



strengthening our faith

by rebuilding our heritage

October 2014

My dear parishioners,

What a beautiful day! I'm sitting here at my desk, sun shining brightly, getting ready for this year's Red Mass.

A Season of Remembrance

On Saturday, **November 1**, we celebrate the Solemnity of All Saints (not a Holy Day of Obligation this year) honoring all the saints, known and unknown. All Saints Day Masses will be at 8am and 12:10pm (celebrated by **Cardinal Wuerl**) on Saturday, **November 1**. First Saturday Devotions are cancelled that day.

On All Souls' Day, celebrated on Sunday, **November 2**, we commemorate deceased family members and loved ones who await their purification in Purgatory. The Church teaches that some sins can be forgiven even after death (CCC 1031). While these departed souls can pray for us, they can no longer pray for themselves. That spiritual work of mercy is up to us. We are encouraged to pray for our departed loved ones and all souls who await the resurrection of their bodies in Christ. **Cardinal Gerhard Muller**, Prefect of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, will celebrate the 11:30am Mass on All Souls' Day.

We remember our deceased loved ones in a special way throughout the month of November with a special Mass offered each day at the Cathedral for this intention. Special envelopes are provided in the pews so that you can list the names of the deceased to be remembered at these daily Masses. The envelopes, which can be dropped in the collection basket or at the rectory, will be placed on the altar in the Wedding Chapel. We are honored to offer on **November 2** at 7:30pm a special All Souls' Day **Concert of Remembrance** and prayer, featuring the *Schola Cantorum*, for our Cathedral friends and family who have died. You may have a deceased loved one remembered at this concert and included by name in the program for that evening by contacting Tom Stehle at tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org.

Welcome to St. Matthew's New Faith Formation Director

Please help us to warmly welcome Theresa Prymuszewski, who joined us as Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation in late September. Please keep her in your prayers as she begins her work among us! Below is a note from Theresa.

Greetings, I am Theresa Prymuszewski (Pri moos chev' ski) and I eagerly look forward to serving at the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle as Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation. I bring over twenty years of parish and diocesan pastoral experience. I feel strong roots in the D.C area since so much of my own formation took place at the Washington Theological Union, where I earned a second Master's Degree in Theological Studies with a concentration in spiritual direction. I earned additional certificates in Carmelite Studies and Spiritual Guidance. I have served at four Maryland parishes. My first Master's Degree is in Counseling from the University of North Carolina in Greensboro. My undergraduate degree is in Religious Studies and Philosophy from Caldwell, a Dominican College in New Jersey where I am from.



Evangelization, exploring ways to know, love and share our Catholic Faith is the primary focus for my life. The synthesis of these experiences expresses my deep desire and commitment to serve God's people. This commitment became very personal for me as I was one of the first to become a Certified Lay Ecclesial Minister through the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

I am thrilled to be part of our faith community at the Cathedral. I joyfully look forward to getting to know and serve you, my sisters and brothers in Christ Jesus.

Fall Faith Formation

Please join us for our Fall Lecture Series entitled, *The Joy of the Gospel: Living as Missionary Disciples in Today's World*. The lectures will be given at 7pm in the North Conference Room.

- October 21** - *The Global Vision of Evangelii Gaudium: Cultural Diversity as a Road to Peace*
Rev. Drew Christiansen, S.J. (Society of Jesus, Jesuits)
- October 28** - *How Can We Be Evangelizers in the Church and Care for the Poor?*
Rev. Frank DeSiano C.S.P. (Community of St. Paul, Paulists)
- November 4** - *How Can We Enliven Our Own Missionary Zeal as Individuals and a Parish?*
Very Rev. James J. Greenfield, O.S.F.S. (Oblates of St. Francis de Sales)

Fr. Jack Hurley will offer a study of the Book of Revelation on Saturdays, **November 1, 8, 15 and 22** from 10:30 to 11:45am in the East Conference Room. Bring a Bible, and consider staying for the 12:10pm Mass. All are welcome!

Please pray for our fifteen RCIA catechumens and candidates (pictured right), with whom we recently celebrated the Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming. This combined rite signifies their desire and readiness to continue with the RCIA process as well as our community's promise of prayer and support throughout this journey.



Liturgical Ministries Need Volunteers

In mid-September we published a bulletin flier describing the principal ministries associated with Liturgy of the Eucharist (Mass). Some may remember when only the priest and one or two servers were needed to minister at Mass. With the reform of Vatican II, the ministerial role was significantly expanded to involve lay people as lectors, servers, and hospitality and communion ministers. With seven weekend Masses and four Masses daily during the week, our liturgical ministry needs are substantial. We are indebted to the volunteers who serve in these ministries. **We are now experiencing a critical shortage of ministers.** I ask you to consider seriously giving of your time and talent to help our community in celebrating the liturgy. I hope that you will help us by volunteering for one of these ministries; the more we have, the easier the task is for all. To volunteer or for more information, contact Deacon James Garcia at james.anthony.garcia@gmail.com.

