

Readings for February 16

Before man are life and death, . . . whichever he chooses shall be given him. (Sirach 15:17)

Free will. It's God's greatest gift to us, and it's also our riskiest characteristic. Free will has enabled us to decide for ourselves what kind of people we will be. It has enabled us to create music and art, to build cities and roads, to marry and have children. It has also enabled us to destroy instead of create, to hurt and betray instead of heal and build up. Most important, it's through our free will that we decide whether to follow Jesus or our own thoughts and desires.

Sirach seems keenly aware of how much of a two-edged sword our free will can be. Each of us, he says, is free to choose between "fire and water, . . . life and death, good and evil" (Sirach 15:16, 17). And God will respect whatever we choose.

Of course, our heavenly Father longs for us to choose life in him, but he will never force himself on us. He is not like the petty gods dreamed up by the pagans, who use threats and manipulation to keep their people in line.

God also knows that free will has consequences. And so Sirach teaches, "Whichever he chooses shall be given him" (Sirach 15:17). While God honors our choices, he also respects the results those choices bring.

In today's Gospel, Jesus gives us a real-life illustration: "Whoever is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment" (Matthew 5:22). If you choose to nurture anger, resentment, and condemnation, don't be surprised if other people begin treating you in the same way. But if you build an environment of trust and respect, that's what you will receive.

So choose life today. Use this awesome gift of your free will to choose gentleness, patience, and all the other fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). Above all, choose Jesus. Welcome him into your life, and let his love soften your heart. It's the best choice you could ever make.

"Jesus, help me to choose you in every situation today."

Taken from The Word Among Us, February 2020 Vol. 39, Number 3: Used with permission.

This Week's Readings

[View Mass readings \(USCCB\)](#)

www.usccb.org/bible/readings/index.cfm

Sunday 16	Si 15:15-20 / 1 Cor 2:6-10 / Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a,27-28,33-34a,37
Monday 17	Jas 1:1-11/ Mk 8:11-13 <i>Seven Founders of the Servite Order</i>
Tuesday 18	Jas 1:12-18 / Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday 19	Jas 1:19-27 / Mk 8:22-26
Thursday 20	Jas 2:1-9 / Mk 8:27-33
Friday 21	Jas 2:14-24,26 / Mk 8:34—9:1 <i>St. Peter Damian</i>
Saturday 22	1 Pt 5:1-4 / Mt 16:13-19 <i>The Chair of Saint Peter</i>
Sunday 23	Lev 19:1-2,17-18 / 1 Cor 3:16-23 / Mt 5:38-48

Parish Calendar

February 16 - 23

Sunday 16—Sunday Children's Faith Formation classes do not meet.

Las clases de Catequesis, Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar continúan a las 11:00 de la mañana.

A screening of "If Only We Had Listened" is held at 2pm in the North Conference Room.

RCIA Dismissal is held at 5:30pm Mass. Young Adult Coffeehouse meets in the North Conference Room after the 5:30pm Mass.

Monday 17—Presidents' Day, a Federal holiday. The Cathedral opens at 7:30am and closes after the 12:10pm Mass.

Masses are celebrated at 8am and 12:10pm, and there are no Confessions.

The rectory office is closed.

Eucharistic Adoration is not held this evening.

Tuesday 18—El grupo de Oración se reúne a las 7:00 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Oeste.

Wednesday 19—RCIA Catechumenate meets at 7pm in the North Conference Room.

Thursday 20—Celebration of the Word meets at 7:30pm in the East Conference Room.

The Knights of Columbus meet in the West Conference Room at 7:30pm.

Sunday 23—A

Mardi

Gras

Pancake

Breakfast

is held in

the North Conference Room

after Masses beginning at

9am.

Children's Faith Formation

classes meet at 9:45am in the N Street Building.

Las clases de Catequesis, Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar continúan a las 11:00 de la mañana.

Envío de Catecúmenados a la elección durante la misa de 1:00 de la tarde.

An organ recital is given at 3:30pm.

RCIA Rite of Sending during the 5:30pm Mass.



Preparing for Lent



Take Extra Copies to Share! – Find our Lenten brochures in the pews and at Cathedral entrances.

They list the full schedule of liturgies and events during Lent and Holy Week, including Ash Wednesday, **February 26**, which marks the beginning of Lent.

Please help us get the word out by sharing copies with family, friends and co-workers.

[View and share](#)

[the English Lenten brochure.](#)

<https://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/lent2020>



Ash Wednesday Masses with Distribution of Ashes – On **February 26**, Ash Wednesday, Masses

with the distribution of ashes will be offered at 7am, 8am, 11am (cantor), 12:10pm (**Archbishop Wilton Gregory**, choir; interpreted for the deaf), 1:15pm (cantor), 5:30pm (cantor), and 7pm (en español, cantor). There are no confessions on Ash Wednesday. Ashes are not distributed outside of Mass. **Stations of the Cross** are prayed at 3pm in English and at 8pm en español.

Bring Your Old Palms – Please bring your old palms to the Sacristy and give them to the Sacristan to be used to prepare ashes for Ash Wednesday. If the Sacristan is not available, please place them in the basket outside the Sacristy door.

Lenten Fast and Abstinence – Ash Wednesday (**February 26**) and Good Friday (**April 10**) are days of fast and abstinence. All Catholics who have reached their 18th birthday and are less than 60 years old are bound to observe the fast, by which they are limited to a single full meal during the course of the

day. All Catholics who have reached their 14th birthday must observe days of abstinence, during which no meat may be eaten. Ash Wednesday, Good Friday and all Fridays of Lent are days of abstinence.

