

Daily Reflection

The Focus of Our Love. “What were you arguing about on the way?” But they remained silent.”

In the silence that follows the simple question of Jesus, we cringe along with the disciples, almost intuiting the truth which comes then to explicit expression: “They had been discussing among themselves on the way who was the greatest.” Not having understood Jesus’ second prediction of his passion (and with it, the implication that their own lives would be drawn into that passion), they relate to one another in very human terms and according to human logic: If there’s a group, someone has to be on top!

The name given by the Letter of James to this all-too-human manner of thinking and acting is “selfish ambition,” which breeds, according to that same Letter, “disorder and every foul practice.” No small thing, this worrying about who is the greatest! James’ diagnosis of human discord, illustrated by Jesus’ friends, points to a disease that afflicts all human hearts, but one that has a particular effect on those closest to Jesus.

Focus on self remains in direct opposition to focus on God. No one can move toward God who remains focused on the self. The spiritual tradition of eastern Christianity names *philautia*, the love of self, as the “queen of all vices.” This remains true for all, but what of those “closest to Jesus”?

In a passage of his apostolic exhortation on evangelization, Pope Francis speaks to all those who work “in and for the Church,” cautioning them about the temptation to “spiritual worldliness.” That is, he warns about attitudes and behaviors that seek “not the Lord’s glory but human glory and personal well-being.” This, he goes on to say, can take on many forms, depending on the kinds of persons and groups into which it seeps. How can we avoid this? Pope Francis: “. . . by making the Church constantly go out from herself, keeping her mission focused on Jesus Christ, and her commitment to the poor.”

For all, but especially those who work “in and for the Church,” the gospel asks us to pay attention to the focus of our love: Love of self? Or love of Jesus and those whom he loves?

Walk with Francis

How is your *Walk with Francis* pledge? Have you followed through? Jesus encourages us with the joy and beauty of humble service in the Gospel today when He teaches, “If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.” If you need help getting started, check out the opportunities featured in this bulletin or find more at WalkwithFrancis.org. With Pope Francis about to arrive in the United States, take this opportunity to challenge family, friends, and coworkers to take the pledge as well! Share your pledge and challenge others on social media using #WalkwithFrancis!

Stewardship Report: Revenue

September 13 th	8,040.00
<i>Faith Direct:</i>	2,101.00
Total Offertory:	10,141.00
<i>Last Year:</i>	10,164.00



Faith Direct: With the arrival of autumn, I'd like to invite you to join Faith Direct, our parish's electronic eGiving program. Our to-do lists can get lengthy this back-to-school season, but Faith Direct's eGiving program will give you one less thing to remember each week. Enroll today by visiting www.faithdirect.net and use our church code, MD41, or pick up an enrollment form from the parish office to get started!

Looking Ahead

“Come and See”: Have you thought about looking into joining the Catholic Church? Have you been baptized but never made your First Communion and/or Confirmation? Are you a cradle Catholic but would like to grow in your knowledge of the Catholic faith? RCIA is for you. The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is the process through which the teachings of the Catholic Church are explained, and spirituality and culture are shared. There is never any pressure to join the Church but this process would lead to you being fully initiated if you so choose. We will meet on Wednesday evenings starting on September 30th in the Hughes Center from 7-8:30pm. Please call Catherine Tolnay at 301-459-4814 ext. 205 for more details.

Bible Timeline DVD series: St. Matthias will offer a 24 week DVD series in the Hughes Center beginning Tuesday, October 6th at 9am. *The Bible Timeline* is a fascinating study that takes participants on a journey through the entire Bible. They will go deep into each period of salvation history and discover the amazing story woven throughout all of Scripture. *The Bible Timeline* has been granted the Imprimatur. *The Bible Timeline* study set is essential for each participant. It includes engaging questions, lesson summaries, home reading assignments, talk notes, maps, diagrams, responses to the questions, a full-color Bible timeline chart. The study set is not required but is helpful in completing your “journey.” If you order and pay for the study set by September 29th the discounted price is \$32. Call Catherine Tolnay at 301-459-4814 x205 for more details.

Front Office Volunteer: If you are able to volunteer in the front office on Fridays from 8:00am to 12 noon, or if you are available any other day, please contact Thad at 301-459-4814 ext. 207.

Inventory of Parish Keys: If you are in possession of any keys to any part of the parish, including the school, please contact Thad at 301-459-4814 ext. 207 to register your contact information.

Hosting and Event? Friendship Hall is available for rent. For information, please contact Mr. Thad Ereme at 301-459-4814 ext. 207 or email him at tereme@stmatthias.org.

