



St. Dominic Church

December 10, 2023



FILL US ALL WITH

Peace



Pastoral Staff

Father George P. Schommer, O.P., Pastor
 Father Bede Shipp, O.P., Parochial Vicar
 Ms. Maggie Friedmann, Pastoral Ministry Intern

Parish Staff

Pastoral Associate - Margaret Maxwell
 Business/Facilities Manager - Ed Von Hagel
 Music Director - Denny Layendecker
 Assistant to the Music Director - J.C. Cantrell

Parish Pastoral Council

Philip Clarke	Doris Stukes
Jules Hurst	Susan Timoney
Tim Lang	Carrie Traverso
Maggie LaPrairie	

Parish Finance Council

Thomas Bolger	MJ Morrow
Jim Courtney	Carol Pica
Michael Grace	Scott Warady

Celebration of Holy Mass

Saturday: 9:00 a.m.; 5:00 p.m. (Vigil of Sunday)
 Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 5:00 p.m.
 Weekdays: 8:00 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.
 (8:00 a.m. **only** on a Federal Holiday)

Holy Days: See Bulletin or Website

Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Monday-Friday: 11:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
 Thursday: 7:00 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
 Saturday: 4:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
 Sunday: 9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

* Or by appointment through the Parish Office

Eucharistic Adoration and Holy Hour

Thursday: 7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Devotions—Rosary Shrine of St. Jude

Rosary: 11:45 a.m. Monday-Friday
 (not on Federal holidays)

Scriptural Rosary: 9:45 a.m. Saturday

Administration of the Sacraments

- **Baptism**
 Please contact the Parish Office.
"Parents are obliged to take care that infants are baptized in the first few weeks."
 (Code of Canon Law, 867§1).
- **Matrimony**
 Please contact the Parish Office.
 A minimum of six months preparation is required by the Archdiocese.
- **Holy Eucharist at Home**
 Please contact the Parish Office.
- **Anointing of the Sick or Prayers for the Dying**
 Please contact the Parish Office.

Church & Parish Office Addresses & Hours

Church — 501 6th Street, SW
 Parish Office/Priory — 630 E Street, SW
 Washington, DC 20024
 Phone: (202) 554-7863
 Fax: (202) 554-0231

Web address — www.StDominicChurch.org
 E-mail — Office@StDominicChurch.org
 FaceBook — [stdominicchurhdc](https://www.facebook.com/stdominicchurhdc)

Parish Office Hours
 Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Church Hours
 Monday-Friday: 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Saturday: 8 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Sunday: 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
 Federal Holidays: 7 a.m.-9 a.m.

Community Fellowship with Coffee & Donuts

Each Sunday after the 10:30 a.m. Mass,
 in the parish meeting room
 (unless otherwise noted).
 All are welcome.



“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.” As I listen to these words from the Gospel reading today, and reflect on my experience of living in Washington, I realize that doing so is no easy task. Just look at a street map of our city. The number and letter streets generally run straight; but there are the avenues named after states that run on strange angles and the circles that can send you round and round until you figure out which way to turn. Our lives can look like the DC street map. There are ways where we live on the straight and narrow; but there are also those ways where we veer off on an angle or go into a spin. How difficult it can be to straighten out these ways. Thankfully, we have the good God to help us.

God chose St. John the Baptist as an instrument for the forgiveness of sins, which was the obstacle that would prevent the coming of the Holy Spirit into the hearts of those who would believe in Jesus Christ the Son of God. We have Jesus who dies on the Cross for our salvation, is raised from the dead, and pours out the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of our sins. The human soul needs the indwelling of the Holy Spirit to experience God.

A key detail revealed in the Gospel for today applies to our lives as well. We are told that “people of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to meet [John the Baptist] and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.” The people took the personal initiative to go out to John and they had to acknowledge their sins. The importance of this personal initiative cannot be understated. St. Augustine makes the point that “He who created us without our help will not save us without our consent.” We are participants in God’s work of saving us and cooperators with the power of his grace to straighten out our lives.

The graces of the Advent season help us to go to Christ and acknowledge that our sins have become the obstacles that prevent him from dwelling within our hearts. Through our repentance we can receive forgiveness and be revived in the gift of the Holy Spirit. These gifts are available to all of us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. There, we encounter Christ who receives us with perfect love, we acknowledge our sins, receive forgiveness through absolution, and we are strengthened with the grace of the Holy Spirit to live our lives on a new and straight path.

