickly winding down; thank God for all the sunshiny fall days! It seems only yesterday that I was dozing at twilight on the beach at Emerald Isle. Since my return, the pace has been nonstop and invigorating—weddings, the Feast of St. Matthew, our Fall Lecture Series, the Red Mass, the Anointing Mass, Alumni Days at my alma mater, Theological College, and all the regular parish events and liturgies. My responsibilities as Dean of the Northwest West Deanery brought more activity. I presided at the installation of Fr. Jean-Marie Vincent as pastor of the French-speaking parish of St. Louis de France, made visitations to two parishes and met with the clergy of the deanery. Before you know it, my brother priests and I will be intoning the Thanksgiving Day antiphon and getting the word out on our *NEW* Christmas Eve Mass schedule (curious????? . . . read on!!).

OCTOBER 30TH ~ DAY OF FORMATION FOR LITURGICAL MINISTERS ~

I hope the upcoming Day of Formation for Liturgical Ministers is marked on your calendars! Fr. Regan and the Liturgy Committee have planned a wonderful program for October 30th from 9:00 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. in the North Conference Room. Current liturgical ministers were invited to register through their respective coordinators, and we now invite all who may be interested in serving as Ministers of Liturgical Hospitality, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion or Altar Servers. This is a golden opportunity to renew our awareness of God's love and blessings and move towards a fuller participation in the liturgical mysteries that we celebrate. Hear about ministry, what it means and how it is manifested here at St. Matthew's. Discover more about each minister's fully conscious and active participation in the liturgy. Register by contacting Fr. Regan at the rectory.

NOVEMBER PRAYERS & REMEMBRANCE ~

November presents a special opportunity to come together in Christ Jesus to remember and pray for the Poor Souls—those who have died in the friendship of God must be further purified before being united with Him. Traditionally, we Catholics remember our deceased loved ones in a special way throughout the month. Join us on *November 2*, All Souls' Day, when Cardinal-designate Wuerl is scheduled to celebrate the 12:10 p.m. Mass. In addition, we will offer a special Mass each day of the month. Special envelopes are provided in the pews so that you can list the names of deceased family and friends to be remembered at these daily Masses. You also will find one enclosed. Please return the envelope to the rectory or place it in the collection basket at your convenience.

ON THE WAY: ADVENT & CHRISTMAS ~

Adopt-a-Family. Last Christmas, thanks to the enormous generosity of time and treasure of our parishioners, we assisted 29 families, 43 youths and children from Catholic Charities' foster care

program, and the clients of the parish's weekly Homeless Ministry program. This year has been even more difficult for families and we are asking for your support. If you and your family, friends or co-workers are able, please consider "adopting" one of our needy families at Christmas. For more information, please contact Fr. Evelio Menjivar at emenjivar@stmatthewscathedral.org.

NEW Christmas Eve Mass Schedule. This year, instead of Midnight Mass, **Cardinal Wuerl will celebrate a Solemn Mass of Christmas at 10:00 p.m.** following a prelude concert by the Schola Cantorum beginning at 9:15 p.m. I will celebrate a Vigil Mass of Christmas at 4:30 p.m., with a prelude concert beginning at 4:00 p.m., and Fr. Evelio Menjivar will celebrate una Misa de Vigilia de Navidad at 6:30 p.m. con coro. Next month's letter will include the full Advent and Christmas schedule in our brochure, but I wanted to give you advance notice for your holy day planning!

St. Matthew's Christmas Cards. Speaking of Christmas . . . boxed sets of our beautiful Christmas cards featuring the St. Matthew's Crèche scene in full color are now available for purchase at the rectory. The cost is \$15 for a set of 10 cards and envelopes. The rectory opens at 9:00 a.m. every day and closes at 8:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday and at 4:00 p.m. on Friday through Sunday. For more details, visit www.stmatthewscathedral.org.

OUR PARISH NEEDS ~

Enclosed with this letter is the financial statement for FY 2009-2010. First, thank you for your continuing generosity. I am most grateful. At the same time, please appreciate our struggle to absorb significant increases in health and property insurance premiums and archdiocesan assessments. We project a net income shortfall of over \$100,000 for the 2011 budget year. We have pared costs, including shedding one permanent staff position, but we cannot eliminate costs altogether. We have many ministries geared to meeting your needs and those of the needy of our local community. We must leverage one of our strengths, namely, an increasing parishioner base. If *everyone* does his or her share, we can keep pace with our expenses. We need a conscious effort by *all* to contribute to the support of our parish. Only *one-third* of our parish households, or 953 households, have given an identifiable gift during the calendar year thus far. Consider how much better off we would be if the other two-thirds, or 1906 households, contributed just a dollar a week!

