



October 2011

My dear parishioners,

This month I am enclosing our financial statement for 2010-2011 and our budget for 2011-2012, and a special letter regarding the parish's stability. It is time for serious thought and a realistic perspective. I am asking everyone in the parish to make a sacrificial contribution. I am not asking for a specific amount—this remains up to you and God. Currently, fewer than one-third of our households have given a recognizable gift in our offertory. A small gift from the other two-thirds-plus would make a REAL difference. To those who already give each week and in so doing, make a real sacrifice, I am so very grateful. You keep us afloat and keep all of our programs going. **Thank you so very much. Muchas gracias.** Please see my letter and the statement for a clear picture of our financial outlook.

A Busy Start to Fall

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, the Parish Mission, our Fall Lecture Series, the Red Mass, Alumni Days at my alma mater, Theological College, the Anointing Mass, and all the regular parish events and liturgies. My responsibilities as Dean of the Northwest West Deanery brought more activity. Before you know it, Thanksgiving will be here, as will the new translation of the Roman Missal.

November Celebrations

All Saints Day. Join us on the Solemnity of All Saints, a Holy Day of Obligation, celebrated at the Vigil Mass at 5:30pm on Monday, **October 31**, and at Masses at 7am, 8am, 11am, 12:10pm (celebrated by **Cardinal Wuerl**), 5:30pm and 7pm (Spanish) on **November 1**.

All Souls 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 but still have some purification to undergo for the sins they committed during their lives on earth. 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 Wuerl** will celebrate the 12:10pm Mass. In addition, we will offer a special Mass each day during the month. A special envelope is enclosed (and is also available in the pew racks) so that you can list the names of deceased to be remembered at these daily Masses. Please return the envelope to the Rectory or place it in the collection basket at your convenience.

Fall Faith Formation

Fall Lectures. Drop in for the final lecture of our Fall series when Dr. Susan Timoney, Executive Director for Parish Life at the Archdiocese of Washington, speaks on "Forming the Laity for the New Evangelization" on **October 26** at 12:45pm or **October 27** at 7pm, in the North Conference Room.

Msgr. Vaghi Reflections. Msgr. Peter J. Vaghi, pastor at Church of the Little Flower in Bethesda MD, will no longer give First Thursday theological reflections at St. Matthew's. Instead he will give First Friday reflections at 8am each month at St. Patrick's (near Metro Center at 10th and G Streets, NW). All are welcome. See www.johncarrollssociety.org for more information.

Catholic Pub Trivia Night. The Faith Formation Committee will host a Catholic Pub Trivia Night on Thursday, **November 17** at the Madhatter, a short walk from the Cathedral (1319 Connecticut Avenue, NW). Join us for happy hour beginning at 6:30pm and an assortment of Catholic trivia beginning at 7:30pm. Fr. Jack Hurley will be our MC.

On the Way: Advent & Christmas

Adopt-a-Family. Last Christmas, thanks to the enormous generosity of time and treasure of our parishioners, we assisted 35 families 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.

Advent & Christmas Liturgies & Events. My Thanksgiving letter will include the Advent and Christmas brochure with a fully detailed schedule. Highlights during Advent include our Day of Recollection on Saturday, **December 3**; the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception on Wednesday **December 8**, a Holy Day of Obligation; on Sunday, **December 11**, the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe celebrated at the 1pm Mass followed by a reception, and Lessons & Carols at 7:30pm that evening; and on Tuesday, **December 20**, our Communal Penance Service at 12:10pm.

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 9am every day and closes at 8pm Monday through Thursday and at 4pm on Friday through Sunday. For more details, visit www.stmatthewscathedral.org.

Special Parish Needs

Thank you! Special needs always crop up in parishes—needs that cannot be funded in the general operating budget. I am so very grateful to those who have responded to my recent requests. To date, we have received pledges for the New Roman Missals, one ordination dalmatic, two white chasubles, pew cards and the re-printing of the Latin Mass books. Another need in that vein is the replating of the 8 chalices used to give Holy Communion under both forms. One estimate for this project is \$500 per chalice, though I intend to get some other proposals before proceeding with this request.

Security Presence in the Cathedral. For several periods of time each week, the Cathedral is open to the public without the continuous presence of a sacristan. In the absence of a sacristan or another Cathedral representative, our rules of conduct are often violated in ways that interfere with the peace, sanctity and safe sanctuary of the Cathedral. After consulting with my staff and the Parish Pastoral Council, I have decided to pursue a trial solution—the hiring of an unarmed security guard to be present in the Cathedral for approximately 20 hours per week at a cost of approximately \$5,000 for a 3-month trial period. This will be possible only if we can fund the cost with donations for this special need. If the trial is successful, we will address future funding needs as they arise, including building the cost into our operating budget for the next fiscal year. If you would like to help with this or other special needs, please contact me at 202-347-3215 or rjameson@stmatthewscathedral.org. Thank you.

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

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Rev. Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson
Rector

P.S. – For information on making a pilgrimage to Spain & Portugal, pick up a brochure in the rectory, visit our website at www.stmatthewscathedral.org or call me at the rectory. Thank you.



