

TODAY'S READINGS

“**R**ising very early before dawn, he left and went off to a deserted place, where he prayed.”
(Mark 1:35)

Jesus certainly had a full day. With his first four chosen disciples in tow, he went into the synagogue and not only taught but cast out an unclean spirit. He next slipped away and healed Simon's mother-in-law. Then, as soon as sunset marked the end of the Sabbath, a horde of people crowded around the doorstep begging Jesus to heal and deliver them. He extended himself to the whole crowd, touching each person with the power of God. Surely this exhausting ministry lasted beyond a normal bedtime.

We could certainly understand if Jesus burrowed under the covers the next morning. Instead, Mark tells us that Jesus rose in the wee hours and headed out to a deserted spot to spend time with his Father. Instead of assuming he knew what God wanted and how to accomplish it, he stopped and listened for God's guidance. Out of that profound communion emerged clarity about his next step: It was time to preach in other villages.

That's the way it was with the Lord: never a dull moment! Jesus was constantly on the move. Even his prayer was dynamic. He didn't get up early just to enjoy a good sunrise and recite a few prayers. No, he was asking, seeking, and knocking. He was determined to discover his Father's plan, and he was ready to make any adjustments he needed in order to stick to that plan.

Make no mistake. Jesus was active, not just busy. Like a runner crouched at the starting block, his prayer was one of active waiting, not passive wandering. That's what God wants for us as well. There's a kingdom to be built. There are people to evangelize and ministries to advance. The hungry need feeding, the wounded need comfort, and the confused need direction. What part does God want you to play? Seek him in prayer, and you'll find out.

“Here I am, Lord! Show me what you want me to do today. I want to be your servant!”

Taken from *The Word Among Us*, February 2012, Vol. 31, Number 3: Used with permission.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

Sunday 5th Jb 7:1-4,6-7 / 1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23 / Mk 1:29-39
Monday 6th 1 Kgs 8:1-7,9-13 / Mk 6:53-56
St. Paul Miki and Companions
Tuesday 7th 1 Kgs 8:22-23,27-30 / Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday 8th 1 Kgs 10:1-10 / Mk 7:14-23
St. Jerome Emiliani & St. Josephine Bakhita
Thursday 9th 1 Kgs 11:4-13 / Mk 7:24-30
Friday 10th 1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19 / Mk 7:31-37
St. Scholastica
Saturday 11th 1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34 / Mk 8:1-10
Our Lady of Lourdes
Sunday 12th Lv 13:1-2,44-46 / 1 Cor 10:31—11:1 / Mk 1:40-45

LAS LECTURAS DE HOY

Jesús llegó a Cafarnaum y proclamó la venida del Reino de Dios. La autoridad absoluta con la que Jesús enseñaba, curaba a los enfermos y expulsaba a los espíritus malignos dejaba a la vista la inmensa misericordia de Dios, y presentaba el amanecer de la nueva era de la salvación. Para los que respondían con fe, el Reino vino a ser una experiencia personal que les llevaba a vislumbrar la gloriosa transformación de toda la Creación al final de los tiempos.

El entendimiento que tenían los discípulos de la verdadera Persona de Jesús era limitado; pero bastó decirle que la suegra de Simón se encontraba enferma con fiebre para que Jesús respondiera sin demora; la fiebre cedió ante su toque sanador (Marcos 1,2931). Jesús el Señor vino a traer la salvación y hacer revivir a todos los que estaban postrados bajo la enfermedad del pecado. Así, habiendo recibido la vida nueva, todos estamos llamados a servir en la edificación del Reino de los cielos.

Jesús hizo callar a los demonios, que reconocían su verdadera identidad (Marcos 1,34) y se retiró de la multitud, pero los discípulos no lograban entender que Él era el Mesías. Este fue el comienzo del “secreto mesiánico”.

Muchos se sentían maravillados al ver los milagros del nuevo profeta, pero no lograban entender cuál era su misión. En su constante oración, Cristo recibía fuerzas para cumplir la voluntad de su Padre y no dejarse manipular por la multitud, que deseaba ver un Mesías político, militar o autoritario, según sus propios conceptos (Marcos 1,35-39). Pero los que sí aprendieron a reconocerlo como el Siervo sufriente, humillado en la cruz y resucitado victorioso sobre el pecado, pudieron proclamarlo como Mesías. Lo que inicialmente quedó oculto, se reveló plenamente a la luz de la Resurrección (Lucas 24,26).

“Padre eterno, queremos buscar tu presencia divina, para que tu Espíritu Santo nos revele la persona y la misión de Jesús. Señor mío Jesucristo, renueva y sana mi espíritu quebrantado, y ayúdame a aceptar dócilmente tu poder sanador.”

Escogida con el permiso de *La Palabra Entre Nosotros*, Vol. 31, Número 3: Febrero 2012.