Procrastination is an enemy of the spiritual life and our relationship with God. St. Peter writes through the second reading today that the Lord “is patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief.... Be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him, at peace.” Our parish has times for sacramental confession 7 days a week. A priest is available on weekdays from 11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.; on Thursday from 7:00 – 7:45 p.m. (during the Holy Hour); on Saturday from 4:30 – 5:00; and on Sunday from 9:45 – 10:30 a.m. Please take advantage of these opportunities so that you may experience the gift of the Lord’s love and mercy in your life.

The reinstallation of the cleaned and restored altar rail is in progress at the time of this writing. It looks beautiful. Completion of the project may take some time in the coming week, but it will be completed well before Christmas. An anonymous benefactor made this project possible.

May God bless you with all the graces of the Advent season. Let us love one another and pray for each other,

Fr. George, O.P.

George P. Schommer, O.P.
Pastor

All are invited to
Solemn Vespers



Sunday, December 17, 2023
7:00 p.m.
*with reception following
in the parish meeting room*

St. Dominic Catholic Church

501 6th Street, SW
Washington, DC



L 'Enfant Plaza Metro
D Street Exit

Monday December 11	Tuesday December 12	Wednesday December 13	Thursday December 14	Friday December 15	Saturday December 16	Sunday December 17
A.A. Meeting 12 p.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>	A.A. Meeting 12 p.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>	A.A. Meeting 12 p.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>	A.A. Meeting 12 p.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>	A.A. Meeting 12 p.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>	Scriptural Rosary 9:30 a.m. <i>Church</i>	Modern Well- Married Saints & Holy Couples 9:15 a.m. <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>
Cenacle 7 p.m. (via Zoom)		Music Ministry Rehearsal 7 p.m. <i>Church</i>			Becoming Catholic 10 - 11:30 a.m. <i>Parish Conf Room</i>	Donut Social after the 10:30 a.m. Mass <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>
					Advent Day of Reconciliation 9:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. <i>Church & Parish Meeting Room</i>	Pastoral Council Meeting 11:45 a.m. <i>Parish Conference Room</i>
						Solemn Vespers 7 p.m. <i>Church</i> Followed by a reception in the <i>Parish Mtg Room</i>

Sanctuary Candle



For greater respect and hospitality to be shown toward people with disabilities.

Arrangements to donate the Sanctuary Candle for a week for \$15 or a Mass Intention for \$10, can be made in the Parish Office.

Let Us Pray For...

THE SICK AND THE HOMEBOUND:

Frank & Phyllis Chesley, Nora Courtney, Eileen Maturi, and Frances White.

THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICES:

All those serving in our country and around the world.

THE RECENTLY DECEASED:

Mrs. Cecile Tchong, mother of Maria Moy, and all our beloved dead.

This Week's Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 10

- 5:00 p.m. (Vigil) † Clara Mahone
- 8:00 a.m. Rosary Shrine of St. Jude Benefactors
- 10:30 a.m. † Henry Sobash
- 5:00 p.m. People of the Parish

Monday, December 11

- 8:00 a.m.
- 12:10 p.m.

Tuesday, December 12

- 8:00 a.m. † Mary Tomaselli
- 12:10 p.m. Diane K. Coleman Phillips

Wednesday, December 13

- 8:00 a.m.
- 12:10 p.m. † Poor Souls & the Salvation of Souls

Thursday, December 14

- 8:00 a.m.
- 12:10 p.m. Doris Stukes

Friday, December 15

- 8:00 a.m.
- 12:10 p.m. † William Hickey

Saturday, December 16

- 9:00 a.m. Amanda & Elizabeth Maxwell

St. Dominic Catholic Church

DO YOU KNOW THESE HOLY SPOUSES?

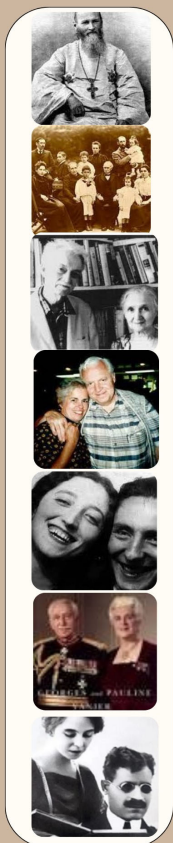
Come and learn with us the secret to their happiness!