The Light Is ON -- This Lent all parishes in the Arch-diocese of Washington and the Diocese of Arlington will offer confessions every Wednesday from 6:30 to 8pm. Confessions at St. Matthew's in English and Spanish will be heard from 6:30 to 8pm on Wednesdays beginning **March 4** (6 - 7:15pm on April 8) in addition to our regular confession times (11am-Noon weekdays, Saturdays 4-5pm).

News & Notes

New Rectory Office Hours – The rectory office now closes at 7:30pm Monday through Thursday each week. The new hours are as follows:

Mon – Thurs: 9am – **7:30pm**
Fri – Sun: 9am – 4pm

Presidents' Day Schedule – On Monday, **February 17**, Presidents' Day, the Cathedral will open at 7:30am and close at 1pm. Masses will be celebrated at 8am and 12:10pm. There will be no Confessions, and the rectory office will be closed. Our monthly Eucharistic Holy Hour, normally held on the third Monday, is rescheduled to Monday, **February 24**.

CBN-D.C. Networking Breakfast – The Catholic Business Network of Washington, D.C. hosts a networking breakfast on Thursday, **February 27** from 8 to 9:30am in the Great Hall of St. Matthew's rectory. The guest speaker is Peter Crawford, Headmaster of St. Jerome Institute in Washington, DC. Contact Justin Silvers at 202-957-5188 or jsilvers@cbndc.org or visit www.cbndc.org.

Annual Appeal



This weekend is Commitment Weekend for the 2020 Annual Appeal. Please be

generous in making your pledge. No gift is too small. Your gifts will support more than 60 ministries and programs benefitting countless women, men, children and families in the Church of Washington, including within our own parish and local community. As always, 100% of your contribution to the Annual Appeal will be designated to the ministries and programs supported by the Appeal. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

Cathedral † Young Adults

Young Adult Coffeehouse – All young adults (20s and 30s) are invited to Coffeehouse in the North Conference Room. Come for a meet-and-greet Sundays after the 5:30pm Mass.

[Email C+YA with questions.](#)

• POSITION OPENING •

Janitor/Custodian – St. Matthew's seeks a full-time, bilingual (English and Spanish) Janitor/Custodian with experience. Responsibilities include maintaining a high level of cleanliness within the Cathedral and rectory offices. Duties include vacuuming floors, cleaning restrooms, dusting, scrubbing and polishing floors, and trash removal. Applicants must have legal work documents and pass a background check. St. Matthew's offers a competitive benefits package including health insurance, paid leave, and retirement benefits. To apply, call Pam Erwin at 202-347-3215.

Music

Dedicatory Organ Concert Series Continues in the New Year –

Benjamin LaPrairie,

Associate Director of Music and organist at the

Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, will present a free recital at 3:30pm on Sunday, **February 23** on the newly completed Lively-Fulcher Great Organ of the Cathedral. The 55-minute concert is free and open to the public. The next recital will be Wednesday, **March 18** at 12:45pm with **Joy-Leilani Garbutt**, Minister of Music at Christ Lutheran Church,



Washington DC and the Takoma Park 7th Day Adventist Church.

[View the 2019 – 2020 Great Organ](#)

[Inaugural Concert Series brochure.](https://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/OrganSeriesprint)
<https://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/OrganSeriesprint>



Ash Wednesday Choral

Highlights – The *Schola Cantorum* returns to the 10am and 11:30am Sunday Masses on **March 1**, and also sings at the 12:10pm Mass on Ash Wednesday, **February 26**. Enjoy a taste of the *Schola's* Ash Wednesday music in the Office of Music Ministries' [Choral Highlights](https://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/music/choral-highlights) (<https://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/music/choral-highlights>).

Schola Cantorum Openings – A limited number of openings are available in the *Schola Cantorum* in all voice parts. Prospective singers must have significant adult choral experience, good sight-reading skills, and a pleasant, agile voice. The commitment of time and focused energy is significant, particularly at Christmas and during Holy Week. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings, 7-9pm, in

weeks when the choir is singing. If you have the appropriate experience and a desire to serve our Cathedral Parish community in this very special way, contact Tom Stehle at tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org.

Faith Formation

RCIA Rite of Sending – The RCIA Rite of Sending will be celebrated at the Cathedral's 5:30pm Mass on Sunday, **February 23**. During the Rite of Sending, the catechumens (those preparing for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist) and candidates (those preparing to complete the Sacraments of Initiation) are called by name with their sponsors into the sanctuary. The catechumens sign the Book of the Elect, which will be presented to Archbishop Wilton Gregory the following Sunday, **March 1** during the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion at the Basilica of the Immaculate Conception. **Please keep our RCIA catechumens and candidates in your prayers.**

Celebration of the Word – Come on Thursdays at 7:30pm in the East Conference Room for a simple liturgy of readings, a homily by Fr. Benson, and prayers.

Cathedral Book Club Discussion *New Date!* – All are welcome to a discussion of the Lenten Book Club selection, "The Mountain of Silence," by Kyriacos C. Markides on Monday, **March 23** from 6:45 to 8pm in the East Conference Room. Told in lively form, it is the story of a Greek Orthodox monk in Cyprus, presenting a fine overview of traditional Orthodox spiritual teachings, as on the role of the Holy Spirit.