LECTURAS DE LA SEMANA

Domingo 5 Job 7:1-4,6-7 / 1 Cor 9:16-19,22-23 / Mc 1:29-39
Lunes 6 1 Re 8:1-7,9-13 / Mc 6:53-56
San Pablo Miki y compañeros
Martes 7 1 Re 8:22-23,27-30 / Mc 7:1-13
Miércoles 8 1 Re 10:1-10 / Mc 7:14-23
San Jerónimo Emiliani y Santa Josefina Bakhita
Jueves 9 1 Re 11:4-13 / Lc 7:24-30
Viernes 10 1 Re 11:29-32; 12:19 / Mc 7:31-37
Santa Escolástica
Sábado 11 1 Re 12:26-32; 13:33-34 / Mc 8:1-10
Nuestra Señora de Lourdes
Domingo 12 Le 13:1-2,44-46 / 1 Cor 10:31—11:1 / Mc 1:40-45

SUNDAY EVENING

CHORAL CONCERT BY THE COUNTERTOP ENSEMBLE

St. Matthew's Cathedral Concerts Series presents *From Darkness to Light*, a performance by the Countertop Ensemble, today Sunday, **February 5** at 7pm. From the quiet, contemplative days of winter to the season of rebirth and renewal, this premier early music vocal group will give a performance celebrating this special time of year featuring works by Thomas Tallis, Pablo Casals, Charles Parry, William Byrd, Anton Bruckner, Giovanni Gabrieli, Bob Chilcott and others. This fundraising concert will support the ensemble's upcoming East Coast tour. Suggested donation: \$25

CATHEDRAL CALENDAR

February 5 - February 12

SUNDAY—A second collection for Cathedral maintenance is taken at all Masses. Hospitality receptions are held in the North Conference Room following all Masses except the 7am and 5:30pm Masses. Las clases de Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar continúan a las 11:00 de la mañana.

MONDAY—The Parish Council meets at 6:45pm in the East Conference Room.

TUESDAY—El Grupo de oración en español se reunirá a las 7 de la tarde en el salón de conferencias del Oeste.

The Faith Formation Committee meets at 7pm in the East Conference Room.

WEDNESDAY—Breaking Open the Word meets at 7pm in the West Conference Room.

SATURDAY—Fr. Regan's study on the Gospel of Mark continues at 10am in the North Conference Room.

A Mass of Anointing of the Sick is celebrated at 12:10pm.

SUNDAY—Las clases de Catecumenado y Catequesis Familiar continúan a las 11:00 de la mañana.

The Cathedral Club meets at 1pm in the West Conference Room.

Always Our Children meets at 3:30pm in the West Conference Room.

The Cathedral Young Adults (C†YA) meet at 4pm in the East Conference Room.

ADULT CONFIRMATION PREPARATION

REGISTER NOW !!!

St. Matthew's offers adult Confirmation preparation in the weeks between Easter and Pentecost for **active, baptized Catholics who have received First Eucharist but not Confirmation.**

The celebration of adult Confirmation occurs at a special Mass on Pentecost Sunday, **May 27 (Memorial Day weekend).**

The preparation includes five sessions from 7 to 8:30pm on Thursdays, **April 19 & 26 and May 3, 10 & 17** and a Saturday retreat on **May 19.**

To register, pick up a registration packet in the Cathedral rectory, or download and print it on the Cathedral website (www.stmatthewscathedral.org).

Registration materials are due to Heather Kinney, Director of Faith Formation, in the Cathedral Rectory no later than Friday, March 23. Questions? Contact Heather at hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org.

CARDINAL'S APPEAL 2012

A Time for Reflection

Please review the Cardinal's Appeal brochure and the tabloid in today's bulletin. The theme of the campaign is: "Seek first the kingdom of God." (Matthew 6:33) The Cardinal's Appeal campaign is much different than a one-time special collection. It is a pledge campaign where you can make a gift, payable over ten months. **A significant gift to the Cardinal's Appeal will touch the lives of many others in a very positive way.** As you review the work enabled by your contribution, please reflect on God's gifts to you. He has given you all that you have. Your gifts to our parish, to the archdiocese and to the work of the Church throughout the world should be given in gratitude for the continuing gifts that God gives you.

Sometimes it is difficult to envision how one pledge can help an organization the size of our archdiocese, how it can make a real difference. But each pledge does make a difference because all parishes participate in the campaign and the gifts of many enable our archdiocese to deliver needed ministries and services. Our combined gifts not only signify our gratitude to God, they glorify Him by enabling the work of our archdiocese and give Him thanks for all He has given us.

If you received a pledge form by mail, please complete it and mail it back or bring it to Mass next weekend. For those who did not receive a mailing or have not had time to respond, we will conduct an in-pew pledge process at all Masses next over the next two weekends. Thank you for your prayerful consideration and generous response.

*Seek first
the Kingdom of
GOD*

MATTHEW 6:33

NOTICIAS DE LA PARROQUIA

DECLARACIÓN DE CONTRIBUCIÓN DE FIN DE AÑO

En un esfuerzo por ir "verde", las declaraciones de contribución de fin de año estarán disponibles a petición. Si desea un resumen de contribución del año 2011, por favor llame a Gloria al 202-347-3215 o envíe un correo electrónico a gharrington@stmatthewscathedral.org. ¡Feliz año nuevo!

CAMPAÑA DEL CARDENAL 2012

Tiempo de Reflexión



Esta semana le pedimos revisar el folleto de la Campaña del Cardenal y la hoja de información que recibirá junto con su boletín hoy. El lema de la campaña es: "Busquen primero el reino de Dios" (Mateo 6:33). La Campaña del Cardenal es muy diferente a una colecta especial que se

realiza de una sola vez. Es una campaña donde usted puede hacer una donación pagadera durante el término diez meses. **Una donación significativa a la Campaña del Cardenal tocará las vidas de muchas personas de una manera muy positiva.** Cuando revise la obra que es posible gracias a su contribución, le pedimos reflexionar sobre los dones que Dios le concedió. Él le ha dado todo lo que usted posee. Las donaciones que usted haga a la parroquia, a la Arquidiócesis y a la obra de la Iglesia en todo el mundo deben ser en agradecimiento por los continuos dones que Dios le concede.