MODERN WELL-MARRIED SAINTS & HOLY COUPLES

A new cycle begins December 3rd
Sundays, 9:15 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
Parish Meeting Room

It's not just for couples; singles will also find it inspirational.

St. Dominic Catholic Church
630 E Street, SW
(202) 554-7863
www.stdominicchurch.org



Prepare Ye the Way

Advent Day of Recollection
Saturday, December 16, 2023
St. Dominic Church

Retreat led by Fr. Bernard Knapke, O.P.



Schedule

- 9:30 am Gather in Church
- 9:45 am First Talk
- 11:00 am Confession
- 11:30 am Mass
- 12:30 pm Rite of Reception
- 12:45 pm Lunch in Parish Hall
- 1:45 pm Second Talk
- 2:45 pm Closing Prayer/Clean Up

All are welcome. Please RSVP to
Pia Pell - (571) 268-6960

St. Dominic Catholic Church



Christmas Masses

December 24:

Christmas Vigil Mass: 5 PM - 4:30 PM for carols
Christmas Mass during the Night: 9 PM - 8:30 PM for carols

December 25:

Christmas Mass during the Day: 10:30 AM - 10 AM for carols

501 6th Street, SW
L'Enfant Plaza Metro

(202) 554-7863
www.stdominicchurch.org

NEW YEAR'S EVE & DAY MASS SCHEDULE!

Sunday, December 31

Masses at 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Monday, January 1

Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Offertory

Week Ending December 3, 2023

Received	\$4,185.00
Budgeted	\$3,846.00
Deficit/Surplus	\$339.00

Electronic Giving Options



Poor Box



Donations to the parish Poor Box can be made by using the envelope in your packet, Faith Direct, dropping it off at the Parish Office, Venmo or by giving it to one of the priests. Your generosity enables the parish to assist the poor with one-meal gift cards, rent assistance, utility assistance, and other important, local social concerns and organizations.

Mass Intentions Availability

Plenty of 2023 dates through the remainder of the year still available as well as dates in 2024! Or, if the date of your Mass intention isn't important, nor does it need to be mentioned during the Mass or in the bulletin, "unannounced" Masses are also available. "Unannounced" Masses are said by the Friars in their chapel and in the other small chapels within the Priory and are said within one year of the intention request.



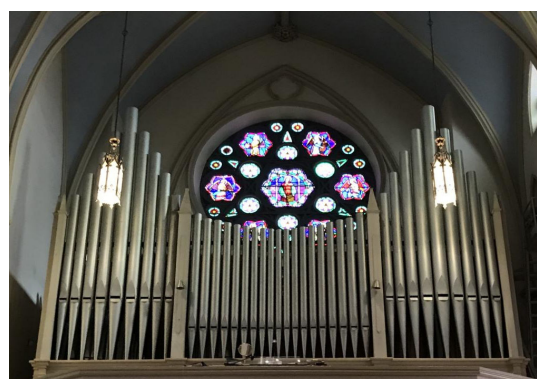
Contact the Parish Office, at (202) 554-7863 or email us at Office@StDominicChurch.org.

Limited Sponsorship Opportunity

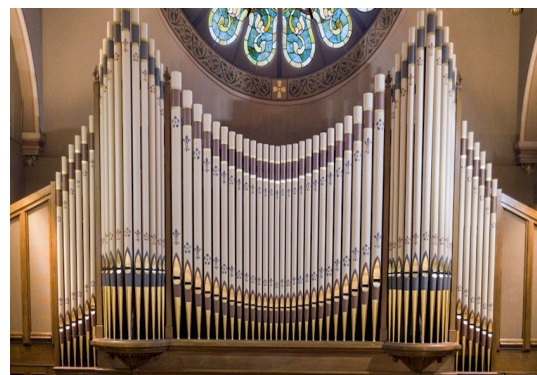
Help St. Dominic Church paint and stencil the 37 façade pipes of the Roosevelt Organ. A donation of \$5,000 per pipe can be made in gratitude, in honor of, or in memory of a person or organization. A donor recognition plaque will be installed.

Contact the parish office for the full brochure or visit the website. Payments can be made over a period of 4 months.