On the Way—Advent and Adopt-a Family!

Last Christmas, thanks to the enormous generosity of time and treasure of our parishioners, we assisted 56 families (226 people) and 65 guests of the parish's weekly Homeless Ministry program. We were also able to supply gifts for two households of the L'Arche Community which serves adults with intellectual disabilities. We are asking once more for your support in demonstrating love and concern for these individuals and families during this Christmas Season. If you and your family, friends or coworkers are able, please consider "adopting" one of our needy families at Christmas. For more information, please contact Fr. Rafael or Norma Canedo at the Rectory.

175th Anniversary of St. Matthew's Parish

Before you know it, we will be celebrating our 175th anniversary as a parish. St. Matthew's was established in 1840 at 15th and H Streets, Northwest. The present church was begun in 1893. **We will commemorate our anniversary with many events in 2015**, including an ecumenical prayer service, a gala, a major bilingual Mass with Cardinal Wuerl followed by a reception, concerts, a very special lecture, and a reunion of former priests and staff members!! I will feature the anniversary in my November letter. It will be a time to remember, to celebrate, and to renew our efforts at spreading the joy of the Gospel. Stay tuned!

Parish Finances

Enclosed is our financial statement for 2013-2014 and our budget for 2014-2015. Last year was another year of deficit. The Easter offertory collection was down again, and the total offertory collections were up by only \$1705. Poor box and sacramental (weddings) offerings were down by quite a bit. Compared to last year, income remained nearly the same, while both expenses and the deficit were less.

Most of the deficit was paid from our special operating investment fund. The depletion of that fund **must stop**. **I am asking every household to prayerfully consider making a sacrificial contribution, the specific amount remaining between you and God.** Fewer than one-third of our households have given a recognizable offertory gift. Even a small gift from the other two-thirds would make a REAL difference in meeting our needs. Faith Direct provides an easy way to contribute (www.faithdirect.net; Church code DC284). If each household for whom we have no record of a gift were to give \$1 weekly via Faith Direct, we would have an additional \$100,000 this year for our work of building up God's Kingdom!

Planned gifts provide important resources to further the Cathedral's 174-year old mission of continuing Christ's work here on earth. Do your estate plans reflect good stewardship? **Bequests** allow you to leave something to your parish without loss of comfort or security in your lifetime. If your estate is subject to estate tax, your gift is entitled to an estate tax charitable deduction for its full value. **Securities** are another option. The best stocks for charitable giving are those that have increased in value, particularly those producing little income. Selling the stock would require payment of capital gains tax. Increases in value of donated stocks, however, are exempt from capital gains tax.

To those who 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.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Rev. Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson
Rector

Annual Parish Financial Report
Fiscal year ended June 30, 2014
St. Matthew's Cathedral #101 Washington, DC 20036

Fiscal year ended June 30,
2013 2014 2015
Budget

Balance at June 30,
2013 2014

Parish			
Income			
Offertory collections	\$ 1,042,396	\$ 1,044,101	\$ 1,070,000
Daily and Holydays	89,893	81,954	87,000
Christmas Collection	114,626	117,088	128,000
Easter Collection	54,869	48,758	57,000
Donations	213,292	\$ 257,855	\$ 223,430
Bequests	-	61,132	25,000
Poor Box Offerings	105,600	\$ 100,913	\$ 84,400
Forward in Faith	1,315	225	-
Rental income	552,935	560,469	555,474
Sacramental Offerings	118,083	90,230	101,000
Donation for New Piano	55,000	-	-
Other Income			
Total income	\$ 2,348,008	\$ 2,362,725	\$ 2,331,304
Expenses			
Parish life and worship	526,263	539,428	537,021
Rectory and parish clergy	196,169	202,096	211,965
Religious education	75,001	83,584	103,458
Social concerns	65,295	71,865	87,771
Administration and other	312,555	338,411	336,114
Facilities and maintenance	526,705	561,351	552,243
Archdiocese assessments	156,359	156,615	146,250
Interparish Support	52,120	52,205	48,750
Parish Other Expenses	21,299	17,287	29,343
Total expenses	\$ 1,931,765	\$ 2,022,842	\$ 2,052,915
Net income	\$ 416,243	\$ 339,883	\$ 278,389
Other uses of funds			
Capital improvements	109,565	-	
Loan payments	465,974	398,760	355,099
Subtotal	575,539	398,760	355,099
Net income over (under) expenditures	\$ (159,296)	\$ (58,877)	\$ (76,710)

Balance sheet highlights for parish		
Assets		
Cash and investments available for operations, at market value	\$ 266,851	\$ 223,268
Restricted assets	1,996,267	2,166,134
Total assets	\$ 2,263,118	\$ 2,389,402
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
Loan Balance	2,937,972	2,696,939
Assessments	56,674	44,706
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 2,994,646	\$ 2,741,645

Fiscal year
2013 2014

National Collections		
Amounts collected and remitted in the Archdiocese National Collections	\$ 69,918	\$ 72,253