



October 2017

My dear parishioners,

What a beautiful day! I'm sitting here at my desk, sun shining brightly, getting ready for the Red Mass. The pace is nonstop and invigorating—weddings, the Feast of St. Matthew, Alumni Days at my alma mater, Theological College, the 150th Anniversary Mass of Holy Cross Academy, a deanery meeting and parish visitations. It keeps us all busy!

October Liturgical Highlights

Our **Fall Anointing Mass** will be celebrated on Sunday, **October 15** when the sacrament will be celebrated at the regular 11:30am Mass. Please see the parish website or an October bulletin for information on how to participate, or click [here](#). The next Anointing Mass will be celebrated at a regular Sunday 1pm Spanish Mass in February.

The **White Mass** honoring the gifts of those with special needs will be celebrated on Sunday, **October 22** at 11:30am. This Mass was begun with the vision of the Eunice and Sargent Shriver family and is sponsored by the Archdiocesan Office of Special Needs Ministry. Come join the celebration.

Liturgical Ministers of the Cathedral are encouraged to attend a **Liturgical Ministry Day** on Saturday, **October 28** from 9am to Noon. We are delighted to have Rita Thiron, Executive Director of the Federation of Diocesan Liturgical Commissions, as the main presenter.

A Season of Remembrance

On Wednesday, **November 1**, we celebrate the **Solemnity of All Saints**, a Holy Day of Obligation honoring all the saints, known and unknown. Masses will be at 5:30pm on Tuesday, **October 31**, and at 7am, 8am, 11am, 12:10pm with **Cardinal Wuerl**, 5:30pm and 7pm (Spanish) on **November 1**.

On **All Souls' Day** on Thursday, **November 2**, we commemorate deceased family members and loved ones. **We pray for our departed loved ones and all souls who await the resurrection of their bodies in Christ.** **Cardinal Wuerl** celebrates the 12:10pm Mass on All Souls' Day, which follows the regular weekday Mass schedule.

We remember our deceased loved ones in a special way in November. Each day a special Mass is offered 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.

On Sunday, **November 5**, a special blessing will be given for all engaged couples during the 11:30am Mass.

All Souls Concert of Remembrance



This year's **All Souls' Concert** will be held on Sunday, **November 5** at 7:30pm as we remember deceased members of our families and friends, especially those who have died in the past year. We also will remember those lost in the earthquake in Mexico, in Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria, as a result of war and persecution in the Middle East, and those buried this year from the Cathedral. **To have a deceased loved one remembered and**

included by name in the concert program, email Tom Stehle at tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org by **October 29**. You may make an online memorial donation by clicking [here](#) or contacting Tom.

Faith Formation

Our Fall Faith Formation brochure is available in the rectory office, at Cathedral entrances, on the parish website, and by clicking [here](#). Take a look and find a place for refreshment and inspiration!

Parish Finances

Enclosed is our financial statement for 2016-2017 and our budget for 2017-2018. If at first glance it seems we did rather well, consider that collections and total revenue were less than the previous year. We kept expenses to a minimum; bequests and special donations were good; poor box offerings were up; and sacramental offerings (weddings and baptisms) were up. At right is a sampling of last year's expenses.

Expenses	\$
<i>Catholic Standard</i>	25,474
<i>Liturgical programs</i>	14,513
<i>Mass leaflets</i>	5,625
<i>Sanctuary candles</i>	31,944
<i>Faith Formation programs</i>	98,015
<i>Social Justice programs</i>	95,473
<i>Rectory security</i>	17,135
<i>Heating/AC maintenance</i>	19,118
<i>Electricity</i>	105,438
<i>Property insurance</i>	82,850
<i>Offertory assessment</i>	136,289
<i>Interparish school support</i>	56,787

Good Stewardship, Planned Giving, and Faith Direct

Planned gifts are so important in furthering our parish's 175+ year mission of continuing Christ's work 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 take advantage of **Faith Direct**, our Electronic Giving Program. Registration forms are in the bulletin, or sign up online by clicking [here](#). Why not join the 548 parishioners already enrolled?

Parish Offertory Appeal

Our goal this year is to increase offertory donations and improve our parish stewardship. **November 5** is Commitment Sunday for our 2017-2018 Parish Offertory Appeal. All registered parishioners will receive a mailed appeal announcement highlighting our many ministries, activities and services.

St. Matthew's is a vibrant community with deep commitments to stewardship that enable us to minister to **2000+ people at 7 Masses each weekend** and to deliver on many ministry priorities, particularly in the areas of social justice and faith formation. To maintain our strengths and meet new parish needs, **parishioners must develop their own prayerful commitment to stewardship** at St. Matthew's.