Faith Formation

Faith Formation classes for students (K-8) who do not attend Catholic Schools will begin Monday, Sept. 21st at 6:30pm in Friendship Hall. Registration forms are in the pamphlet racks in the vestibule of the Church. Complete a form for each child and place the form and registration fee in an envelope with Ms. Tolnay's name on it. Place the envelope in the collection basket, or slip it through the mail slot in the Hughes Center door.

Religion Teachers Needed: Faith Formation needs adult catechists, aides, substitutes, and hall monitors on Monday evenings from 6:15—8:00 pm. Training is provided through the parish and the Archdiocese. Please call Catherine Tolnay at 301-459-4814 ext. 205 to discuss the possibility of serving the Lord through His young people.

Items of Note



Affording a Catholic Education: The Archdiocese of Washington Catholic Schools presents "Affording a Catholic Education: Budgeting Strategies for Family" on September 30th from 6pm - 8pm at the Academy of Saint Matthias Apostle. The Program is intended to

help Catholic school parents, religious education program parents, and parents of prospective students from parishes learn how to determine their financial position, creative budgeting techniques, and hidden money, as a way to afford a Catholic education for their children. This presentation is educational only.



Saint Matthias Fall Fest: Have you marked your calendar? The Saint Matthias Fall Festival is Oct. 3rd, from 10 am—2:00 pm. Get ready for a day of fun, food, and games. Vendor space is available. For more information, contact Georgette Fletcher at

fletcherfamily04@gmail.com or call the school office at 301-577-9412.

Saint Matthias Prayer Group: The Saint Matthias' Prayer Group meets in the church every Sunday after the 10:30am Mass. All are welcome!



Knights of Columbus Car Raffle: Tickets are available for the Knights of Columbus 46th annual Car Raffle. This raffle benefits area charities and scholarship programs. The grand prize is a 2016 Ford Mustang or \$18,000 cash

option. The second prize is an iPad Air, and the third prize is a \$200 gas card. The drawing will be held at the Columbus Day Ball on Saturday, October 10th at the BWI Marriott, Linthicum. Tickets are \$1 and are available from any council member, or you may call John Murray (301-459-6452) or Emmanuel Ajayi (202-413-1066).



Mass Intentions for the Twenty-Fifth Week in Ordinary Time

Monday, September 21: Saint Matthew, Apostle

8:30 am Lu Cabadomg (Living)
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm Confessions
8:00 pm Benediction

Tuesday, Sept. 22:

8:30 am Tammy and Mike Paolino (Living—Ann.)

Wednesday, September 23: Saint Pius of Pietrelcina

8:30 am Charles Dziduch

Thursday, September 24:

8:30 am Marcella Nzeffili (Living—Birthday)

Friday, September 25:

8:30 am Ben Self

The Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Saturday, September 26: Saints Cosmas and Damian

5:00 pm Vincent Charles

Sunday, September 27:

8:00 am Funmilola A. Adekoya (Living - Birthday)

10:30 am Adamma Ugoh

6:00 pm John Donnelly

Readings for the Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time:

1st Reading: Numbers 11:25—29

2nd Reading: James 5:1-6

Gospel: Mark 9:38-42,45, 47-48

Please pray for the sick and homebound in our parish, our neighbors, family, and friends: Mary Ajayi; Margie Baker; Melvin and Elaine Brooks; Muriel Brown; Shawn Brown; Yvonne Brown; Yvette Butler; Sylvia Conte; Al Craig; Ronnie Davis; Patricia Garner; Brendan George; Emma Graham; Everett Greenfield; Francis Greenfield; Wonema Hammer; Salome Ihejirika; Pamela Jones; Jack Jordan; Kay Kaderabek; John and Joan Kodak; Janice Lipa; Anthony Long; Joe Makowski; John Murray; Carole New; Bernice Nnannah; Molly Onwukwe; Joe Owens; William Pinchback; Marion Prout; Martin Reedy; Antonio Reyes; Alex ReyesNicole Riley; Pablo Rocha; Lisseth Salvador; Charles Shryock; Lucille Streng; Marie Scott; Marian Thomas; Angela Thompson; Kay Villemi; Madeline White; Sam Zanin and Eugene Zehner. **May God's healing grace be theirs.**

-For our military, protect them from all harm.
-For all the faithful departed, especially Ted Wilson, may they rest in peace.

Celebrant Mass Schedule for the Weekend of September 9/27



5:00 pm Father Stan
8:00 am Father Milt
10:30 am Msgr. Bilbago
6:00 pm Father Milt