

Preparing For Lent 2009



This Lent, our parish and parishes across the Archdiocese of Washington are extending a special invitation to those, who may have drifted away from their faith, to come back to church for prayer and Mass. If you know of a family member, co-worker, friend or neighbor who isn't here with us each week as we celebrate the Eucharist, and should be, consider extending a gentle invitation to welcome him or her back. Starting next week, we will have special invitations for you to give them as well as a new website for additional resources: www.maybe-its-God.org. We hope you will participate in this important initiative and let them know they are welcome and have been missed.

Lenten Regulations for Catholics

In preparation for the paschal mysteries of Easter, Catholics are reminded of the following regulations for the forty days of Lent: **All Catholics over fourteen years of age must abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday (February 25th) and all Fridays of Lent, including Good Friday (April 10th). On both Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, Catholics between the ages of eighteen and fifty-nine should fast.** This means only one full meal that day. Other meals on those days should be of small portion. Snacking should be avoided. One is excused from the obligation if his/her health or work would be seriously affected by this fast or abstinence. The Lenten observance of our day places emphasis on prayer, the liturgy, good works, self-denial, and the giving of alms to the poor.

Lenten Worship Schedule, Activities,
Literature and More

As we prepare to enter the Lenten season, please be sure to check the bulletin weekly for the latest Lenten news, schedules, activities and other ideas and available materials to help you make the most of Lent.

A Lenten Reflection: What to Give Up...

- Give up complaining—focus on gratitude.
- Give up pessimism—become an optimist.
- Give up sin—turn to virtue.
- Give up worry—trust Divine Providence.
- Give up discouragement—be full of hope.
- Give up bitterness—turn to forgiveness.
- Give up hatred—return good for evil.
- Give up negativism—be positive.
- Give up anger—be more patient.



Stewardship Report:
Revenue

January 25:	8,928.60
Faith Direct:	1,351.25
Total Offertory:	9,610.13
Last Year:	10,120.56
Poor Box:	198.00
Every Penny Counts Box:	27.01

Number of Adult Envelopes: 257
Number of Children's Envelopes: 12
Number of Faith Direct donors: 37
Number of Registered Households: 660



This week, you will be asked to participate in an in-pew campaign for the Archbishop's Appeal. Your pledge goes directly to support the various programs it provides to the community. The Archbishop's Appeal is more than an opportunity for charity, it is an opportunity to provide a source of hope to those many people who turn to Christ's Church for guidance and assistance. Please join the 140 parishes of our Archdiocese to work together in helping others. Saint Paul calls us to do everything for the glory of God. The Archbishop's Appeal gives us an opportunity to participate together in an archdiocesan-wide effort to do all we can, and to do it for the glory of God! Please prayerfully consider your gift to the appeal this Lenten season. God Bless you for your continuing generosity!

SCHOOL RAFFLE WINNER



**Congratulations to Larry Solomon
Winner & Seller**
of this week's winning raffle ticket!

A Letter Of Appreciation
from Joseph Connor

Dear Father Jeff,

Please know how pleased I was to receive the gifts you gave Father Charles Connor (my son) for me. The book "Praying With St. Paul" is beautiful. I have it by the side of my bed and read it every evening. It is truly appreciated as is the exquisite White House ornament. I treasure both of them.

On another matter, I am truly impressed with your parish. I noted how well dressed your good people were and in particular I appreciated their pious demeanor. May God bless them and you. Again, many thanks.

Joseph N. Connor

Other Items of Note



PRESIDENTS DAY CLOSING: Please take note that both the school and rectory will be **closed** on Monday February 16th in observance of President's Day. Both will reopen on Tuesday February 17th at the customary times.

Lou Gehrig's Disease Informational Meeting: The KOC will have a guest speaker from the ALS Association to talk about Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS or Lou Gehrig's Disease) at their next social meeting on February 17th at 8:00pm in Friendship Hall. All are welcome to attend this presentation to learn more about this disease.

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner: Have dinner, help our school, and celebrate Fat Tuesday (a.k.a, Mardi Gras) all at the same time on February 24th at 6:00 in Friendship Hall! A traditional **pancake dinner**, including sausage and beverage, will be served with proceeds going to the **Every Penny Counts** box to support St. Matthias School. The cost is \$6 for adults, \$3 for kids 12 and under, and with a max of \$18 per family. This event is being sponsored by the Mother Seton Council of the Knights of Columbus. For reservations, please notify John Murray at 301-257-5342 at kalshoven@rocketmail.com with your name and the number attending by February 20th.

St. Matthias CYO Baseball: Registration for 2009 St. Matthias CYO boys' baseball, girls' softball and coed t-ball is open through February 23rd at www.stmatthiascyo.org. All St. Matthias students and parishioners and Holy Family parishioners in grades K through 8th are welcome to register. We also need volunteers to coach teams. Please email baseball-softball@stmatthiascyo.org if you can help.