Algunas veces es difícil imaginar cómo un solo compromiso de contribución puede ayudar a una organización de la dimensión de nuestra arquidiócesis, cómo puede marcar una verdadera diferencia. Sin embargo, cada compromiso realmente marca una diferencia porque todas las parroquias participan en la campaña y las donaciones de muchos permiten que la Arquidiócesis pueda proporcionar los ministerios y los servicios necesarios. Nuestras donaciones, en su conjunto, no sólo son muestra de nuestra gratitud a Dios, sino que además nos permiten glorificarlo, haciendo posible la obra de nuestra arquidiócesis, y darle las gracias por todo los dones que Él nos ha concedido.

Si usted recibió un formulario de compromiso de donación por correo, sírvase completarlo y devolverlo por ese medio o bien llevarlo a misa el próximo fin de semana. Para quienes no recibieron ningún envío por correo o bien lo recibieron, pero no tuvieron tiempo de responderlo, nosotros recurriremos a nuestro proceso de comprometer a los feligreses desde el púlpito en todas las misas el próximo fin de semana y el siguiente. Gracias por considerar esta propuesta en oración y por su generosa respuesta.

RETIRO DEL VIÑEDO DE RAQUEL

Estas sufriendo con el dolor espiritual y emocional de haber tenido un aborto? El Ministerio del Viñedo de Raquel te puede ayudar. Ofrecemos un retiro de sanación el fin de semana del **2 de marzo al 4**. Este hermoso retiro te da la oportunidad de trabajar en el dolor y sufrimiento que puedas tener asociado con el aborto. Es un encuentro íntimo con Nuestro Señor, donde nos damos cuenta que Jesús nos ama a pesar de nuestras caídas y debilidades humanas. Este retiro esta abierto para hombres y mujeres. Tu llamada será tratada con estricta confidencialidad. Contactar: Eugenia Hadley a 301-300-1997 o mena4481@aol.com.

VOCATIONS

MEN'S VOCATION RETREAT

Cardinal Wuerl is sponsoring a Vocation Retreat for men in their 20s to 40s who are considering a call to the priesthood. The retreat will be held at Blessed John Paul II Seminary beginning this Friday evening, **February 10** and ending at Noon on Sunday, **February 12**. If you feel Jesus may be calling you, why not give Him a weekend? It will cost you nothing more than your time. Contact: Father Carter Griffin, Director of Priest Vocations, at 301-853-4580 or vocations@adw.org.

LITTLE SISTERS' VOCATION DISCERNMENT WEEKEND

The Little Sisters of the Poor invite single, Catholic women 18–35 years of age for a vocation discernment weekend, from 5:30pm on Friday, **February 17** until 3pm on Sunday, **February 19**, to include Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, a guided experience of lectio divina, sharing with Little Sisters and young women in formation, and an exposure to service of the elderly. Contact: Sr. Camille Rose at 202-269-1831 or vocwashington@littlesistersofthepoor.org.

LENTEN DAY OF RECOLLECTION – FOR MEN AND WOMEN IN THE CONSECRATED LIFE

On Saturday, **February 25**, join other men and women in the consecrated life for a Day of Reflection, *A Living Sacrifice of Praise*, 9am-3pm, at the Archdiocesan Pastoral Center (5001 Eastern Ave., Hyattsville). There will be two presentations, opportunities for silent prayer, Penance and Mass. Lunch will be provided. RSVP by February 13 to Diane Biggs at 301-853-5345 or dbiggs@adw.org. For more information, contact: Sr. Mary Dolora Keating, RSM at 301-853-4576 or keatingsmd@adw.org. The day of recollection is sponsored by the archdiocesan Office of Consecrated Life.

NEWS AND NOTES

CATHEDRAL CLUB

You are invited to the meeting of the St. Matthew's Cathedral Club to be held on **February 12** (and on the second Sunday of every month) in the West Conference Room at 1 pm. Coffee will be served.

ALWAYS OUR CHILDREN

Always Our Children, the Gay and Lesbian Ministry of the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle, will hold a confidential support group meeting next Sunday, **February 12**, 3:30-5:15pm, in the West Conference Room.

WORLDWIDE MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER

Deepen your communication, strengthen your relationship, rekindle your romance and renew your sacrament at a Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekend. The next weekends are **February 17-19** and **April 20-22**. Contact: 301-541-7007 or wwme@whalenfamily.com or visit wwmes4.org.

PROJECT RACHEL SUPPORT GROUPS FORMING

Project Rachel Ministry, sponsored by the Archdiocese of Washington, will hold confidential meetings in two locations – one on Sunday afternoons and one on Thursday evenings (depending on the group you join). Groups will begin on February 19 and 23. Confidential contact: Julia Shelava at 301-853-4565 or ProjectRachel@adw.org.

LECTURE BY 2012 SOPHIA AWARD HONOREE

Next Sunday, **February 12**, Fr. Jan Michael Joncas will present a free lecture entitled "Heaven's Harmonies in Human Habitats: Composing for the Church" at 5pm at the Washington Theological Union (6896 Laurel St., NW Washington - Takoma Metro). The subject is how music manifests *Sophia*—wisdom—in compositions intended for the Church's worship both by illuminating the sung texts and by facilitating the rituals being enacted. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, visit www.wtu.edu.