Welcome, Returning Catholics! – If you are a Catholic who has been

away, or "used to be Catholic" we invite you to be an active part of us again. Landings offers "a safe place to land," a place for listening and being heard, a place for asking questions and reconnecting with your faith as an adult. If you or someone you know may be interested, the next step is to contact Theresa Prymuszewski at tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org for a welcoming interview.

Archdiocesan Compliance

Checklist – The Archdiocese of Washington **Child Protection & Safe Environment Compliance Checklist** is available at <https://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/compliancechecklist>. All St. Matthew's employees, and volunteers who have contact with children and/or vulnerable adults, are asked to review and comply with these requirements.

Social Justice & Community Service



Creation Care

Corner – Join the

Team! – The Creation Care Team meets on Thursday, **February**

27 at 6:45pm in the North Conference Room to discuss our present and future initiatives. Join us! Email Phil Downey at stmatcreationcareteam@gmail.com.

Free Tax Preparation Service

– Catholic Charities' Financial Stability Network invites you to take advantage of its free tax preparation service, available most Saturdays through **April 11**, at Sacred Heart School (1621 Park Rd, NW, Washington, DC).

Appointments are required. To schedule an appointment, contact Monica Zevallos at 703-209-2796 or 202-234-8000 or meza68@hotmail.com.

New Parishioner Registration ~

Welcome!

If you attend Mass at the Cathedral, we invite you to register as a parishioner so we can welcome you properly, learn about any special needs and interests, and keep you informed of our worship opportunities and activities. We invite you to consider becoming involved in our various organizations, committees and other aspects of parish life. Register by clicking [here](#) or visiting the parish website (www.stmatthewscathedral.org) and clicking the *Join Us* tab (choose *Register as a Parishioner*). You also may register at the rectory office.

Celebrating the Sacraments

For our Mass and Confessions schedule, see the bulletin front cover or click [here](#).

Baptism

Parents who wish to have their child baptized at the Cathedral should contact the Baptismal Coordinator at baptism@stmatthewscathedral.org. Parents should contact us at least six (6) months in advance of a desired baptismal date, and may ask for the priest or deacon of their choice to perform the Baptism. Early contact allows parents to be scheduled for the necessary sacramental formation session and godparents to obtain letters from their pastor. For more information, click [here](#) or go to the *Sacraments* tab on the parish website front page (choose *Baptism*).

If you are a registered parishioner at St. Matthew's and need a letter of good standing in order to be a godparent for a baptism to be celebrated at another parish, please call the rectory office at 202-347-3215 to ask about obtaining a letter.

Marriage

Couples who are interested in celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage at the Cathedral are encouraged to click [here](#) or go to the *Sacraments* tab on the parish website front page (choose *Marriage*, then choose *Weddings*) to review our guidelines for weddings. The next step is to call the rectory office at 202-347-3215 and ask for the priest of your choice or the priest on duty, who can speak to you about marriage preparation and the possibility of scheduling your wedding at the Cathedral. Couples are expected to contact us at least nine (9) months in advance of the date on which they hope to celebrate their wedding.

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist

Sunday Children's Faith Formation classes include preparation for the reception of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. For more information on classes, click [here](#) or go to the *Faith Formation* tab on the parish website front page (choose *Children's Sacramental Preparation/Religious Education*). Registration packets for classes beginning in the fall of 2020 will be available in July 2020.

Confirmation

Each spring during the Easter season, St. Matthew's offers adult Confirmation preparation for active, baptized Catholics who already have received their First Eucharist. For more information, click [here](#) or go to the *Sacraments* tab on the parish website front page (choose *Confirmation*). Registration forms for our 2020 Confirmation classes are now available at the rectory office and can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).

Rite of Christian Initiation

Are you an unbaptized adult who would like to become Catholic, an adult baptized in another Christian denomination who wishes to profess your faith as a Catholic Christian, or a baptized adult Catholic who would like to complete your initiation in the Catholic Church? We invite you to inquire about the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults. RCIA is an ongoing process of conversion and faith formation for adults who would like to explore our Catholic faith and prepare for the celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. For more information, click [here](#) or go to the *Faith Formation* tab on the parish website front page (choose *Adult Initiation Process (RCIA)*).

Contact Theresa Prymuszewski, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation, at 202-587-5139 or tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org for more information.

Registrarse como nuevo feligrés ~

¡Bienvenido!

Si asisten a misa en la Catedral, les invitamos a que se registren como feligreses, así podemos darles la bienvenida adecuadamente; conocer cualquier necesidad o intereses especiales, y mantenerles informados de nuestras actividades y oportunidades de culto. Les invitamos a participar en nuestras diversas organizaciones, comités y otros aspectos de la vida parroquial. Se pueden registrar haciendo un clic [aquí](#) o visitando la página digital de la parroquia (www.stmatthewscathedral.org), haciendo clic en la ficha *Únete a Nosotros* (elijan *registrarse como feligrés*). También pueden registrarse en la oficina parroquial.

Celebración de Sacramentos

Horario de misas y confesiones, ver la portada del boletín o clic [aquí](#).