While over 2,300 households are registered, **only about 860 can be identified as making offertory contributions!** We aim to increase the overall offertory and **to engage many of the remaining**

1,400+ parish households in regular financial sacrificial giving—the fuel for our parish mission as the hands, voice and face of Jesus.

I remain grateful for your love and service to our parish.

Please join me in prayers for the success of our appeal on Commitment Sunday, **November 5!**

Sincerely yours in Christ,



Rev. Msgr. W. Ronald Jameson
Rector

STAY CONNECTED AND SPREAD THE WORD!

Stay up on St. Matthew's news and help us to spread the word! Follow us on social media, and like, comment on, and share our posts!

Website

www.stmatthewscathedral.org

Facebook

www.facebook.com/st.matthews.cathedral/

Twitter

@msgrjameson

Instagram (new!)

stmatthewsdc

360° Virtual Tour

tour.stmatthewscathedral.org



St. Matthew's Cathedral
Social Justice & Community Services Ministry
Adopt-A-Family Christmas Program 2017

Program Overview

For over 15 years, St. Matthew's Cathedral has sponsored the Adopt-A-Family Program, which seeks to assist low-income families and individuals in our community at Christmas time. Last year, the program served **63 families** and over **100 men and women from our Homeless Ministry**. We were also able to contribute gifts to the local **L'Arche communities**, which serve adults with intellectual disabilities. Additionally, we included **youth from the DC General family shelter** in our program. The gifts given to these individuals and families included clothing items, personal items, bedding, household items, as well as toys for the children.

Sponsorship Opportunities

This program is successful through the support of our neighboring business community and the help of many volunteers. Last year, in addition to the parish's participation, over 22 sponsors helped take care of the needs of the families in our program.

Please consider the following ways you and your team can serve as a sponsor:

- ***Adopt more than one family:*** This option is appropriate for large organizations with many willing and generous participants. The group will receive specific "wish lists" for each family and be responsible for purchasing items for all family members.
- ***Adopt one family:*** A group representative will receive a specific "wish list" of items from the family, along with ages of family members. You will then be responsible for purchasing items for all family members.
- ***Adopt a child (or a few children):*** A group representative will receive the "wish lists" of either one or a few children and will purchase their gifts (each child receives three gifts).
- ***Contribute to the program:*** Your group can either collect money from employees or make a financial contribution to the program. The contribution will be used to purchase gifts for a family.

Timeline

You will receive a profile on the family and their "wish list" in November. You are asked to deliver wrapped and labeled gifts to the Cathedral by the first week of December. More details will be provided to you at a later time.

Please confirm your participation:

You may reach the Coordinator for Social Justice, Norma Canedo, at the parish rectory at (202) 347-3215x552 or by email at ncanedo@stmatthewscathedral.org.
By fax: (202) 347-7184.

Volunteer Opportunities & General Inquiries

We are always in need of helping hands to make sure things run smoothly and efficiently. Please contact the Christmas Program Coordinator, Pam Quinn, for more information: pquinn505@aol.com.

Adopt-a-Family Program Christmas Drive Sponsor Application

Contact Information

Date:	
Company/Group Name:	
Street Address: <small>*Please indicate if gift tags and letters may be mailed to this address: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO</small>	
City, State, Zip Code:	
Name of Primary Contact:	
Phone:	
E-Mail Address:	
Name of Alternate Contact:	
Phone:	
E-Mail Address:	
Additional Details:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To whom (Name, Title) should the "thank you" letter be addressed to? To which address/email should it be sent to? 	

Useful Notes & Guidelines

A wish list/s will be given to your group's primary contact, reflecting the sponsorship level you have requested to offer. The following lists the gift quantities for each family and individual:

- Each **Family** receives two household items.
- Each **Adult** receives 2 gifts.
- Each **Child** receives 3 gifts.

All gifts should be new, wrapped, and labeled with the coded gift tags we will provide for you by the first week of December.

Sponsorship Level

Please indicate your sponsorship level below.

___ Adopt 1 Family:	___ One Individual Adult ___ Smaller-sized Family (2-3 family members) ___ Larger-sized Family (4-6 family members)
___ Adopt Multiple Families:	Indicate how many families you would like to adopt next to each family size: ___ One Individual Adult ___ Smaller-sized Family (2-3 family members) ___ Larger-sized Family (4-6 family members)
___ Adopt 1 or more Children:	___ One Individual Child ___ Multiple Children (Indicate how many children you would like to sponsor)