FAITH IN ACTION

HOMELESS MINISTRY – Every Monday from 7:30 to 11am, 55-70 homeless men and women come for prayer and Scripture lessons, light breakfast, and toiletries, underclothing and bag lunches. Contact Jim Walsh at stmatthsm@gmail.com to get involved!

Volunteers are needed to help serve our guests from 7:30 to 11am on Mondays or to provide lunches or breakfast food on a regular basis.

Donations of toiletries and financial gifts for supplies and new underclothing for our homeless guests are needed.

SINGLE SERVINGS OF SERVICE – **Sunday, February 12** – **10am to Noon - Martha's Table** - Join St. Matthew's parishioners after the 8:30am Mass for departure to Martha's Table to prepare food for the needy. Martha's Table, located 10 blocks from the Cathedral, provides meals and other services for the homeless from their location on 14th Street and their mobile soup kitchen. Contact: Paulin at StMattService@gmail.com.

MUSIC

SCHOLA VOLUNTEER OPENINGS

Did you know that half or more of the Cathedral's highly-acclaimed *Schola Cantorum* members are volunteer parishioners and friends of the cathedral? For the coming liturgical season (February 15– June 10), there are a limited number of openings in all voice parts for experienced choral singers. Members sing for both the 10am (Latin) and 11:30am (English) Sunday Eucharists. Singers must have significant adult choral experience, good sight-reading skills, and a pleasant, agile voice. The commitment of time and focused energy is significant, particularly at Christmas and Holy Week. Extra singing opportunities include Archdiocesan liturgies, civic and community functions and concerts. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings, 6:45-8:45pm, in weeks when the choir sings. Contact: Tom Stehle, at tstehle@stmatthewscathedral.org.

FAITH FORMATION

BIBLE STUDY: GOSPEL OF MARK

Father Regan's series on the Gospel of Mark continues Saturday, **February 11**, 10-11:45am, in the North Conference Room. Bring a Bible and your own morning beverage, and consider staying for our 12:10pm Mass afterward.

BECOMING CATHOLIC

Throughout the year, adults come forward seeking to learn about the Catholic faith. For those interested in learning about the Catholic faith or thinking about becoming Catholic, St. Matthew's offers Inquiry, a casual, ongoing conversation about the Catholic faith, once a month. Inquiry is the first step in the process of discerning one's commitment to full initiation in the Catholic Church. Inquiry meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the East Conference Room. A brief overview of the entire adult initiation process (RCIA), which begins formally each June, can be presented after Inquiry for those who are interested. The next Inquiry will be held Wednesday, **February 8**. Contact: Heather Kinney at hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org.

MASS INTENTIONS**Sunday, February 5**

5:30pm (vigil) –

Jerome Gaskins

7am – All Parishioners

8:30am – E. Ralph Hostetter (living)

10am – Tyron Elliott

11:30am – Sean C. Ferry

1pm – Luis Fernando Bedon

5:30pm – Romaine Matthews

Monday, February 6

7am – Josephine Klug Kuhn

8am – Jackie Walsott (living)

12:10pm – Ben Burdick

5:30pm – Salvatore Cafier

Tuesday, February 7

7am – Nilda Sarmenta

8am – Elizabeth Prodromou (living)

12:10pm – Luz D. Moreno

5:30pm – Virginia Habaluyas

Wednesday, February 8

7am – Pilar Lázaro

8am – Irene Fallon

12:10pm – Antonio Lomero

5:30pm – Señora Emilia Garcia

Thursday, February 9

7am – Jaime Reyes

8am – Deacon Donald A. Parker

12:10pm – Mildred Africa

5:30pm – Kimberly Wilson (living)

Friday, February 10

7am – Ralph Dwan

8am – Donald Argue (living)

12:10pm – Joan & Bob Beattie
(living)

5:30am – Antonia Reyes

Saturday, February 11

8am – Josephine Klug Kuhn

12:10pm – Ester Reyes

5:30pm – Daphne Cato

Sunday, February 12

7am – Rodolfo M. Lejano

8:30am – All Parishioners

10am – Louis Alvare

11:30am – Mary R. Cangiano

1pm – Juan Pablo & Carla Sofia
Luzardo (living)

5:30pm – Barry Fry

To arrange a Mass intention, speak to our receptionist in the Rectory. There is no fee but an offering is customary. Intentions are reserved in advance so particular dates may be unavailable.

MARRIAGES

Couples who are interested in celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage at the Cathedral are encouraged to visit the parish website to review our guidelines for weddings. The next step is to call the Rectory at 202-347-3215 and ask for the priest of your choice or the priest on duty, who can speak to you about marriage preparation and the possibility of scheduling your wedding ceremony at the Cathedral. Couples are expected to contact us **at least nine (9) months in advance** of the date on which they hope to celebrate their wedding.

BAPTISMS

Parents who wish to have their child baptized at the Cathedral should contact the Baptismal Coordinator at the Rectory at 202-347-3215 x555. Parents are encouraged to make contact with us **at least six (6) months in advance** of a desired baptismal date, at which time they may ask for the priest of their choice to perform the Baptism. This early contact enables parents to be scheduled for the necessary sacramental formation session before the child's baptism and allows time for sponsors to obtain letters from their parish pastor.

