

§ Easter Gratitude  
and Easter Blessings >

The liturgical celebrations of this past holy Week culminating in the celebration of the Sacred Triduum (Holy Thursday; Good Friday; and the Easter Vigil) were filled with reverence and a deep spirituality. So many parishioners commented to me how beautiful our celebrations were and how much they enjoyed coming to experience the paschal mystery of our Lord Jesus Christ in the heart of our parish community. In this weekend's bulletin you will find the list of memorial contributions to the *Easter Flower Fund* as well as those to whom we pay tribute and are living. The decorations, flowers, and additional musical instruments at some of our services are made possible through the outpouring of generosity to this annual fund that covers the cost of our increasingly expensive seasonal flowers. I ask that you give thanks to God this week at Mass for these our donors and to remember their intentions in your Mass as well. I apologize that this listing of donors was not in the Easter bulletin last Sunday but due to a computer error the list of donors as entered had become compromised and rather than print an inaccurate or partial list of donors I made the decision to include it in this week's bulletin allowing us some sense of security as to its accuracy. Thank you for your patience. If you fail to see your name or the name of your deceased loved one in today's insert, please contact Tara Guevara, my administrative assistant, at the rectory (ext. 201) and she'll be happy to assist you and we'll make any necessary correction in next weekend's bulletin!

I want to thank in your name all our parish ministries and ministers who added to the solemnity of Holy Week and Easter. A special word of thanks to our Youth Group who once again showed the depth of their love of God through the praying and singing of the Living Stations of the Cross on Good Friday evening. They were assisted by our Youth Minister, Donna Stewart Moore, along with Regina Loffredo, our Choir Director, Dorothy Mensah-Aggrey, our Faith Formation Director, and several other adult and young adult aids. I thank the twelve who graciously accepted our invitation to have their feet washed on Holy Thursday evening; I thank the decorators who were of such great assistance with all the details of making our Father's house look radiant with the splendor of Easter and spring; I thank John Murray who faithfully tends to the creation of our paschal fire every year at the beginning of our Easter vigil; I thank the cantors and choirs who rehearsed with such enthusiasm and dedication and whose voices blessed our celebrations with a reminder how heaven's music must sound; and I thank you for your support and the generosity reflected in the Easter collection.

The months ahead will be lean and yet I trust that the Lord will continue to raise up for us good and faithful stewards who respond faithfully and on a weekly basis to our collections so that the work of the Risen Christ might continue everyday our parish is privileged to serve the One who has purchased our eternal life by the blood of His Cross! Last but not least, both Father Bob and I are so very grateful for those of you who remembered your parish priests on Easter whether it was by a simple card, a baked goodie, or another form of gift that speaks to your affirmation and care of those serving in the Lord's vineyard. God bless us all with a continuing joy in the good news that Easter offer us all!



Stewardship Report:



Revenue

<b>March 23rd :</b>	<b>10,604.11</b>
<b>Faith Direct:</b>	<b>1,100.00</b>
<b>Total Offertory:</b>	<b>11,704.11</b>
<b>Last Year:</b>	<b>10,073.77</b>
<b>Poor Box:</b>	<b>1,283.94</b>
<b>Every Penny Counts Box:</b>	<b>59.88</b>
<b>Easter Contributions To Date:</b>	<b>14,219.00</b>
<b>Last Year:</b>	<b>16,865.75</b>
<b>Easter Flowers:</b>	<b>3264.00</b>

Number of Adult Envelopes: 343  
 Number of Children's Envelopes: 13  
 Number of Faith Direct donors: 34  
 Number of Registered Households: 656

**Did you receive your offertory envelopes for April, May & June? Did you change your address? Are there changes in your family members?** If so, it is important to let the rectory know so that our parishioner records can be kept up to date and you can receive important parish news and mailings. Please contact Tara in the rectory at 301-459-4814 or email her at [tguevara@stmatthias.org](mailto:tguevara@stmatthias.org) and give her your updated information. You can also use the form at the bottom of this column. Thank you for helping us to maintain our records!



**Easter Flowers:** If you notice a name or names missing from the Easter list published in this week's bulletin insert, please contact Tara in the rectory so that corrections can be published in next weekend's bulletin. Thank you for your patience and help!

St. Matthias School Raffle 2008

The Raffle Drawing for Monday, March 24th

**Fidel dela Cuesta** of Bowie, MD **won \$350**

He was both the winner AND the seller!

MOVING OUT OR WITHIN THE PARISH?

Please help us keep our records up-to-date by filling out the form and dropping it in the collection basket or the rectory mail slot in the door.

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Envelope #: \_\_\_\_\_

New Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I/we have a change of address within the parish.

\_\_\_ I/we am/are moving out of the parish.

\_\_\_ I/we have other changes to our household, please contact me

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** please take a registration form from one of the pamphlet racks in the entry of the church.

Weddings, baptisms, confirmation and other parish services require you to be registered for 6 months prior to the sacrament!

## Faith Formation:

**Easter Break:** Classes will resume on Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 6:30 p.m. We hope you had a Blessed Easter and are ready to resume classes!

