



175TH ANNIVERSARY

CATHEDRAL OF ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE
Sharing the Joy of the Gospel in Our Nation's Capital for 175 Years

October 2015

My dear parishioners,



Who will forget Pope Francis coming up the steps of the Cathedral, Cardinal Wuerl a step behind him? I anxiously awaited him at the main entrance. As he neared, I threw open my arms. The Holy Father then gave us that huge smile. His pace picked up. And then we met, embraced, and looked one another in the eyes. Wow!! I will never forget that meeting! The walk down the center aisle of the Cathedral followed. Many have told me I was beaming from ear to ear! It was so exciting. **I pray that the impact of Pope Francis' visit will be felt**

by us all for months to come, both in our faith and in its expressions of prayer, service and action. I will ask my staff and the Parish Council to provide me with some suggestions for how we may continue to *Walk with Francis*, especially in service to the needy in our downtown community.

Celebrate our 175th Parish Anniversary on All Saints' Day!

On Sunday, November 1, the Solemnity of All Saints, we will celebrate the 175th Anniversary of the founding of our parish with a special bilingual Mass at Noon, combining the 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Masses. Cardinal Wuerl will be the principal celebrant and homilist. Please mark your calendars and spread the word. Pope Francis favored us with a visit during our 175th Anniversary year, so let's gather to remember him and all that has happened in the parish for the past 175 years. We have so much to be grateful for, first among our blessings being YOU, our faithful parishioners. All that we do is because of your generosity of time, talent, and treasure. Let's join together as a family on this special day.

A Season of Remembrance

On All Souls Day, celebrated on Monday, **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 Wuerl will celebrate our 12:10pm Mass.**

We remember our deceased loved ones in a special way throughout the month of November. Each day a Mass is offered at the Cathedral for this intention. **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.

Faith Formation ~ Listen for the Call

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

—Parents, guardians and other interested adults are invited to participate in adult faith formation sessions during the Children's Sunday sessions. Bro. Patrick Briscoe, O.P. and Bro. Thomas Davenport, O.P. will explore the upcoming Holy Year of Mercy announced by Pope Francis using the resource "We Have Found Mercy."

—Small faith-sharing groups are meeting weekly to unpack the practical applications of Pope Francis' encyclical, *Laudato Si'*.

—The Faith Formation Committee and Cathedral Young Adults present the Armory Men's Group screening and discussion of Bishop Robert Barron's DVD series, *Priest, Prophet and King*. All men are welcome!

—On Sunday, **October 25** at the Rite of Acceptance and Welcoming during the 11:30 a.m. Mass, the Church welcomes several unbaptized who will become Catechumens, Candidates from other Christian Communities, and Catholics completing the Sacraments of Initiation.

—On Tuesday, **October 27**, Mr. John Carr, director of the Initiative on Catholic Social Thought and Public Life at Georgetown University, and Washington correspondent of *America* magazine, will provide a lively forum unpacking the implications of Pope Francis' visit to the United States and of the ongoing Synod.

—*How the Irish Saved Civilization*, by Thomas Cahill, is the title of the next Cathedral Book Club selection, to be discussed on Monday, **November 9**.

—All, especially our lay volunteers and ministers who last month were commissioned as missionary disciples by Bishop Knestout, are invited to reflect upon Cardinal Donald Wuerl's Pentecost Pastoral Letter, *Being Catholic Today* on **November 19**. Copies of the accompanying Study Guide will be provided.

—Ongoing through the year: RCIA, the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults, meets Wednesday evenings. Inquirers are always welcome! ♦ Pope Francis stresses the need to accompany others to Jesus: Consider being an RCIA sponsor for someone journeying towards the Catholic faith. ♦ St. Matthew's provides qualified spiritual directors to accompany you on your own faith journey.

On the Way—Advent and Adopt-a Family!