Bautizos

Padres de familia que deseen bautizar a sus niños en la Catedral deben contactar a la coordinadora de Bautismos: Mercedes Araque al 202-347-3215 de lunes a jueves de 4:30 de la tarde a 8:00 de la noche o sábados y domingos de 9:00 de la mañana a 4:00 de la tarde. Los padres deben llamar por los menos tres (3) meses antes de la fecha prevista del bautizo. El llamar temprano permite a los padres de familia a programar la clase de formación sacramental necesaria y a los padrinos obtener cartas de sus parroquias.

Matrimonios

Parejas que estén interesadas en la celebración del Sacramento del matrimonio en la Catedral se anima a que hagan un clic [aquí](#) o vayan a la portada de la página digital de la parroquia (elegir *matrimonio*, luego elegir *bodas*) para revisar nuestras guías de bodas. El siguiente paso es llamar a la oficina de la rectoría al 202-347-3215 y preguntar por el sacerdote de su elección o el sacerdote de turno, que puede hablar con usted sobre la preparación del matrimonio y la posibilidad de programar su boda en la Catedral. Las parejas deben llamar por lo menos nueve (9) meses antes de la fecha en la que esperan celebrar su boda.

Primera Comunión y Confirmación

Las clases dominicales de catecismo para niños y adolescentes, incluyen: preparación para la Primera Comunión y Confirmación. Después de la confirmación tienen que venir al grupo de jóvenes. Para más información sobre las clases, deben llamar a Fátima Aybar, coordinadora de Formación en la Fe, al 202-347-3215 x541 o faybar@stmatthewscathedral.org.

Confirmación de Adultos

Cada primavera después de la Semana Santa, San Mateo ofrece clases para preparación de la Confirmación para adultos activos, católicos bautizados que ya han recibido su Primera Comunión. Para obtener más información, llamen a Fátima Aybar (información en la parte de arriba).

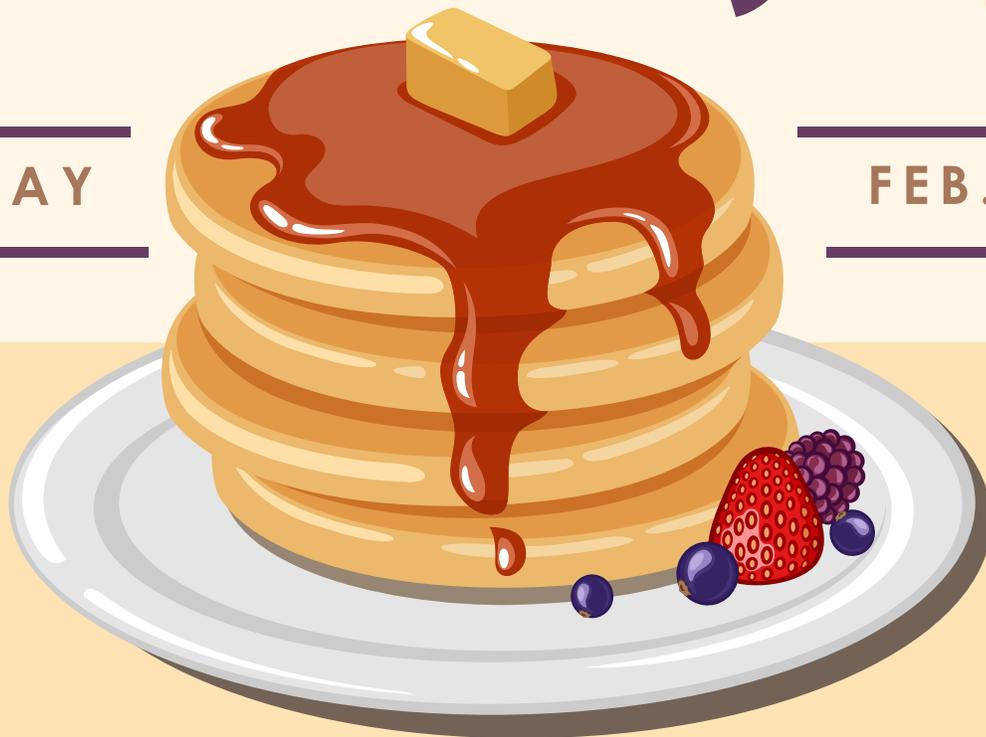
Rito de Iniciación Cristiana de Adultos

¿Es usted un adulto sin bautizar a quien le gustaría ser católico? ¿Un adulto bautizado en otra religión cristiana que quiere profesar su fe como católico? ¿Un adulto bautizado católico que desea completar su iniciación en la Iglesia Católica? Les invitamos a solicitar información sobre el rito de iniciación cristiana para adultos (RICA) es un proceso continuo de conversión y formación de fe para adultos que deseen explorar la fe católica y prepararse para la celebración de los sacramentos de iniciación: Bautismo, Confirmación y Eucaristía. Para más información, llamen a Fátima Aybar (información en la parte de arriba).

MARDI GRAS PANCAKE Party

SUNDAY

FEB. 23RD

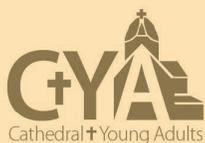


**STARTING AT 9AM
FOLLOWING THE MASSES**

**CATHEDRAL
NORTH CONFERENCE ROOM**

All are invited to this pre-lenten celebration of community, fellowship, and good food! Join your parish family after Mass for pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee, tea & juice. We hope to see you there! Email stmattsyam@gmail.com with questions.