**Confirmation Retreat:** will be held here at St. Matthias on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am. to 3:00 p.m. This retreat is mandatory. Confirmation Ceremony will be held during the **5:00 p.m. Mass on Saturday, May 10, 2008.** The rehearsal will be held on Thursday, May 8 from 6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

**First Communion Retreat:** will be held here at St. Matthias on Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. First Communion will be celebrated on **Saturday, May 10, 2008 at 10:00 a.m.**

## Youth News:

**THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK-YOU!** We, the Saint Matthias Youth Group Teens, wish to thank the following for their support, kindness, caring and thoughtfulness in preparing us for Holy Week and the Easter Vigil: Mrs. Sara Green, Mrs. Zita Givens, Mrs. Suzanne Pouliot, Mrs. Tara Guevara, Miss Yetty Owolabi, Miss Ugonna Ibebuchi, Mr. Chuks Onyewu and last but not least Mrs. Moore, thank you for believing and having confidence in us! We love all of you!

**Basketball:** Any member interested in playing B-Ball against other Youth Groups please contact Mr. Chuks Onyewu (301) 704-7459

**Papal Mass Youth Tickets:** Our Holy Father desires to see lots of young people at the “Papal Mass”! The Archdiocese of Washington’s Office of Youth Ministry received 300 tickets for all the parishes and we have been blessed with four (4) of these tickets. Our Pastor will even match the Archdiocese! Tickets will be drawn by lottery. Teens do not this is the last day for you to turn forms in to me.

## Other Items of Note:

**Mulch Sale:** St. Matthias Boy Scout Troop 411 is holding their annual mulch sale behind the Church Saturdays April 5<sup>th</sup>. Delivery is available for pre-orders. 3 cubic foot bags of shredded hardwood or pine are \$4.50 per bag if picked by the buyer or, \$5.00 per bag delivered. Red and Black Cedar Mulch are available through pre-order only. **For information and/or to place a pre-order** e-mail: [troop411mulchsale@comcast.net](mailto:troop411mulchsale@comcast.net) or call 410-257-7477.

**Jubilarian Mass:** On Sunday June 8, 2008 at 2:00pm, Archbishop Donald Wuerl will celebrate the annual Jubilarian Mass honoring married couples celebrating 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 and 50+ years of marriage at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Personalized scrolls signed by Archbishop Wuerl will be distributed to the couples being honored. Please contact Tara in the Rectory to sign up for this special Mass. You can reach her by phone at 301-459-4814 (x 201) or by email at [tguevara@stmatthias.org](mailto:tguevara@stmatthias.org).

## Votive Lights



The votive lights burning from

**Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>:**

At the Shrine of the Sacred Heart: **For the Intentions of:** Father Jeff; Phil & Rosemary Ferrara; Diane & Dave Hudson and **For the Happy Repose of:** Bill Schermerhorn & Henry Kosko.

At the Shrine of the Madonna and Child: **For the Intentions of:** Carmen Kosko; Jane Defayette; Kelley Benjamin Hudson and the Puglisi Family and **For the Happy Repose of:** Christine Prieto & Pasquale Ciccone



## Mass Intentions for the Second Week of Easter

### Monday, March 31

8:30 am Ana Kennedy

### Tuesday, April 1

8:30 am Frank Carpino

### Wednesday, April 2

8:30 am Paul Vinanski

### Thursday, April 3

8:30 am Bill Schermerhorn

### Friday, April 4: First Friday

8:30 am Joseph Chillemi

Litany to the Sacred Heart during Mass

### Saturday, April 5–Vigil: Third Sunday of Easter

3:30 pm to 4:30pm—Confessions Fr. Jeff

5:00 pm Pasquale Ciccone Fr. Jeff

### Sunday, April 6 Third Sunday of Easter

8:00 am Salvatore Provenzano Fr. Bob

9:30 am Stephen Ndigwe (living) Fr. Jeff

11:30am Benjamin Udejofor Fr. Bob

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

Fr. Augustine Kizito Abizi; Pearl Aitcheson; Fidel dela Cuesta; Mary Ennis; Lisa Farland; Ferris (Bo) George; Joseph Harrison; Robert Hoke; Charles Jones; Katie Kennedy; Robyn Kirby; Nancy Maimone; Carol McDonagh; Willie Moore; Larry Murphy; Peter O’Neill; Thomas Opalsik; Ryan Zawada

### †For Our Military Serving in Afghanistan or Iraq:

Spc. Michael J. Chiddo; Brian

### A. Densmore; Ryan A. Morgan †For Our Deceased:

Comfort Vandyck; Neva Collins Williams † Names will be placed on our prayer list for three weeks. To add a name or to request continuing prayers, call Tara Guevara at 301-459-4814 or email [tguevara@stmatthias.org](mailto:tguevara@stmatthias.org).

## Papal Mass News Items:



**Ticket Raffle:** Please remember that all forms for our Papal Mass ticket raffle are **due in the rectory office THIS SUNDAY!**

There will be no exception to this deadline. Forms are available in the back of the church. Only registered parishioners with a substantiated history of sharing of time, talent and treasure are eligible for

the drawing. As more information is released about the Mass, we will pass it on to our parishioners.

**Hunger to Hope Archdiocesan Food Drive:** As a visible sign of our love of Christ and fellow man, and our joy that Pope Benedict will be in our presence this April, an archdiocesan-wide food drive, **HUNGER TO HOPE**, will be held April 12-13 to fill the food banks in the Washington Metropolitan area. Our own Ladies of Charity will be distributing grocery bags after all Masses next week for you to fill and return for this event. Thank you for your continued generosity to the needy!

**Papal Mass Website:** The Archdiocese has set up a website with information regarding the Papal Mass and all the information you need regarding the Pope’s visit to our area in the next few weeks. Please go to [www.adw.org/papalvisit](http://www.adw.org/papalvisit) for the latest news and information. They are constantly updating the site with information so be sure to check often.