October 2011

My dear parishioners,

I ask you to reflect for a moment on what St. Matthew's Cathedral Parish means to you. Has St. Matthew's made a difference in your life or the life of your family? Do you have warm memories of the priests, past and present, who have served you here? Maybe you were married or had a child or children baptized here. Maybe you were introduced to the teachings of the Church through our RCIA or learned more about them through our Faith Formation programs. Perhaps you made friendships through our many volunteer ministries or our Young Adult activities. Whether as a friend or parishioner, old or new, ***each of us is a beneficiary of more than 171 years of service and parishioner generosity.***

In light of your experiences, I invite you to consider how you can help secure the future of this parish with your time, talent and treasure. The last few years have been a struggle for St. Matthew's to meet its financial obligations. For example, ***last year's financial statement (enclosed) shows that we were in the red by \$99,560.*** I might add that the deficit included the effect of assessments paid to the archdiocese. To pay for those, we recently took funds from our investments. That operating fund is being depleted very quickly—not good!

A parish cannot survive without the generosity of its parishioners. Inflation has surpassed the old tradition of throwing “a dollar into the basket” during the offertory collection. I encourage you to make a thoughtful and sacrificial contribution to our parish. To maintain our current staff positions and other paid personnel (including visiting Mass celebrants and those choir members who are paid), pay our archdiocesan assessments and our own bills, maintain our ministries, continue to serve our community and reach out to those in need, and promote the *New Evangelization*, ***I ask you to help us erase the existing deficit in this year's budget (\$75,301).***

Thank you to those who are generous week after week. A few are *extremely* generous. The Bible speaks of a tithe of 10%. Some interpret that to mean 5% to your Church and 5% to other charities. How close do you come to that formula? You may not be able to reach that goal right now, but I would ask you to start. To those parishioners who have not given any recognizable gift at all, try to commit to something each week. You can set the amount. Any amount will help to make a real difference. Together we can actually make our modest budget work—without cutting into our investments. I know we can do it!

St. Matthew's accepts contributions via weekly offertory envelopes, automatic account withdrawal and credit card charges. All automatic payments are done through Faith Direct, offering a secure way to give even when on vacation, away on business, or prevented by illness from attending Mass. To enroll, visit their website at www.faithdirect.net and use our parish code (DC284), or call 1-866-507-8757 for more information.

I also invite you to consider how you can play a role in securing the future of this parish with a planned gift. Many planned giving options are available, including naming the parish in your will or estate plans, or naming the parish as a beneficiary of your life insurance or retirement plan assets. I encourage you who love St. Mathew's to consider making a planned gift that, God willing, will sustain this good work we know as St. Matthew's Cathedral parish.

To recap, I am asking you to help St. Matthew's by doing three things:

First, *give a sacrificial gift regularly,*

Second, *give your gift in a recognizable way,* and in particular, consider using Faith Direct, and

Third, *include St. Matthew's in your planned giving.*

I ask this, as I do all things, for the greater glory of God. Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "W. Ronald Jameson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rev. Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson
Rector

Each person should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:7)

Annual Parish Financial Report
Fiscal year ended June 30, 2011
St. Matthew's Cathedral #101 Washington, DC 20036

Fiscal year ended June 30,
 2010 2011
 Budget

Parish		2010	2011
Income			
Offerory collections	\$ 927,745	\$ 967,755	\$ 1,023,000
Daily and Holydays	\$ 75,997	\$ 81,812	\$ 87,000
Christmas Collection	\$ 98,410	\$ 103,546	\$ 116,700
Easter Collection	\$ 57,373	\$ 68,183	\$ 79,000
Donations	\$ 216,704	\$ 195,685	\$ 227,265
Bequests	\$ 55,000	\$ 30,856	\$ 50,000
Poor Box Offerings	\$ 51,028	\$ 61,699	\$ 61,800
Forward in Faith	\$ 23,189	\$ 2,331	\$ 2,000
Investment Income	\$ 98,493	\$ 61,057	\$ 115,000
Rental Income	\$ 530,400	\$ 535,686	\$ 538,134
Sacramental Offerings	\$ 106,891	\$ 112,049	\$ 123,800
Restricted building fund contributions	\$ 168,175		
Other Income			
Total Income	\$ 2,409,405	\$ 2,220,659	\$ 2,423,699
Expenses			
Salaries and benefits	\$ 1,035,308	\$ 1,013,985	\$ 1,104,806
Parish life and worship	133,354	125,911	170,502
Rectory and parish clergy	43,186	36,841	39,200
Religious education	7,773	8,950	22,342
Social concerns	27,501	35,055	41,575
Administration and other	70,532	100,568	94,700
Facilities and maintenance	300,327	298,854	317,500
Archdiocese assessments	129,884	203,229	214,200
Parish Other Expenses	18,432	14,943	15,175
Total expenses	\$ 1,766,297	\$ 1,838,336	\$ 2,020,000
Net income	\$ 643,108	\$ 382,323	\$ 403,699
Other uses of funds			
Capital improvements	105,822	15,910	13,000
Loan payments	465,974	465,974	466,000
Subtotal	571,796	481,884	479,000
Net income over (under) expenditures	\$ 71,312	\$ (99,560)	\$ (75,301)

Balance sheet highlights
 for parish

	2010	2011
Assets		
Cash and Investments available for operations, at market value	\$ 415,087	\$ 392,397
Restricted assets	1,571,748	1,999,730
Fixed assets	32,036,818	32,055,008
Total assets	\$ 34,023,653	\$ 34,447,135
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 3,760,495	\$ 3,558,047
Restricted liability	2,257,187	2,195,215
Fund balance	29,841,386	30,253,787
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 35,859,068	\$ 36,007,049

National Collections

	2010	2011
Amounts collected and remitted in the Archdiocese National Collections	\$ 109,222	\$ 74,328

Parish census data

	2010	Fiscal year ended June 30, 2011
Registered Households	2991	2679
Sacraments celebrated		
Baptism	189	161
First Communion	65	39
Confirmation	173	177
Matrimony	76	82