Installation of Father Jordan

Saint Matthias the Apostle Parish invites you to join us as we celebrate the installation of Father Milt Jordan as pastor on **Sunday, August 30th** at the 6 p.m. Mass. Father Milt will be installed by Cardinal Donald Wuerl. A reception with light refreshments, hosted by all church ministries, will be held after the Mass in Friendship Hall. All are welcome. For more information contact Pat Ford at 301-459-4814 x201.

Daily Prayer This Week

This week we can be moved by the powerful fidelity of a woman like Ruth, and the familiar gospel stories will guide us through the week with practical advice and challenging ideas.

It is good to begin by recognizing our own issues with God. For many of us, the graces with which we will be asking God to bless us have to do with our freedom from being so independent. For some of us, it will be to ask to keep our priorities straight this week. It may mean that we let this be a week when we ask what “success” really means for us. It could be a week to try to name more clearly what our purpose, our mission in life is: what the Lord is calling us to do with our lives.

The real grace of finding intimacy with God in the midst of our busy everyday lives is that it helps keep us focused. When we get really busy, it can be like being on a treadmill. We begin our day in the morning, go where the day takes us and jump off at night. Our desire here is to live with more choice, more freedom. We want to live each day more reflectively.

So, if we know the gospel is going to ask us to ponder how the lure of having more and more money can become an impediment to our salvation, or how generous and merciful God is, or how our busyness leads us to forget or lose our priorities, then we can choose to let those reflections shape our week. The way we can do that is by beginning each day with focus. What gives us focus is recognizing and naming a desire, a grace or gift we ask of God, for that day, conscious of what we will experience, what will challenge us, and what opportunities will be offered. What really makes this effective is to keep talking with Jesus about those desires in the small, quiet moments that are tucked into each day, the “in between times” of the day.

The effect is that more and more of the details of our lives are interacting with the Word of God and the desires which God is inspiring in our hearts. As we move toward the weekend, we can prepare to hear Jesus ask us who we say he is - who he is for us. Connecting with Jesus in our daily lives allows him to become our Savior and the intimate friend who knows us through and through, and is helping us to know ourselves with great honesty, integrity, freedom and peace.

Stewardship Report: Revenue

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Cardinal’s Appeal Progress Report:
The August 5th report indicates our progress toward the 2015 Cardinal’s Appeal. St. Matthias parishioners have a total of $68,634 pledged. This amount is $12,552 short of our $81,186 goal. By this point in the program in the last several years, our parish had surpassed its goal. I ask if you have not made a pledge or donation, please do so as soon as your finances will allow. Thank you so much.

Summer Stewardship: Please remember that your parish counts on your weekly sacrifice of treasure even when you’re away from us on vacation. You may mail your offertory envelope to the parish office or drop it in the collection basket before you go away on a well-deserved vacation. Thank you for being a faithful steward.

Mission Appeal Thank You: The Fathers of the Holy Spirit send their thanks for your encouraging response to their appeal on August 2, 2015, and for the kind reception given to Reverend Casimir Nyaki who was here on their behalf. Be assured of the prayers of the Spiritans for you, and of their need for your continued prayers for them and for their ministries to God’s lowly and needy ones everywhere. Do please continue to keep the missions of the Church in your hearts, the work of the Holy Spirit Fathers in mind, and the never-ending need to proclaim and witness to the Gospel in your own lives.

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

Looking Ahead

Pope Francis in Washington, DC: Sign up to receive papal visit updates via text or email by going to www.adw.org/papalvisit. Pope Francis will be in Washington from Sept. 22nd—24th. The website will be updated as additional details are announced.

Academy News

Back to School: The first day of school for Academy students is Monday, August 31st. Please observe the traffic pattern rules and watch for students and parents in the parking lot, especially prior to the 8:30 am Mass.

Raffle Winner

Congratulations, Ada Edwards, the winner and seller, who won $350 in the August 10th drawing.

Taken from Creighton University’s Online Ministries website: http://onlineministries.creighton.edu/CollaborativeMinistry/online.html. Used with permission.
Faith Formation

Faith Formation Registration: Parents of children who do not attend a Catholic School are encouraged to register them for Faith Formation classes (grades K-8) which will begin in September. The registration forms are in the pamphlet racks in the vestibule of the Church.

Our DVD series will conclude on Tuesday, August 18th with the Church's teaching on Social Justice. All are welcome in the Hughes Center after the 8:30 am Mass.

Religion Teachers Needed: Is the Holy Spirit calling you to help build the Kingdom of God in this generation? Faith Formation needs adult catechists, aides, substitutes, and hall monitors on Monday evenings from 6:15—8:00 pm to help our young people fall in love with God and learn how to live as disciples of Jesus in this troubled world. 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

Parish Council: Your parish needs you to consider nominating yourself or a fellow parishioner to serve on the parish council. The council assists the pastor in identifying and supporting the needs of the parish. Please read the enclosed flyer in today’s bulletin. Questions? Contact Mr. Thad Ereme at 301-459-4814 x 207.

Parish Directory and Photos: If you have questions about your photos or information concerning the directory, please contact Sierra Reeves at sierra.sfs@gmail.com or 877-764-4535. Ask for customer service.

Knights of Columbus News: 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, Oct. 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).