**\$5 ADULTS, \$20 PER FAMILY
SUGGESTED DONATION**



Sponsored by the Cathedral Young Adults (CYA)
All proceeds will benefit St. Matthew's Cathedral Young Adults and Social Justice and Community Services Committee

Origin of the Stations of the Cross

Like many of our Catholic devotions, the Stations of the Cross that we know and practice as a form of worship, particularly during Lent, has a long history of development. Many legends exist about the origins of this devotion including one that asserts Mary used to visit daily the scenes of Christ's passion. Stories from the early Church also exist about pilgrims making trips to Jerusalem to visit the sites, but nothing about which sites, how many or in what particular order. Later, there were some attempts to stress the importance of the sites in Jerusalem by granting indulgences to those who visited them, but when is unknown. The earliest resemblance to a defined "Via Crucis" was the 5th century construction in Bologna, Italy of connected chapels representing some of the important shrines in Jerusalem.

Beginning in the 1400's, church writings refer to specific groupings in various European locations to represent the geographical sites of the Passion. In some cases, these routes were designed to measure the exact distance between each of the holy sites in Jerusalem. An English pilgrim, William Wey, was the first to use the word "station" when he visited Jerusalem in 1458 and 1462. The first evidence of a particular demarcation of stations was in 1520, when Pope Leo X granted indulgences to a set of sculptures in Antwerp that represented the seven sorrows of Mary. If seven was the number marked by Pope Leo for the stations in the Antwerp cemetery, how did the number 14 come to be? William Wey referred to 14 stations during his journey in Jerusalem; but for at least 200 hundred years, the number varied from 19 to as high as 37.

The determination of the precise number of stations and their identities developed during the 16th century when church officials began to include image representations of the outdoor stations inside parish churches and cathedrals. It was not until 1731, when Pope Clement XII assigned indulgences to stations, was the number set at 14. The inclusion of stations in every church became essentially a mandate from Pope Benedict XIV in 1742. It should also be noted that this special indulgence assigned to the Stations was later extended by Pope Clement XIV to separate crucifixes for the benefit of the sick, the imprisoned and those at sea who could not visit the Stations in a church.

Because this is a form of private devotion, the Church does not prescribe a specific format for praying or meditating on the Stations. Consequently, different booklets have been published to assist one in praying or meditating on the Stations in a particular way. Frequently this private devotion is prayed in a public way, especially during Lent. A recent and increasingly popular form of praying the Stations is that composed by Pope John Paul II, known for its focus on scriptural texts.

During this period of Lent, when we are mindful of the sacrifice of Jesus, all are encouraged to pray or meditate on the Stations of the Cross, whether privately or publicly when scheduled. **At the cathedral, the Stations are prayed publicly on Ash Wednesday at 3:00 pm, each Friday during Lent after the 5:30 pm Mass (about 6:00 pm) and on Good Friday at 7:30 pm.**

-- Deacon Merella

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle

Catedral de San Mateo Apóstol

Simple Lenten Meals

Every Friday of Lent

February 28, March 6, 13, 20, 27, & April 3

Following the 5:30pm Mass & the 6:00pm Stations of the Cross
North Conference Room

PRAYER

The Social Justice Committee invites you for fellowship & reflection during this time of Lent. Join us every Friday, following the Stations of the Cross. The Meal begins at about 6:30pm.

FASTING

Different groups from various parish ministries will prepare and serve a simple meal of meatless soup, bread, and water.

ALMSGIVING

Charitable organizations are invited to present on their mission and the services they provide to our neighbors in need. The donations collected during every meal will be offered to that evening's presenter.

For more information on this year's participants, please visit:

www.stmatthewscathedral.org

You may also contact
socialjustice@stmatthewscathedral.org.



ORACIÓN

El Comité de Justicia Social les invita a compartir y reflexionar durante este tiempo de Cuaresma. Únase a nosotros cada viernes, después del Vía Crucis. La Cena comienza a las 6:30 de la tarde.

AYUNO

Diferentes grupos de varios ministerios de la parroquia prepararán y servirán una cena simple de sopa sin carne, pan y agua.

DAR LIMOSNA

Organizaciones caritativas serán invitadas a presentar sobre su misión y los servicios que proveen a nuestros vecinos en necesidad. Las contribuciones que se recogerán durante cada cena serán donadas a los presentadores de esa tarde.

Para más información sobre los participantes de este año, por favor visite:

www.stmatthewscathedral.org

También puede mandar un correo electrónico a
socialjustice@stmatthewscathedral.org.

Cenas Simples de Cuaresma

Cada viernes durante la Cuaresma

February 28, March 6, 13, 20, 27, & April 3

Después de la Misa de las 5:30 de la tarde & el Vía Crucis de las 6:00 de la tarde
Salón de conferencias del Norte

Lenten Day of Recollection

“The Sanctification of Time: The Hymns of Lent and Holy Week”

WHEN:

Saturday, February 29, 2020

10:00am – 2:30pm

Mass at 12:10pm followed by a light lunch



WHERE:

St. Matthew's Cathedral

1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW

Washington, D.C. 20036 (located near the Farragut North Red Line Metro Station)

Great Hall (accessed through the parking garage)

THREE REFLECTIONS:

Conference I: The Liturgy: Eternity in a Day

Conference II: For Forty Days the Circuit Runs: the Hymns of Lent

Conference III: Sing, My Tongue, in Exultation: the Hymns of Holy Week

Directed By: *Revered Luke Melcher, M. Div. MLM, SLL, SLD and, Director of Textual Resources for the International Commission on English in the Liturgy (ICEL).*