CATHEDRAL TOURS

Visitors are invited to schedule a guided tour of the Cathedral or to do a self-guided tour using the color brochures available at the inside entrance to the Cathedral. Guided tours are given free of charge. Donations to the Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle are always appreciated and may be given to your tour guide or to our receptionist at the Rectory. To schedule a guided tour, contact us at 202-347-3215 x512 or 202-587-5143 or mhurley@stmatthewscathedral.org.

Please check our parish website regularly for updates on liturgies and events at St. Matthew's!

www.stmatthewscathedral.org

YOUNG ADULTS

CATHEDRAL YOUNG ADULT (C†YA) MINISTRY MEETING – Sunday, February 12 – 4 to 5pm – East Conference Room All are welcome to meet and discuss the C†YA ministry, share ideas and plan upcoming activities. Contact: Carolyn at cewait.10@gmail.com or Jillian at jillian.mcmahon@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEERING AT CAPITAL AREA FOOD BANK - Saturday, February 25 – 1 to 4pm – Capital Area Food Bank: Come and help to sort and package food at the Capital Area Food Bank's warehouse. A few slots are still open. Contact: Carolyn at cewait.10@gmail.com.

YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

In an effort to go "green," Year-End-Contribution Statements will be prepared only upon request. To obtain a statement of your 2011 contributions to St. Matthew's Cathedral, contact Gloria Harrington at 202-347-3215 x517 or gharrington@stmatthewscathedral.org.

GIFT ITEMS

St. Matthew's is pleased to offer a 48-page souvenir book on our beautiful Cathedral church written by Richard Schmidt and Claudia Rousseau, with Joseph Carey, Nancy McKinley and Elizabeth Sullivan. It features the Cathedral's history, art and architecture vividly portrayed through photographs by local photographer, Neil Greentree.

Also available are sets of six note cards picturing the art of the Cathedral, boxed sets of ten Christmas cards featuring St. Matthew's Crèche, Christmas ornaments and several CD recordings of the Cathedral's *Schola Cantorum*. CD titles are listed on our website.

Items are available for purchase in the Rectory during office hours. Unless otherwise indicated in this bulletin, the Rectory is open Monday through Thursday from 9am until 8pm and Friday through Sunday from 9am until 4pm. You also may order items by contacting us at 202-347-3215 x 517 or at gharrington@stmatthewscathedral.org. MasterCard and Visa are accepted.



OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

5001 EASTERN AVENUE
POST OFFICE BOX 29260
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20017

January 30, 2012

Dear Friends,

On January 20, 2012, the United States Department of Health and Human Services with the approval of President Barack Obama issued a new federal mandate making coverage of abortifacient drugs, sterilization and all FDA-approved contraceptives obligatory for virtually all employers, including faith-based institutions.

What is at the center of the concern of Catholic bishops and others about this action by the Obama administration? How can it affect the institutions of the Archdiocese of Washington?

The new mandate is the first federal regulation in our nation's history to require all faith-based institutions to pay for coverage of abortifacient drugs, sterilization and contraceptives. People were already free to use such widely available products and procedures. Up until this mandate, employers could choose whether or not to cover them and individuals could choose whether or not to seek employers that pay for them. Now nearly all those who provide insurance must include abortifacients, sterilization and contraceptives. Virtually all Catholic institutions and individuals will have to pay for that coverage. Being forced to provide these services violates both our faith conviction and our freedom.

In upholding the HHS regulation, the administration has ignored the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and has denied Catholics the most fundamental freedom, religious liberty. Despite the Church's appeal for a broader religious exemption, which was echoed by many other faiths, the administration refused to modify the regulation's current exemption that is limited to religious groups that hire and serve people primarily of their own faith. Most churches and church-run institutions do not qualify for the exemption because of their very openness to serving the common good of society and all people regardless of creed.

Even those who may disagree with the Church's teaching on the sanctity of human life, such as the editorial boards of *The Washington Post* and the *New York Daily News*, have stated that the government has no business forcing religious institutions to sponsor and pay for procedures and drugs which violate their beliefs.

What will happen if this mandate stands? Our schools, hospitals and charitable organizations will be placed in the untenable position of choosing between violating civil law and abandoning our religious beliefs.

For example, the mandate will allow a Catholic school one of three options: 1) violate its beliefs by providing coverage for medications and procedures we believe are immoral, 2) cease providing insurance coverage for all of its employees and face ongoing and ultimately ruinous fines, or 3) attempt to qualify for the exemption by hiring and serving only Catholics.

A Catholic school simply cannot effectively teach Catholic doctrine while providing insurance to its teachers – and in the case of Catholic universities, to its students as well – that violates its own beliefs. Nor should it have to deny its employees access to affordable health care, a basic human right. Nor could it afford to pay crippling fines. Nor should it be forced to close its doors to non-Catholics.

There can no longer be any doubt that religious liberty in our country is in jeopardy. Only weeks ago, the Obama administration unsuccessfully argued to the Supreme Court that the government has the right to interfere in a church's choice of its ministers. Thankfully, the Court unanimously rejected this radical position. Undeterred, the government has advanced on another front.

Catholics across America are already fighting this mandate. Catholic journalists of all backgrounds have widely criticized the HHS rules as unjust, and leaders of major Catholic organizations — such as the Catholic Health Association, Catholic Relief Services, and Catholic Charities USA — have also spoken out against them. In the meantime, the Bishops' Ad Hoc Committee for Religious Liberty is actively exploring options for litigation and legislative proposals to remedy this injustice.

