

From The Pastor

Hospital visits/recentlyhomebound? Please remember that Doctors Hospital does not have a full time Catholic chaplain. The priests of our deanery in Prince George's County take turns covering the hospital for genuine medical emergencies, mostly after regular business hours, on a weekly rotational basis. Each parish priest tries to see his parishioners at the hospital if he is made aware of the patient admission. Therefore, it is now imperative that the patient, his or her spouse, or delegated family member contact the priest when someone is admitted to the hospital. Please do not assume that the priest is aware of your hospital visit. A large percentage of hospital visits today are planned in advance. In other words, the patient knows that he/she is going to the hospital for elective surgery or medical tests. When this happens, please ask to see your parish priest prior to your hospital visit, to request confession, Holy Communion, and the Anointing of the Sick. These sacraments can be celebrated with our community at daily Mass or on Sundays. Emergency calls are rare but when they do happen we will always try to respond immediately if we are available. When you check into the hospital please make sure that your religious preference is listed as Catholic so that our parish Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion will be able to locate you for reception of Holy Communion during their daily visits. Every priest is more than pleased to be of assistance but our assistance to you will rely more and more on some planning prior to your hospital visit or surgery. We appreciate your attention to this important reminder.

Food Pantry: Because of the slow economy and the increasing number of families becoming unemployed the demand is high for our food pantry. Our shelves are depleting more quickly and your help is greatly needed. Today a hungry person may too often be a child who goes to school empty each day, because there is not sufficient food in the home. A hungry person may also be a senior citizen on a fixed income whose need for medication cuts into his food budget, leaving him inadequately nourished. Families facing unexpected illness, accident, or job loss may be temporarily unable to meet their needs, while they cope with their changing life situation.

Faced with any of these situations, many people turn to the church for help and support. We, who are abundantly blessed in many ways, can respond from our bounty and provide this support for those in want. The simplest and most direct way to help is to provide food to meet this most basic need for the folks in our own community.

So we ask that you give from your heart to the St. Matthias Food Pantry, sponsored and maintained by the Ladies of Charity. Please take a bag (or two) and fill it with food and with love. You may drop your donations at any Mass or at the Rectory Office between the hours of 9 and 4, Monday through Thursday and Friday from 9 to 1. **God bless you for your generosity.**



Countdown to the Golden Jubilee
50th Anniversary
1960 ~ 2010
336 Days

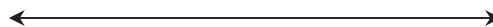


Stewardship Report: Revenue



July 12th:	7,263.84
Faith Direct:	1,597.75
Total Offortory:	8,861.59
Last Year:	9,458.68
Poor Box:	295.00
Every Penny Counts Box:	105.67

Number of Adult Envelopes: 188
Number of Children's Envelopes: 15
Number of Faith Direct donors: 45
Number of Registered Households: 668



- **Offortory Envelopes:** There are still 186 envelope boxes under the choir loft that have not yet been picked up and it is July!!! Besides your tax statement at the year end, there are other very important reasons for you to use the weekly envelopes. If you are asked to be a Godparent for Baptism, Sponsor for Confirmation, Witness for a Marriage, etc. a pastor is required to sign a form stating that you regularly attend Mass and are an active parishioner. There is no way for him to know that unless you use your envelopes. Even when finances are tight, we encourage putting an empty envelope in the collection.

- **Recycling Bin:** If you haven't finished your "spring cleaning" why don't you get rid of all of your old newspapers, magazines, catalogs, office paper and mail piling up in your home. Bring them to our Green and Yellow paper recycling container located in the area to the left of the parking lot behind the school. It is an easy way to help earn cash for our school, and model environmentally responsible behavior for your children.



- **Mass Intentions:** Many parishioners are aware how quickly our Mass schedule fills with requests for particular intentions. If you desire to have a Mass offered on the anniversary date of the death of your loved one, relative, or friend, please think ahead and arrange for your Mass **at least three months in advance!** If the date for the Mass intention is not crucial, you may make your arrangements at any time. Requests for particular dates are taken on a first come, first serve basis. Mass intentions (that you see published weekly in the bulletin) may be offered for someone who is deceased, for the intentions of someone that is living and perhaps ill or in special need, or for a special occasion like a birthday or a wedding anniversary. An offering of \$10 is suggested for each Mass intention requested and the offering must be made at the time Mass is scheduled. Cards are available to send to a grieving family or to someone living for their intentions. Please stop by the rectory offices during business hours to schedule your intention and to select your card.

- **A Stewardship Moment:** The Letter to the Ephesians reminds us that Christ is creating a new world order: one that brings about relationships based on love, peace, reconciliation, hope and unity. As a Eucharistic community, we are stewards of Christ's new creation. How are we promoting peace and reconciliation? How are we showing love for our neighbors? What are we doing to encourage unity and understanding among those with whom we gather around the Lord's Table each week?

Faith Formation:

Faith Formation Registration: This is a reminder that **ALL STUDENTS** must be registered before they can be placed in a class. Registration forms were mailed home the first week of June. If you did not receive your copy, do stop by the office during regular hours to pick up one. You may also pick up a copy from the pamphlet rack in the back of the church. If you are new to the parish make sure to fill out a Parish Registration Form as well as the Faith Formation Registration Form. **Don't forget beginning August 1, there will be a late charge of \$25.00 per family.**

First Communion Photos and DVDs: The photos and DVDs are in so if you ordered copies, please stop by the office to pick them up.