Fr. Melcher is a priest of the Diocese of Alexandria in Louisiana. In 2015 the Congregation of Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments granted a nihil obstat to Fr. Melcher to work at the Secretariat of ICEL, the joint commission of Catholic Bishops of the English-speaking world responsible for the official translations of books used in the Sacred Liturgy. He studied at St. Joseph Seminary College (Covington, Louisiana) where he received the De Rance Scholarship to study philosophy at the Hoger Instituut voor Wijsbegeerte in Leuven (Louvain), Belgium. He completed his theology studies at Notre Dame Seminary (New Orleans) and was ordained a priest in 2005 – this year being his 15th anniversary. His pastoral ministry after ordination included sacramental ministry, prison ministry, college chaplaincy, and parochial school work. Fr. Melcher was asked by his bishop to study Liturgy to serve in the diocesan office of worship and to teach at a seminary. In Rome, he studied at Pontificio Istituto Liturgico (PIL) at the Pontificio Ateneo Sant'Anselmo, the papal school for Liturgy. In 2013, Fr. Melcher completed his licentiate in Sacred Liturgy (SLL) and in 2015 completed a Masters in Liturgical Music (MLM), a joint faculty of PIL and Pontificio Istituto di Musica Sacra, (PIMS) the papal school for sacred music. He is currently writing his dissertation on non-verbal elements of the Roman Canon, a topic inspired by his catechetical work with autistic children. Fr. Melcher enjoys traveling and dining with his family and friends, as well as sharing about his Acadian (Cajun) and French heritage, history, and cuisine.

All are invited to this event, free of charge. Donations are welcome!

For more information, please contact: Theresa Prymuszewski, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation, at tprymuszewski@stmatthewscathedral.org or at 202-587-5139

Advocacy Retreat

with Fr. Jacek Orzechowski

March 7, 2020
from 9:30 to 4:30



Franciscan Monastery
1400 Quincy St NE, Washington, DC

St. Matthew's Cathedral invites you to a special Lenten retreat for anyone interested in SJCS Ministries: immigration, care for creation, respect life, homelessness, affordable housing, human trafficking, etc.

The retreat is free. (We will take a collection to order pizza for lunch.)

The day will include time for personal and group reflection, and Mass.

RSVP

tinyurl.com/STMCadvocacy
or socialjusticestmatthew@gmail.com



CATHEDRAL of
ST. MATTHEW
the APOSTLE

SJCS
Social Justice & Community Service
MINISTRIES



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Cathedral of

St. Matthew the Apostle

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"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." (Peter 4:10)

Weekly Offertory Gift: \$ _____

(**Note:** The total amount will be determined by the number of
Sundays in the month. Some months have 5 Sundays.)

You may also choose to give to the following second and special collections as part of the regular monthly transaction.

COLLECTION	AMOUNT	MONTH	COLLECTION	AMOUNT	MONTH
<input type="checkbox"/> Cathedral Maintenance	\$ _____	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Holy Father	\$ _____	June
<input type="checkbox"/> Music Ministry	\$ _____	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic Communications & Human Development	\$ _____	August
<input type="checkbox"/> Poor Box/Outreach	\$ _____	Monthly	<input type="checkbox"/> Assumption	\$ _____	August
<input type="checkbox"/> Solemnity of Mary	\$ _____	January	<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic University	\$ _____	September
<input type="checkbox"/> Archdiocese of Military Service	\$ _____	January	<input type="checkbox"/> Propagation of the Faith/ World Missions	\$ _____	October
<input type="checkbox"/> Ash Wednesday	\$ _____	February	<input type="checkbox"/> All Saints Day	\$ _____	November
<input type="checkbox"/> Churches in the Developing World	\$ _____	March	<input type="checkbox"/> All Souls Day *	\$ _____	November
<input type="checkbox"/> Holy Thursday	\$ _____	March/April	<input type="checkbox"/> Archdiocesan Priests' Retirement	\$ _____	November
<input type="checkbox"/> Holy Land	\$ _____	March/April	<input type="checkbox"/> Retirement Fund for Religious	\$ _____	December
<input type="checkbox"/> Easter Flowers	\$ _____	March/April	<input type="checkbox"/> Immaculate Conception	\$ _____	December
<input type="checkbox"/> Easter Sunday (In addition to regular Sunday gift)	\$ _____	March/April	<input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Flowers	\$ _____	December
<input type="checkbox"/> Church Missions within the US	\$ _____	April	<input type="checkbox"/> Christmas	\$ _____	December
<input type="checkbox"/> Catholic Relief Services	\$ _____	May			

* Please call the church at 202-347-3215 with the names of your intentions for this collection.

I would like to enroll in the Faith Direct program for the benefit of the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle. I understand that my total monthly contribution amount will be transferred directly from my checking account or credit card as stated above, a record of my gifts will appear on my bank or credit card statement, and my transfers will begin on the 4th or next business day of the month following my enrollment. I understand that I can increase, decrease, or suspend my giving by contacting Faith Direct toll free at 1-866-507-8757.

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Telephone: _____ E-mail: _____

Name as I/we would like it to appear on Offertory Cards: _____

I do not wish to receive Offertory Cards to place in the collection basket as a sign of my electronic giving.