Last Christmas, thanks to the enormous generosity of our parishioners' time and treasure, we assisted 53 families and 80 guests of the parish's weekly Homeless Ministry program. We also supplied gifts for two households of the L'Arche Community in DC, which serves adults with intellectual disabilities. For the first time, we also were able to include youth from DC General family shelter. We ask once more for your support in demonstrating love and concern for these individuals and families. If you and your family, friends or coworkers are able, **please consider serving as a sponsor and "adopting" a needy family for Christmas**. For more information, please contact Fr. Rafael Barbieri or Norma Canedo at the Rectory.

A Word on Planned Giving

Look for our parish's financial statement for 2014-2015 and our budget for 2015-2016 in my Advent letter. In the meantime, **I would like to remind you of the importance of planned gifts in furthering the Cathedral's 175-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.

Please be assured that you are in my prayers; I ask for yours, as well. I thank you for all that you do for our parish and for one another.

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Rev. Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson
Rector

175TH PARISH ANNIVERSARY MASS

SOLEMNITY OF ALL SAINTS
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2015

12:00 NOON

*(combining the 11:30 a.m.
and 1:00 p.m. Masses)*

*CARDINAL DONALD WUERL
PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT
AND HOMILIST*

*SCHOLA CANTORUM
THOMAS STEHLE, DIRECTOR
PAUL HARDY, ORGANIST*

WASHINGTON SYMPHONIC BRASS

CATHEDRAL OF ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE

*175 Years of Sharing the Joy of the Gospel
in our Nation's Capitol*

1725 Rhode Island Avenue, NW ~ Washington, DC 20036

202-347-3215 ~ www.stmatthewscathedral.org

www.facebook.com/st.matthews.cathedral

Metro: Red Line to Dupont Circle (South exit) or Farragut North (L Street exit)



St. Matthew's Cathedral ~ Adopt-A-Family Program Thanksgiving Drive 2015

The Cathedral's Social Justice and Community Service committee is collecting grocery store gift cards to distribute to families who are in need this Thanksgiving.

We invite all parishioners to donate in two ways:

Purchase a **\$25 or \$50 Safeway gift card** and turn in to the volunteers who will be at the main entrance of the Cathedral during every Mass the weekends of **October 31 & November 1 and November 7 & 8**. You may also make a **financial contribution** of any amount and drop it in the same baskets those two weekends. Please make checks payable to St. Matthew's Cathedral (add "Adopt-A-Family Thanksgiving" on the note line).

Financial contributions can also be sent directly to the rectory.

We would like to receive donations no later than **November 9** so that the families may receive their gift cards before Thanksgiving. Any donations that we receive above what is needed at this time will be used to provide emergency assistance to families in need throughout the year.

Thank you very much for your generosity and support!

Catedral de San Mateo Apóstol ~ Programa de Adopte-una-Familia Colecta para el Día de Acción de Gracias 2015

El Comité de Justicia Social y Servicio Comunitario de la Catedral estará recogiendo tarjetas de regalo para distribuir a las familias en necesidad durante este Día de Acción de Gracias.

Invitamos a la parroquia a participar de dos maneras:

Compre una **tarjeta de regalo de \$25 o de \$50 de Safeway** y entréguelo a los voluntarios quienes estarán en la entrada central de la Catedral durante cada Misa de los fines de semana de **octubre 31 & 1 de noviembre y el 7 & 8 de noviembre**. También puede hacer una **contribución monetaria** de cualquier cantidad y entregarlo a los voluntarios durante las mismas fechas. Los cheques deben ser dirigido a St. Matthew's Cathedral (añade "*Adopt-a-Family Thanksgiving Drive*" en la línea de nota).

Las donaciones monetarias también se pueden mandar directamente a la rectoría.

Por favor entreguen sus donaciones hasta el **9 de noviembre** para que las familias puedan recibir sus tarjetas de regalo antes del Día de Acción de Gracias. Cualquier donación que sobre de esta colecta se usará para ayudar a las familias con asistencia de emergencia durante todo el año.

¡Muchas gracias por su apoyo y generosidad!

For more information/ Para más información: Fr. Rafael Barbieri or/o Norma Canedo at/a socialjustice@stmatthewscathedral.org or/o 202-347-3215.