Me, a Catechist? The Archdiocese of Washington requires two adults in each "classroom" thus we are always in need of catechists. Life happens and at times despite our best intentions, we may not be able to make it to class ... having two adults per class helps a great deal. Yes, it is time-consuming and at times challenging but have you considered the benefits you will reap from sharing the Word of God with our young parishioners? Do consider giving back to God who has been so gracious to you. Remember, no one gives more than God. Right now we have one adult per class so we do need help. You do not have to teach right away, you can actually be an observer for several months till you feel comfortable to teach. If we want our children to be fully equipped with the Word of God as they make major decisions in the future then **it is our collective responsibility** to at least ensure that they know the Catholic Faith. Out of all 14 catechists, only two have their children in the program. You can help us to help your children better by partnering with us.

Baptism: Parents must be registered parishioners and must also register with the Office for Faith Formation before the Baptism preparatory seminar. If in doubt call the office at 301-459-4814 x 205. The next set of Baptisms will be held in September if parents have fulfilled the requirements.

RCIA –WELCOME BACK HOME!! Are you or someone else you know interested in becoming Catholic or simply learning more about the Catholic faith? The Rites of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is tailored to address such needs. A few people have already inquired. Classes are held on Tuesday evenings from 7:00pm to 8:15pm in the School Faculty Lounge. We will have our first session on Tuesday, September 22. Please call the office at 301-459-4814 x 205 ahead of time to register.

Young Adult Ministry: Have you checked us out on Facebook? Yes, Facebook! Log on and find out all the "happenings" around our Washington DC region.

Items of Note

Pamphlets: We currently offer three more new pamphlets in the pamphlet racks with information on **Shattered Love:** picking up the pieces after domestic violence and facing the facts with courage; **Victims of Divorce:** what happens to the children and helping the children deal with the loss; **Let's Stay Civil:** what happen to the golden rule 'Do unto others as you would have them do unto you'.

Jesus Needs Altar Servers: 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 cfaust@atelierarchitects.com or Martin Kwapinski 301-459-4508 martin.kwapinski@gsa.gov.

CYO Athletics: 2009 Fall Soccer sign-ups are online now. Fall soccer for 3rd through 8th grade students will begin late August 2009. K through 2nd grade intramural soccer will begin after school starts in September. Decisions on Fall 2009 teams will be made based on sign-ups. Right now, we do not have enough players to field any 3rd—8th grade teams. Register now at www.stmatthiascyo.org! All students returning for the 2009-10 school year should **register with the Archdiocese of Washington CYO** at www.washcyosignup.com.

Leisure Club: Welcomes new members to join in their social events such as lunches, games, trips etc. If interested they meet on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of every month in Friendship Hall.

SCHOOL RAFFLE WINNER

Congratulations to **Richard Mizelle** of Garner, North Carolina (winner of \$300) AND **Dezmona Howard** (\$50.00 as seller) of this week's ticket!



Mass Intentions Sixteenth Week in Ordinary Time

Monday, July 20: Apolinais, bishop & martyr

8:30 am Deacon Morris M.P. Williams

Tuesday, July 21: Lawrence of Brindisi, bishop & dr.

8:30 am Ayodeji Fatogun

Wednesday, July 22: Mary Magdalene

8:30 am Alma Avitia

Thursday, July 23: Bridget of Sweden, religious

8:30 am Carmen Velasco & Victor Sanchez

Friday, July 24: Sharbel Makhlof, priest

8:30 am Morning Mass Attendees

Saturday, July 25: James, apostle

3:30 pm to 4:30pm—Confessions

Vigil – Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

5:00 pm John Warrington

Sunday, July 26: Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Intentions of Edward F. Hanko

9:30 am Int. of Family of Sylvester Ugoh (in Thanksgiving)

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

Please pray for: ♦The Sick and Homebound In Our

Parish: Ann Benson; Mary Bittner; Margaret Brooks; Audrey Brown; Alice Campbell; Charles Jones; Lisa Farland; Paul Gambrell; Dennis George; Helen Guditis; Charles Henry; Lena Jacobs; Tyler Johnson; Elizabeth Kin; Ray Krok; Elizabeth Lancon; Joe Makowski; Willie (Bill) Moore; Rosemarie Narvozzi; Peter O'Neill; Joe & Irene Pezzuti; Bill Pinchback; Rohland Reich; Joe Sico; James Wills; Margaret Zanin; **may God's healing grace be theirs. ♦For Our Military Serving in Iraq:** James Kodak; Gerard Johnson, **protect them all from harm. ♦For the Deceased:** Thomas Nchotu; Helen Okolo; **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 Jef McConnell by phone at 301-459-4814 ext 201 or by email at jmccconnell@stmatthias.org.

Outdoor Parish Shrines; Memorials and Tributes:

The votive lights burning from July 19th through July 25th

Shrine of the Sacred Heart

For the Special Intentions of: The George Family.

Shrine of the Madonna & Child

For the Intentions of: The Ferrara Family; Father Jerry Gamrot; Dennis George; and for Pat Makowski on the occasion of her birthday.

The Wisdom of Children



I asked some children at Sunday School if I sold my house and car and gave all my money to the church would I get to heaven? 'NO! the children answered. If I cleaned the church every day mowed the yard, and kept everything neat would I get to heaven? Again the answer was NO! I continued, ' then how can I get to heaven? A young child shouted, ' You gotta be dead!'