If you choose to enroll by mail, you can contact Faith Direct at 1-866-507-8757 {toll-free} to set up online access to your account.

For Bank Account Debit: Please return this completed form and a voided check to Faith Direct Enrollment.

For Credit/Debit Card: Please complete the following... VISA MasterCard American Express Discover

Credit/Debit Card #: _____ Expiration Date: _____

If you have any questions about the Faith Direct program, please contact us at 1-866-507-8757 {toll free} or info@faithdirect.net.

Lecturas del 16 de Febrero

No he venido a abolirlos, sino a darles plenitud. (Mateo 5, 17)
 En el Evangelio de hoy leemos que Jesús dice que no ha venido a abolir la Ley y los profetas, sino a darles cumplimiento. ¿Qué son la Ley y los profetas? La Ley se refiere a los cinco primeros libros del Antiguo Testamento, conocidos también como el Pentateuco. Los Profetas son los escritos de los profetas y los libros de sabiduría.

Jesús hace referencia a aquello que consideramos el resumen del código moral del Antiguo Testamento: los Mandamientos de la Ley de Dios. Según el pensamiento de Jesús, la Ley no consiste en principios meramente externos. No. La Ley no es una imposición venida desde fuera. Todo lo contrario. En verdad, la Ley de Dios corresponde al ideal de perfección que está radicado en el corazón de cada hombre. Esta es la razón por la cual la persona que cumpla los mandamientos no solamente se siente realizada en sus aspiraciones humanas, sino también alcanza la perfección del cristianismo o, en las palabras de Jesús, alcanza la perfección del Reino de Dios: “El que los cumpla y los enseñe, será grande en el Reino de los cielos.”

El cumplimiento de la ley no se resume en la letra, pues está visto que “la letra mata, pero el espíritu da vida” (2 Corintios 3, 6). En este sentido es que Jesús emplea su autoridad para interpretar la Ley según su espíritu más auténtico y la amplía hasta las últimas consecuencias: el respeto a la vida está unido a la extirpación del odio, la venganza y la ofensa; la castidad del cuerpo requiere la fidelidad y por la indisolubilidad; la verdad de la palabra dada requiere el respeto a los pactos. Al cumplir la Ley, Jesús “manifiesta con plenitud el hombre al propio hombre, y a la vez le muestra con claridad su altísima vocación” (*Concilio Vaticano II, Constitución Gaudium et Spes, 41*).

Busquemos, pues, aquella perfección de la vida cristiana que realiza en acciones concretas lo que predica con palabras.

“Amado Jesús, enséñame a no quedarme atascado en la letra de la Ley, sino entender y aceptar la esencia de tu enseñanza.

Escogida con el permiso de La Palabra Entre Nosotros, Vol. 39, Número 3: Febrero 2020.

Lecturas de la Semana

Domingo 16 Si 15:15-20 / 1 Cor 2:6-10 /
Mt 5:17-37 o 5:20-22a,27-28,33-34a,37

Lunes 17 Stgo 1:1-11 / Mc 8:11-13
Siete fundadores de la orden de los Siervos de la Virgen María

Martes 18 Stgo 1:12-18 / Mc 8:14-21

Miércoles 19 Stgo 1:19-27 / Mc 8:22-26

Jueves 20 Stgo 2:1-9 / Mc 8:27-33

Viernes 21 Stgo 2:14-24,26 / Mc 8:34—9:1

Sábado 22 1 Pe 5:1-4 / Mc 16:13-19
Catedral de San Pedro Apóstol

Domingo 23 Lev 19:1-2,17-18 / 1 Cor 3:16-23 / Mt 5:38-48

Encuentre este boletín en nuestra página digital de la parroquia <https://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/news/bulletin>.

Intenciones de Misas

Mass Intentions

February 16 - 23

Sunday, February 16

5:30pm Vigil (February 15) – Peter & Katherine Lollias

7am – All Parishioners

8:30am – Dr. Rose Marie Anne Petrucelli

10am – Gerdamarie Settle

11:30am – Dolores J. Smaron

1pm – Manuel Muñoz

5:30pm – Ronald Steffensen

Monday, February 17

8am – Thomas Bondor (living)

12:10pm – Bernardine M. Savarino

Tuesday, February 18

7am – Gail Busney

8am – Thomas Bandor (living)

12:10pm – Reese Termulo

5:30pm – Connie Martinez

Wednesday, February 19

7am – Fausto & Ricardina Rios

8am – Rose & Renee Toussaint

12:10pm – Daniel Gallagher

5:30pm – Souls in Purgatory

Thursday, February 20

7am – Jose Maria Urribarri

8am – Thomas Bondor (living)

12:10pm – Father Lukas

5:30pm – Miguel Angel Embid (living)

Friday, February 21

7am – Joel Rivera (living)

8am – Luisa Soto

12:10pm – Donald Moen, Sr.