FAITH DIRECT ~

Consider taking advantage of Faith Direct, our Electronic Giving Program. This program allows you to make your contributions through a regular withdrawal from your bank to the Cathedral or via your credit card. There a number of advantages. For us, it keeps our income steady even when people are away! For you, it minimizes the effort needed to contribute regularly. Sign up online at www.stmatthewscathedral.org or in the back of the Cathedral after Mass this weekend. Many of our parishioners (275) already have joined and the feedback from them has been very positive.

CALLING ALL PARISHIONERS! ~

You may already have received a phone call or voice mail message from a volunteer parish representative asking on my behalf to update contact information in your parish record. Please take a moment to talk with him or her so we can stay in touch. Gracias!

Many thanks for all you do for the St. Matthew's parish community.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Rev. Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson, V.F.
Rector

Enclosures

Annual Parish Financial Report
Fiscal year ended June 30, 2010
St. Matthew's Cathedral #101 Washington, DC 20036

Fiscal year ended June 30,
2009 2010 2011
Budget

Parish			
Income			
Offertory collections	\$ 923,847	\$ 927,745	\$ 960,000
Daily and Holydays	\$ 82,325	\$ 75,997	\$ 80,000
Christmas Collection	\$ 94,290	\$ 98,410	\$ 111,200
Easter Collection	\$ 70,650	\$ 57,373	\$ 76,500
Donations	\$ 242,287	\$ 216,704	\$ 199,940
Bequests	\$ 160,793	\$ 55,000	\$ 50,000
Poor Box Offerings	\$ 45,863	\$ 51,028	\$ 50,900
Forward in Faith	\$ 38,363	\$ 23,189	\$ 10,000
Investment income	\$ (66,636)	\$ 98,493	\$ 110,000
Rental income	\$ 503,985	\$ 530,400	\$ 530,400
Sacramental Offerings	\$ 76,170	\$ 106,891	\$ 110,000
Restricted building fund contributions	\$ 158,805	\$ 168,175	\$ -
Other income			
Total income	\$ 2,330,741	\$ 2,409,405	\$ 2,288,940
Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	\$ 953,769	\$ 1,035,308	\$ 1,024,316
Parish life and worship	157,352	133,354	150,372
Rectory and parish clergy	36,038	43,186	40,100
Religious education	12,977	7,773	26,262
Social concerns	32,203	27,501	45,900
Administration and other	85,274	70,532	90,739
Facilities and maintenance	579,450	531,034	549,528
Archdiocese assessments	129,339	129,884	200,550
Parish Other Expenses	76,282	18,432	14,575
Total expenses	\$ 2,062,683	\$ 1,997,004	\$ 2,142,342
Net income	\$ 268,058	\$ 412,401	\$ 146,598
Other uses of funds			
Capital improvements	28,527	105,822	13,000
Loan payments	222,215	235,267	237,974
Subtotal	250,742	341,089	250,974
Net income over (under) expenditures	\$ 17,316	\$ 71,312	\$ (104,376)

Balance at June 30,
2009 2010

Balance sheet highlights for parish		
Assets		
Cash and investments available for operations, at market value	\$ 625,893	\$ 415,087
Restricted assets	1,328,663	1,571,748
Fixed assets	31,930,996	32,036,818
Total assets	\$ 33,885,552	\$ 34,023,653
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 4,018,853	\$ 3,760,495
Restricted liability	2,257,187	2,257,187
Fund balance	29,573,328	29,841,386
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 35,849,368	\$ 35,859,068

Fiscal year ended June 30,
2008 2009

National Collections		
Amounts collected and remitted in the Archdiocese National Collections	\$ 81,454	\$ 109,622

Fiscal year ended June 30,
2009 2010

Registered parishioners	2713	2856
Sacraments celebrated		
Baptism	172	189
First Communion	30	65
Confirmation	163	173
Matrimony	74	76