

cc: Parishioners of St. Matthias

June 18, 2009

The Most Reverend Donald Wuerl, S.T.D.
Archbishop of Washington
P.O. Box 29260
Washington, DC 20017

Your Excellency:

Forty-nine years ago today His Eminence, Patrick Cardinal O'Boyle canonically erected the new parish of Saint Matthias the Apostle in the Lanham-Seabrook area of Maryland. Shortly thereafter Father E. Albert Hughes was appointed the new parish's first and founding pastor, charged with establishing a school and modest church for the growing Washington suburb. The current school building opened its doors to ninety first and second graders in September 1961, and the church sanctuary was solemnly dedicated on February 25, 1962. The number of parishioners and students has grown since those humble beginnings and the demographics have changed remarkably in these past five decades. Currently seven hundred families call Saint Matthias their spiritual home comprising a rich tapestry of peoples and cultures that have continued to make Christ's presence known in this corner of His vineyard.

The Year of Our Lord 2010 will mark the Fiftieth Anniversary or Golden Jubilee Year of the formal erection of our parish. In the name of the faithful People of God who call this parish their home, I would like to formally invite you to join with us in celebrating this historic occasion. This Jubilee Year will be a rich opportunity for all of us to grow spiritually in the Lord's richest blessings and graces. To have the honor and presence of our spiritual shepherd for this occasion would only add to the blessings of this joyous time.

I would like to invite you to be the Principal Celebrant and Homilist at our Golden Jubilee Mass which would ideally be celebrated near the actual date of our canonical erection. Since June 18, 2010 falls on a Friday, may I propose two potential dates in the hope of securing a place on your busy schedule? The first date would be for Sunday, June 20, 2010 and the second for Sunday, June 13, 2010. Our current Mass times on Sunday mornings are at 8:00 AM; 9:30 AM; and 11:30 AM. The 9:30 AM Mass would be the Mass of preference for both weekends but the 11:30 AM time would surely work within our tentative plans as well. Since your presence with us is of such importance, we will leave the formal establishment of a fixed date on which to officially celebrate our Fiftieth Jubilee to your discretion and in consideration of the many requests that are placed upon your calendar. I hope one of these two dates will find a favorable reply from you.

I look forward to hearing from you or your delegate in the coming weeks so that we can begin to formally set our calendar of events for the Jubilee Year. We plan a fitting and noble celebration of the Eucharist with you as our Archbishop showing the continuity of our tradition and faith lived and proclaimed here in Lanham-Seabrook, Maryland. Be assured of our daily prayers for you in which we ask Jesus, the Good Shepherd, through the intercession of our patron, Saint Matthias, to bless and prosper the good work of your ministry to the Church of Washington.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Rev. Jeffrey M. Defayette
Pastor

1960 ~ Golden Jubilee Year ~ 2010
Saint Matthias the Apostle Church + Lanham, Maryland
"Honor Our Past + Celebrate the Present + Commit to Our Future!"



**Stewardship Report:
Revenue**



June 28th:	8,549.70
Faith Direct:	1,602.75
Total Offertory:	10,152.45
Last Year:	9,592.71
Peter's Pence:	1,391.21
Poor Box:	109.00
Every Penny Counts Box:	33.75

Number of Adult Envelopes: 225
Number of Children's Envelopes: 6
Number of Faith Direct donors: 45
Number of Registered Households: 668



Dear Father Defayette, June 22, 2009

To you, your staff and the entire Saint Matthias the Apostle Parish community I offer my sincere appreciation for your generous response to the 2009 Archbishop's Appeal. Your efforts have resulted in reaching and exceeding your parish goal of \$60,254 for this year's Appeal. I have been informed that, as of June 2, 2009, 278 pledges in the amount of \$62,261 have been received. Thank you!

The Saint Matthias the Apostle Parish family's recognition of the needs of others throughout the Church of Washington is inspiring. The kindness that has been expressed significantly helps the archdiocese to continue services to the archdiocesan community by providing pastoral, spiritual, educational and social service ministries.

The support that has been shown by your parishioners through their pledges to the 2009 Archbishop's Appeal is a blessing. I would like to recognize the staff and other volunteers who supported the effort by sharing their time and talent to ensure the success of the Appeal. I am equally grateful to the parishioners who made a monetary contribution to the campaign.

The theme of the 2009 Archbishop's Appeal is "For the Glory of God" (1 Corinthians 10:31). Your parishioners have responded wonderfully to this theme and they are making possible the fruitfulness of the ministry in the archdiocese and this renews in all of us hope for the future.

With gratitude for your goodness and with a pledge of continued prayers for you and the Saint Matthias the Apostle Parish family, I am

Faithfully in Christ,
Donald Wuerl
Archbishop of Washington

- **Peter's Pence Collection:** Thank you for your generosity in last week's collection. Because of you, Pope Benedict XVI will be able to help millions of people around the world quickly and effectively. In 2007, the United States was responsible for almost one-third of worldwide proceeds for this Collection. Your important contributions are truly helping the Holy Father to make a difference for those most in need.
- **A Stewardship Moment:** This weekend as we celebrate the Independence of our country, we will do well to echo the Psalmist, saying, "Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for His mercy." May we always recognize and use wisely the gifts of freedom and abundance He has showered upon us.



Items of Note

New Pamphlets: We currently offer three more new pamphlets in the pamphlet racks with information on **Teen Dating:** the purpose of this pamphlet is to introduce the teens of today to the proper ways of living and making good decisions; **Teens Talk About Pressure:** gives information concerning the ways to deal with stress and pressure; and **All God's Children:** contains information on respecting the religious beliefs of others.