This is the time to speak up. This is the time for all our voices to be heard. Therefore, I ask of you two things. First, as a community of faith we need to commit ourselves to prayer that wisdom and justice may prevail, and religious liberty may be preserved. Without God, we can do nothing; with God, nothing is impossible. Second, I ask you to visit www.usccb.org/conscience and www.mdcathcon.org to learn more about this assault on religious liberty and to find the resources to support legislation that would reverse the effects of the administration's decision.

With gratitude for your collaboration in this very important matter and with every good wish, I am

Faithfully in Christ,

Donald Cardinal Wuerl
Archbishop of Washington



OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON

5001 EASTERN AVENUE
POST OFFICE BOX 29260
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20017

Enero 30, 2012

Queridos amigos,

El 20 de enero de 2012, el Departamento de Salud y Servicios Humanos de Estados Unidos, con el visto bueno del presidente Barack Obama, emitió un nuevo mandato federal haciendo que la cobertura de medicamentos abortivos, esterilización y todos los anticonceptivos aprobados por la FDA, sea obligatoria prácticamente para todos los empleadores, incluidas las instituciones fundamentadas en la fe.

¿Qué es lo que está al centro de la preocupación de los obispos católicos, y de otros, acerca de esta acción de la administración Obama? ¿Cómo puede afectar esto a las instituciones de la Arquidiócesis de Washington?

El nuevo mandato es la primera regulación federal en la historia de nuestra nación en exigir a todas las instituciones fundamentadas en la fe que paguen por la cobertura de medicamentos abortivos, esterilización y anticonceptivos. La gente ya era libre de utilizar este tipo de productos y procedimientos ampliamente disponibles. Hasta este mandato, los empleadores podían elegir si deseaban o no cubrirlos y los individuos podían elegir si deseaban buscar empleadores que pagaran por ellos. Ahora casi todos los que proporcionan seguro deben incluir abortivos, esterilización y anticonceptivos. Prácticamente todas las instituciones católicas e individuos, tendrán que pagar por esa cobertura. Obligarlos a proporcionar estos servicios viola tanto la convicción de nuestra fe como nuestra libertad.

En su defensa de la regulación del HHS, el gobierno ha hecho caso omiso de la Primera Enmienda de la Constitución de Estados Unidos y ha negado a los católicos la libertad más fundamental, la libertad religiosa. A pesar de la petición de la Iglesia por una exención religiosa más amplia, del que se hicieron eco muchas otras religiones, el gobierno se negó a modificar la actual exención del reglamento que es limitada a grupos religiosos que contratan y sirven básicamente a personas de su propia fe. La mayoría de las iglesias e instituciones dirigidas por las iglesias no califican para la exención por su propia apertura de servir al bien común de la sociedad y a todas las personas, independientemente de su credo.

Incluso aquellos que pueden estar en desacuerdo con la enseñanza de la Iglesia sobre la santidad de la vida humana, como los consejos editoriales de *The Washington Post* y del *New York Daily News*, han declarado que el gobierno no tiene por qué obligar a las instituciones religiosas a patrocinar y pagar por procedimientos y drogas que violan sus creencias.

¿Qué pasará si este mandato se mantiene? Nuestras escuelas, hospitales y organizaciones caritativas serán colocados en la posición insostenible de tener que elegir entre violar la ley civil o abandonar nuestras creencias religiosas.

Por ejemplo, el mandato le permitirá a una escuela católica una de tres opciones: (1) violar sus creencias, al proveer la cobertura de medicamentos y procedimientos que creemos que son inmorales, (2) dejar de prestar cobertura de seguro a todos sus empleados y enfrentar constantes y en última instancia ruinosas multas, o (3) tratar de calificar para la exención, contratando y sirviendo solamente a los católicos.

Una escuela católica simplemente no puede enseñar con eficacia la doctrina católica mientras que proporciona a sus profesores -y en el caso de las universidades católicas también a sus estudiantes- seguros que violan sus propias creencias. Tampoco debería tener que negar a sus empleados acceso a atención de salud asequible, un derecho humano básico. Ni podría permitirse el lujo de pagar multas abrumadoras. Ni debería ser forzada a cerrar sus puertas a los no católicos.

Ya no puede haber duda alguna de que la libertad religiosa en nuestro país está en peligro. Hace apenas unas semanas, la administración Obama argumentó sin éxito ante la Corte Suprema que el gobierno tiene derecho a interferir en la elección de la iglesia de sus ministros. Afortunadamente, la Corte rechazó por unanimidad esta posición radical. Sin inmutarse, el gobierno ha avanzado en otro frente.

Los católicos de todo el país ya están luchando contra este mandato. Periodistas católicos de diferentes tendencias han criticado ampliamente las reglas del HHS como injustas, y los líderes de las principales organizaciones católicas - como la Asociación Católica de Salud, los Servicios Católicos de Socorro, y Caridades Católicas de Estados Unidos - también se han pronunciado en contra de ellas. Mientras tanto, la Comisión Episcopal Especial para la Libertad Religiosa está explorando activamente las opciones para litigar, y las propuestas legislativas para remediar esta injusticia.

Este es el momento de hablar. Este es el tiempo para que nuestras voces sean escuchadas. Por lo tanto, les pido dos cosas. En primer lugar, como una comunidad de fe necesitamos comprometernos a orar para que la sabiduría y la justicia prevalezcan, y la libertad religiosa pueda ser preservada. Sin Dios, no podemos hacer nada; con Dios, nada es imposible. En segundo lugar, les pido que visiten www.usccb.org/conscience, y www.mdcathcon.org, para aprender más sobre este asalto a la libertad religiosa y encontrar los recursos necesarios para apoyar legislación que podría revertir los efectos de la decisión de la administración.