5:30pm – Rita Sullivan

Saturday, February 22

8am – Jill Baer

5:30pm – Ronald J. Kubiak

Sunday, February 23

8:30am – Fortunata Schiano

10am – Macario Reyes

11:30am – All Parishioners

1pm – Maria Correa (living)

5:30pm – Leticia Adams

Nuevo Horario de la Oficina de la

Rectoría – La oficina de la rectoría ahora cierra a las 7:30 de la tarde de lunes a jueves cada semana. El nuevo horario es el siguiente:

Lunes – Jueves: 9:00 de la mañana –
7:30 de la tarde

Viernes – Domingo: 9:00 de la
mañana – 4:00 de la tarde

Noticias de la Parroquia



Folleto de Cuaresma
- ¡Tome Copias Extra
para Compartir! –
Encuentra nuestros
folletos de cuaresma

en los bancos y en las entradas de la Catedral. Allí está el horario completo de liturgias y eventos durante la Cuaresma y la Semana Santa, incluido el Miércoles de Ceniza, el **26 de febrero**, que marca el comienzo de la Cuaresma. Por favor, ayúdenos a correr la voz compartiendo copias con familiares, amigos y compañeros de trabajo.

[Vea y comparte](#)

[el folleto de Cuaresma en español](https://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/cuaresma2020)
<https://www.stmatthewscathedral.org/cuaresma2020>

Traigan sus Ramos – Por favor traigan sus ramos del previo Domingo de Ramos a la Sacristía y entréguenlos al sacristán. Los ramos serán usados para preparar las cenizas para el Miércoles de Ceniza. Dejen los ramos en la canasta que está colocada afuera de la Sacristía en la Capilla Matrimonial.



Miércoles de Ceniza 26 de Febrero – Misas con distribución de cenizas:
7:00, 8:00, 11:00 de la

mañana, 12:10 del mediodía, 1:15, 5:30 de la tarde y **7:00 de la tarde (en español)**. Estaciones del Vía Crucis 3:00 de la tarde en inglés y **8:00 de la noche (en español)**.

Ayunar – Miércoles de Ceniza (**26 de febrero**) y Viernes Santo (**10 de abril**) son días de ayuno y abstinencia. Los católicos que ya llegaron a los 18 años de edad, pero que son menores de 60 años, están obligados al ayuno, que consiste en una sola comida completa durante el día. Todos los católicos que han cumplido 14 años están obligados a los días de abstinencia en los cuales no se debe de comer carne.

Miércoles de Ceniza, Viernes Santo y todos los viernes de Cuaresma son días de abstinencia.

Confesiones los Miércoles de Cuaresma – En este tiempo de Cuaresma, la Catedral de San Mateo tendrá confesiones en inglés y español disponibles los miércoles de Cuaresma de 6:30 a 8:00 de la noche comenzando el **4 de marzo**, Miércoles Santo de 6:00 a 7:15 de la tarde, además del horario regular de confesiones (lunes - viernes, 11-12; sábados 4-5 de la tarde; y domingos después de la misa de español (excepto los domingos **1 de marzo**, **22 de marzo** y **5 de abril**).

Día de los Presidentes – El lunes **17 de febrero** es día de los presidentes. Fiesta federal. La Catedral abrirá a las 7:30 de la mañana y cerrará a la 1 de la tarde. Se celebrarán las misas de 8 de la mañana y 12:10 del mediodía; no habrá confesiones y las oficinas de la rectoría estarán cerradas. La adoración al Santísimo que normalmente se celebra el tercer lunes del mes, se celebrará el siguiente lunes, **24 de febrero**.

Esquina del Cuidado de la Creación – ¡Únase al equipo! – El equipo de Cuidado de la Creación se reunirá el jueves, **27 de febrero** a las 6:45 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Norte para discutir nuestras presentes y futuras iniciativas. ¡Únase a nosotros! Envíe un correo electrónico a [Phil Downey stmatcreationcareteam@gmail.com](mailto:stmatcreationcareteam@gmail.com) o llame al padre John Benson o Norma Canedo en la rectoría, 202-347-3215.

Servicio Gratis de Preparación de Taxes – Caridades Católicas' Red de Estabilidad Financiera invita a usted a que aprove su servicio gratuito de preparación de impuestos. El

servicio se ofrece los días sábados en la Academia del Sagrado Corazón (1621 Park RD. NW Washington, DC). Hay que tener cita previa. Para hacerse una cita, llame a Mónica Zevallos al 703-209-2796 o al 202-234-8000 o mande un correo electrónico a Mónica meza68@hotmail.com.

Campaña Anual – Este es el Fin de Semana del Compromiso de la Campaña Anual 2020. Hagan su compromiso con un corazón generoso. Ninguna donación es pequeña y ayudará a más de 60 ministerios y programas que benefician a un sinnúmero de mujeres, hombres, niños y familias en la Iglesia de Washington, incluso de nuestra propia parroquia y comunidad. Al igual que todos los años, el 100% de su contribución a la Campaña Anual se destinan a los ministerios y programas que reciben el apoyo de la Campaña. Gracias por considerar lo en oración y por su generosa respuesta.

Se Busca una Persona para Trabajar en Limpieza – La Catedral de San Mateo busca un trabajador de limpieza a tiempo completo con experiencia. Las responsabilidades incluyen mantener un alto nivel de limpieza dentro de la Catedral y oficinas de la rectoría. Los deberes de trabajo incluyen aspirar pisos, limpiar baños, desempolvar, fregar y pulir pisos, tirar la basura. Debe tener documentos de trabajo legal y pasar una verificación de antecedentes. Requisitos mínimos: experiencia de mantenimiento (en limpieza) que sea bilingüe, español/inglés. Este es un trabajo a tiempo completo, el cual ofrece beneficios, incluyendo seguro de salud, días de enfermedad pagados y retiro. Para aplicar, por favor llame a Pam Erwin al 202-347-3215.