Security: Every person and group granted the privilege of using Friendship Hall or the school library and classroom space for meetings or functions is responsible for thorough clean-up and restoration of the premises to a clean and orderly condition. Every person and group member is also responsible for ensuring the security of the premises by closing and checking the locks on all exterior doors and windows prior to leaving the building. Please be mindful of the safety and comfort of your fellow parishioners as well as Father Jeff and his staff when using the facilities of the parish. Thank you.

School Office Hours: The school offices will be closed until Monday, August 3rd and the hours from Aug 3rd through Aug 27th will be Mon-Thurs 9am to 3pm, and Fridays from 9am to 1pm. The school offices will be closed Fri, Aug 28th through Mon, Aug 31st. Normal business hours (8am—3pm) will resume on Tue, Sept 1st. If you have questions concerning enrollment, please email vmason@stmatthias.org and you will receive a response in 24 hours.

Ever Think About Being an Altar Server? St. Matthias is holding an "Introductory Orientation" for altar serving for students starting in 4th Grade (as of this Fall) through adults of any age, on Tuesday, July 21st from 7 to 8pm in the church. No experience necessary. Come out and see what it's all about. If you plan to attend, please call or e-mail either Cynthia Faust 202-320-2174 cf Faust@atelierarchitects.com or Martin Kwapinski 301-459-4508 martin.kwapinski@gsa.gov.

The Altar Society Ministry: Have you wondered who works behind the scenes, taking care of all the details that keep the church linens, brass, etc. clean and beautiful? Who washes and irons altar linens? Who removes wax and polishes candle holders? Who dusts the altar, cleans the holy water containers and refills them with holy water? Who dusts the pews and cleans the hymnal holders of all trash? The Altar Society Ministry is a group of volunteers devoted to taking care of these needs of the church. If you would like to join this group please contact Carmen Kosko at 301-262-5277 or by e-mail at carmen7081@verizon.net.

A Free Trip to Delaware Park Casino! St. Matthias Leisure Club is going to Delaware Park on Thursday, July 30th. The cost of the trip is \$25.00 with a \$30.00 rebate. For more information, please call Rita Kitchings at 301-261-0681 ASAP! Thank you.

Sunday TV Mass: TV Mass is moving! Starting July 5th you will find the TV Mass on WDCW Channel 50 at 10:30am. Confirm the channel with your cable provider—PG Co. is usually channel 3.

Apostleship of Prayer: Our Holy Father's intentions for the month of July, 2009. **Christians in the Middle East:** That Christians in the Middle East may live their faith in complete freedom and become instruments of reconciliation and peace. **Humanity Reconciled:** Through the witness of the faithful, may the Church be the seed and soil of a humanity reconciled to be God's one true family on earth.

Dear Father Jeff,

My sincere thanks to you and the parishioners of St. Matthias for your thoughtful and prayerful Father's Day greeting and Mass remembrance on that day—I am most appreciative.

Be assured of my own continued prayers and esteem for all of you especially as I recall my ministry at St. Matthias.

Prayerfully,
Msgr. Joseph A. Ranieri



Mass Intentions Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Monday, July 6: Maria Goretti, virgin & martyr

8:30 am Concepcion Soberanis

Tuesday, July 7:

8:30 am Robert Costenbader

Wednesday, July 8:

8:30 am Deacon Morris M.P. Williams

Thursday, July 9: Augustine Z. Rong & companions

8:30 am Catherine Agbonrofo

Friday, July 10:

8:30 am Intentions of Stephanie Bello - Birthday

Saturday, July 11:

3:30 pm to 4:30pm—Confessions

Vigil—Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 pm Henry Len

Sunday, July 12: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Edmund Jesiolowski

9:30 am Intentions of The Ugo Family

11:30 am This Mass has been canceled for the summer.

Please pray for: ♦The Sick and Homebound In Our

Parish: Anne Benson; Mary Bittner; Margaret Brooks; Audrey Brown; Charles Jones; Lisa Farland; Paul Gambrell; Dennis George; Helen Guditis; Charles Henry; Lena Jacobs; Ray Krok; Joe Makowski; Willie (Bill) Moore; Rosemarie Nardozi; Peter O'Neill; Joe & Irene Pezzuti; Bill Pinchback; Rohland Reich; Joe Sico; Anita Topnick; Margaret Zanin, **may God's healing grace be theirs. ♦For Our Military Serving in Iraq: Gerard Johnson, protect them all from harm. ♦For the Deceased:** Rev. Leslie A. Branch; Lindsey Marie Roush, **may they rest in peace.** Names will be placed on our prayer list for three weeks. To add a name or to request continuing prayers, please contact Carmen Kosko by phone at 301-459-4814 ext 201 or by email at ckosko@stmatthias.org.

Outdoor Parish Shrines; Memorials and Tributes:

The votive lights burning from July 5th through July 11th

Shrine of the Sacred Heart

For the Special Intentions of: Alice Campbell; Hazel Campbell; and Dennis George.

Shrine of the Madonna & Child

For the Special Intentions of: The Ferrara Family; and for Jordan George on the occasion of his birthday.

For the Happy Repose of: Abdon Centeno.

SCHOOL RAFFLE WINNER

Congratulations to **Te-Ann B. Elliott** of Mitchellville (winner of \$350) as winner and seller of this week's ticket!



Out of the Mouths of God's Kids



James, age 4, was listening to a Bible story. His dad read: "The man named Lot was warned to take his wife and *flee* out of the city, but his wife looked back and was turned to salt." Concerned, James asked: "What happened to the *flea*?"