Con gratitud por su colaboración en este asunto tan importante, y con mis mejores deseos, quedo de ustedes

Fielmente en Cristo,



Arzobispo de Washington

My dear parishioners,

"If any one of you is ill, he should send for the elders of the church, and they must anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord and pray over him. The prayer of faith will save the sick man and the Lord will raise him up again, and if he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven (James 5:14-15)."

The Catholic Church professes and teaches that the Sacred Anointing of the Sick is one of the seven Sacraments of the New Testament, that it was instituted by Christ and recommended and promulgated to the faithful by St. James.

St. Matthew's Cathedral will celebrate a Mass for the Anointing of the Sick on Saturday, **February 11** at 12:10pm. I will be the celebrant and Deacon Joseph Goldsmith will be the homilist. For those who would like to receive this sacrament, please complete the form below and mail or bring it to the Rectory. You may also call the Rectory at 202-347-3215 to register. As this sacrament is a sacrament of healing with the sacrament of Penance, those who are to receive anointing may wish to go to confession in the week prior to the Mass.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Rev. Monsignor W. Ronald Jameson
Rector



**REGISTRATION FOR
MASS FOR THE
ANOINTING OF THE SICK
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11,
12:10PM**



(Name)

(Phone number)

(Address)

(Email address)

Anointing of the Sick I: *The Mystery of Illness*

We get hurt. We wear out. The lungs, the eyes, the memory, and any of the many limbs and organs that compose us break or ache. Gloom comes over us then: pity for ourselves, sorrow, depression, anger. But hope can come, too, and courage, and sometimes peace.

All of this is marked and celebrated in the rites of our tradition. With a word and a deed, with touch and breath and spit and mud, Jesus heals those who ail. In every place and time, we who are the church remember and tell stories of healing, anoint the sick with oil and share the one bread even with those who cannot assemble for Mass. Thus the sick and the healthy, the homebound and the spry, saints and sinners are made one and remain one, a single body of many parts.

Anyone who is seriously ill can be anointed, including the elderly who become weaker, even if no illness is present; those waiting for surgery when a serious condition is the reason for the operation; sick children who have sufficient use of reason to be helped by the celebration; and those who are unconscious or who have lost the use of reason, provided that they probably would have asked for the sacrament had they the use of their faculties. Furthermore, many forms of mental illness are now known to be serious. So the mentally ill may be anointed, provided that they will be helped and not harmed by the rite. If you have questions, consult a priest or other parish leader.

The most complete celebration of the sacrament is a communal one, a celebration in which those to be anointed are surrounded and supported by other members of the Christian community, whether at home, or in the house of the church (for those who can leave their beds and come here). In song and in silence, with scriptures and prayers, we strengthen the bonds of love and faith that are stronger than the most lethal disease and more powerful even than death.

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Estimados feligreses:

“¿Hay alguien entre Ustedes que está enfermo? Deje que llame a los sacerdotes de la Iglesia y pida que rezen sobre él, ungiéndole con aceite en el nombre del Señor, y la oración de fe salvará al hombre enfermo, y el Señor lo levantará, y si ha cometido pecados, el Señor se los perdonará.”
Santiago 5:14-15

La Iglesia Católica profesa y enseña que el Sacramento de la Unción de los Enfermos, es uno de los siete Sacramentos del Nuevo Testamento, que fue instituido por Cristo, recomendado y promulgado a los fieles por el apóstol Santiago.

La Catedral de San Mateo celebrará una misa para la Unción de los Enfermos, el **sábado 11 de Febrero a las 12:10 del mediodía**. Yo seré el celebrante y el diacono Joseph Goldsmith será el predicador. Para aquellas personas que deseen recibir este sacramento, por favor llamen a la rectoría al 202-347-3215 y registrense con Belinda o Mercedes. También pueden llenar el formulario que les hemos puesto y dejarlo en las cestas que se pondrán en las mesas a la entrada de la Catedral. Al ser este un sacramento de sanación y de reconciliación, aquellos que deseen recibir la Unción de los Enfermos, deberían confesarse la semana anterior a la Misa.

Monseñor W. Ronald Jameson
Rector



La Unción de los Enfermos I: El Misterio de las Enfermedades

Nos sentimos con dolores. Estamos cansados. Los pulmones, los ojos, la memoria, y todas las partes y órganos que componen nuestro cuerpo, se estropean o duelen. Nos llenamos de tristeza: sentimos pena de nosotros, depresión, cólera. Pero la esperanza también puede venir, el ánimo y algunas veces la paz.

Todo esto se señala y se celebra en el rito de nuestra tradición. Con una palabra y un acto, con un toque y un soplo y saliva, Jesús sana a aquellos que sufren. En cada lugar y tiempo, nosotros que somos la iglesia, recordamos y decimos las historias de sanación, unción del enfermo con aceite y compartimos el pan aun con aquellos que no pueden asistir a la misa. Por tanto, el enfermo y el sano, el impedido y el ágil en movimiento, santos y pecadores son hechos en uno y permanecen en uno, un solo cuerpo de muchas partes.