St. Matthias Basketball News: We have several basketball teams playing in CYO semi-final and championship playoff games on February 14th and 15th at Duval High School and Parkdale High School. Come out and support our student athletes as they represent St. Matthias in the CYO playoffs. Schedules are posted on www.stmatthiascyo.org.

Faith Formation

Please Note: There will be NO CLASSES on Monday February 16th in observance of President's Day. Classes resume on Monday February 23rd at 6:30 PM SHARP. Please be prompt!

First Communion Parent Meeting: Parents of children in second grade who are preparing to celebrate the sacrament of First Communion are required to attend a meeting on Monday, February 23 at 6:45 pm. Books will be distributed at this meeting. Those parents whose children (2nd and 3rd graders only) have yet to be baptized must also attend this meeting. Due to time constraints, I will not be in a position to meet individually with parents after this meeting so, please make it a point to be there.

Baptism Preparatory Seminar: The next seminar will be held in May since there will be no baptisms in Lent. Parents make sure that you are registered parishioners of St. Matthias before calling to make an appointment for Baptism.

RCIA/RCIC: Keep our catechumens and candidates in your prayers as they prepare to celebrate the first of many rites on this faith journey. On March 1st, the catechumens (those to be baptized) will celebrate the Rites of Sending and then later in the afternoon, the Rite of Election. The candidates (those to receive Holy Eucharist and Confirmation) will celebrate the Rite of Continuing Conversion. Beginning in March many of these rites will be celebrated during the 9:30 am Mass. They need our prayers and support.



Mass Intentions for the Sixth Week in Ordinary Time

Monday, February 16:

Presidents' Day: School and Rectory Closed

8:30 am Ray Degraff

Tuesday, February 17:

8:30 am Mary Ford

Wednesday, February 18:

8:30 am Don Falls (living)

Thursday, February 19:

8:30 am Christiana Enahoro

Friday, February 20:

8:30 am Lillian Rampone

Sat., February 21: Vigil— Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

3:30 pm to 4:30pm—Confessions

5:00 pm George Le Compte

Sunday, February 22: Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Celeste Sieber

9:30 am Mrs. Patience Osuji & Family (living)

11:30am Janet Falvo

Please Pray for: †The Sick and Homebound In Our Parish:

Phil Ates; Virgie Azarcon; Ann Benson; Leslie Berkey; Barbara Brink; Margaret Carr; Fidel dela Cuesta; Don and Muriel Delaney; Eleanor DeMarco; Lisa Farland; Dennis George; Cristin Green; Francis Greenfield; Kitty Hamby; Leslie Hand; Joseph Harrison; Charles Henry; Lena Jacobs; Father Keene; Robyn Kirby; Laura Elaine Kiessling; Ray Krok; Nancy Maimone; Joe Makowski; Mary McGrail; Willie (Bill) Moore; Rosemarie Nardozi; Mary Nelson; David Obi; Peter O'Neill; Alice Parker; Dawn Pearson; June Provini; Rohland Reich; Joe Sico; Walter Stewart; Margaret Zanin; Ryan Zawada †Names will be placed on our prayer list for three weeks. To add a name or to request continuing prayers, contact Tara Guevara by phone at 301-459-4814 or email tguevara@stmatthias.org.

Youth Group

Retro Talent Showcase: Do you like to laugh and have fun? Do you enjoy entertaining and being entertained? Then the Youth Group 70-80's Showcase of Talent is looking for you! This project is for **ALL** members of our "Faith Community"... this includes parents, grand-parents and extended family members. We will draw from the following categories, **Music, Dance, History Tidbits, Fashion and TV Commercials!** Did you enjoy The Smurfs, GI-Joe, Fat Albert, neon colors, and shoulder pads? Join the meeting on Friday, February 27th at 7:30 in FH to learn more and to find out how to participate in this event! We would like for this to be a "Family Affair" and every family has a Father...so Fr. Jeff "Come on Down" and join us! Let's Rock this place! For further information contact Ms. Zita Givens 301-577-1853, Ms. Karen Jackson 202-486-7290, Dr. Ugo Amanyeive 301-875-9113 or Mrs. Moore 301-459-4814

SUMMER JOBS: IRS Student Summer Internship Program is now accepting applications! This is a great opportunity to learn from business professionals at the Internal Revenue Service (IRS); establish an early career path in computers and acquire basic office skills. They are seeking to attract local high school (ages 16 and above) and college students. E-mail resumes and transcripts (a scanned copy is fine) to Summer Hire Program Coordinator Denise.K.Roper@irs.gov.