Cualquiera que esté seriamente enfermo, puede ser ungido, incluyendo el anciano que se siente débil, aunque no esté enfermo; aquellos que están esperando para una cirugía cuando la razón de esa cirugía es una condición seria; niños enfermos que tienen suficiente uso de razón para que sean ayudados por la celebración; y aquellos que están inconscientes o que han perdido el uso de la razón, proveyendo que en algún momento cuando estaban en sus facultades pidieron el sacramento. Además, muchas formas de enfermedades mentales son ahora reconocidas como enfermedades serias. Por tanto, la persona enferma mental, puede ser ungida, proveyendo que se les ayuda y no es dañado por el rito. Si usted tiene alguna pregunta, consulte con un sacerdote u otro guía de la parroquia.

La celebración más completa del sacramento, es el comunal, una celebración en la cual aquellos que son ungidos, están rodeados y apoyados por otros miembros de la comunidad cristiana, así sea en casa, o en la iglesia (para aquellos que pueden levantarse de sus camas y venir a la iglesia). Con canciones y en silencio, con escrituras y oraciones, unimos el lazo del amor y fe que es más fuerte que la enfermedad más mortal y más poderosa aun que la muerte.

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FORMULARIO MISA PARA LA UNCIÓN DE LOS ENFERMOS SÁBADO 11 DE FEBRERO 12:10 DEL MEDIODIA



(Nombre)

(Teléfono)

(Dirección)

(Correo electrónico)

THIRSTING FOR LIVING WATER

Parish Lenten Day of Recollection

with Sister Patricia A. Parachini, SNJM, DMin

***“... those who drink of the water that I will give them
will never be thirsty...” (John 4:14).***

Lent is the forty-day liturgical season during which the Church invites all Christians to renewal and reconciliation. Through the disciplines of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving, we journey with our Lord Jesus to the Cross on Good Friday and to His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Join us the morning of Saturday, **February 25** for our annual Lenten Day of Recollection. Sister Patricia A. Parachini, SNJM, DMin returns to lead us in prayer and reflection on the gospel passage of John 4:5-42, the Woman at the Well, which has a long tradition of being proclaimed in the Church during the season of Lent. You will have the space and time to get in touch with your thirsts, your longings, your deepest desires, which we, in faith, believe only Jesus, the One who gives us eternal life, can satisfy. The morning will include presentations by Sister Parachini, time for private reflection, opportunities to mingle, and Mass to close our time together.

Prepare to proclaim Christ's glorious Resurrection this Easter by joining us for our annual Lenten Day of Recollection!

JOIN US! ALL ARE WELCOME!

DATE: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2012

TIME: 9:00AM – 1:00PM (includes 12:10pm Mass)

PLACE: NORTH CONFERENCE ROOM

*Please register no later than Sunday, February 19 to hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org
(subject line: Lenten Day of Recollection RSVP) or 202-347-3215, x530.*

FREEWILL OFFERINGS WILL BE GRATEFULLY COLLECTED FOR THE SUPPORT OF
FAITH FORMATION EVENTS AND PROGRAMS AT ST. MATTHEW'S CATHEDRAL.

Sister Parachini, a Sister of the Holy Names, holds a Doctor of Ministry degree from The Catholic University of America. She has more than forty years of experience as a pastoral theologian, educator, and spiritual director. She currently teaches at Washington Theological Union.



CATHEDRAL OF ST. MATTHEW THE APOSTLE

1725 Rhode Island Avenue NW • Washington DC 20036

(202) 347-3215 • www.stmatthewscathedral.org

Metro: Red Line to Farragut North (L Street exit)

Parking: limited street parking in front of Cathedral or \$5 flat fee in public garage next to Cathedral



Lenten Lecture Series

Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle

PRAY ALL — WAYS

The three traditional pillars of Lenten observance are almsgiving, fasting, and prayer.

*In his First Letter to the Thessalonians, Saint Paul exhorts: “**Pray without ceasing**” (5:17).*

This year’s Lenten Lecture Series will focus on cultivating a richer attitude and practice of prayer in our daily lives.

Week 1 (Wednesday, February 29 or Thursday, March 1)

PRAYER IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

Dr. Edward McCormack, Chair & Associate Professor of Spirituality,
Washington Theological Union [Wednesday lecture]

Br. Edward Ogden, OSFS, Director of Formation, DeSales Hall,
Oblates of St. Francis de Sales [Thursday lecture]

Week 2 (Wednesday, March 7 or Thursday, March 8)

PRAYING TOGETHER

Deacon Augustine Marie Reisenauer, OP, Dominican House of Studies

Week 3 (Wednesday, March 14 or Thursday, March 15)

PRAYING ALONE

Mr. Louis J. Milone, Director of Adult Faith Formation, St. John the Baptist Church, Silver Spring MD

Week 4 (Wednesday, March 21 or Thursday, March 22)

PERSONALITY AND PRAYER

Ms. Heather Kinney, Director of Faith Formation, Cathedral of St. Matthew the Apostle

Week 5 (Wednesday, March 28 or Thursday, March 29)

PRAYING BETTER

Mrs. Lolita Jardeleza, Prayer Minister, Academy of the Holy Cross, Kensington MD

Wednesday lectures: 12:45pm to 1:45pm

Thursday lectures: 7pm to 8pm

All lectures will be held in the North Conference Room.

Follow the directional signs to the lectures. Lectures are free and open to the public. Join us for any or all.

No RSVP necessary.

Questions? Email hkinney@stmatthewscathedral.org or call 202-347-3215, x530.

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(\$10 per hour before 4pm-\$16 daily max or \$5 flat fee after 4pm)