Current Installation



Conceptual Design



27 Pipes Remaining!



NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**

From the Catechism of the Catholic Church. A weekly, continuous reading of the Article on the Sacrament of the Eucharist:

1389 The Church obliges the faithful to take part in the Divine Liturgy on Sundays and feast days and, prepared by the sacrament of Reconciliation, to receive the Eucharist at least once a year, if possible during the Easter season. But the Church strongly encourages the faithful to receive the holy Eucharist on Sundays and feast days, or more often still, even daily.

1390 Since Christ is sacramentally present under each of the species, communion under the species of bread alone makes it possible to receive all the fruit of Eucharistic grace. For pastoral reasons this manner of receiving communion has been legitimately established as the most common form in the Latin rite. But "the sign of communion is more complete when given under both kinds, since in that form the sign of the Eucharistic meal appears more clearly." This is the usual form of receiving communion in the Eastern rites.

Raising Joyful Songs Unto the Lord

Our Choir and Ensemble are actively seeking additional choristers to help better support our community's sung prayer, particularly throughout Advent and Christmastide.

Visit our website landing page for more information, or contact Dr. Denny Layendecker at music@stdominicchurch.org.

Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings at 7 p.m. (to 9 p.m.) in the choir loft. Although rehearsals just started this past Wednesday, it isn't too late to "raise joyful songs unto the Lord."



Thank you to our generous donors who supported St. Dominic Church during #iGiveCatholic on Giving Tuesday -- the U.S. Catholic Church's annual day of giving.

Because of donors like you, we were able to raise \$35,845 – 90% of our goal of \$40,000. These funds will be used to develop our sacred music program for liturgies and work toward the replacement of church doors.

Some monies will be put to immediate use during the Christmas season. Singers and instrumentalists have been hired to support and enhance our liturgical celebrations of our Lord's birth and revelation to the nations.

There were many organizations participating in Giving Tuesday making it difficult for people to decide which to support. The love for our little parish and the generous gifts given signaled that we are making a difference in people's lives.

In an interview, Fr. George stated, "I am so grateful for the parishioners and friends of St. Dominic's for their financial support. The \$20,000 we received as a matching gift challenge motivated the generosity of others. Now, we have the resources to expand our sacred music program and enhance the beauty of our Sunday Masses."

We look forward to the future of St. Dominic Church with great anticipation as we use funds raised during #iGiveCatholic to enhance the beauty and security of our church, and the beauty of the worship for which we come together.

Thank you for your support and generosity.

Christmas Dinner for Those Who Are Alone This Christmas or In Need



Again this year, the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception will be providing Christmas Dinner for those who are alone or in need. If you or someone

you know is in need of a Christmas dinner delivered to their home on Christmas Day, **please call the parish office at (202) 554-7863 no later than 3 p.m. on Friday, December 15, 2023.**

We will need their name, address (with apartment number if appropriate), city, state, zip code, telephone and the number of meals. These meals are for delivery only.

Wedding Anniversary Mass to Celebrate the Vocation of Marriage



This year, Bishop Evelio Menjivar-Ayala will celebrate the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass to honor the Vocation of Marriage on Saturday, February 10, 2024, 10:00 a.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. This Annual Mass is a

celebration of the living vocation of all couples who provide a Catholic witness to the beauty of the Sacrament of Matrimony. **Couples must register with the parish office by January 27, 2024** to attend the Mass and/or receive a certificate from Cardinal Wilton Gregory in honor of their anniversary year.

Interested in Joining St. Dominic Parish?

We would love to welcome you into our parish! Visit StDominicChurch.org and on the landing page click on Parish Registration Form. Be sure to fill out both sides and mail it or email it to the parish office. Paper copies of the registration form can be found in the church and in the Parish Office.

St. Dominic's Hospitality Committee

The hospitality committee has a number of ways for parishioners to participate. You can volunteer to be part of a group that contributes food for receptions when you are able, or the committee is looking for one or two people to coordinate the set-up and clean-up of the receptions following monthly vespers. It does not take more than 15 minutes before and after the reception. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Susan Timoney at stimoney@att.net.



 <p>KALAS FUNERAL HOME <i>Celebrating Life's Journey</i> Serving St. Dominic Church since the 1940s.</p>	<p>6160 Oxon Hill Road Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745 (301) 567-9424 www.kalasfuneralhomes.com</p>
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St. Dominic Church is a Christ-centered, Roman Catholic, and Dominican parish for the people of Southwest, DC and beyond.

Our mission is to preach the Gospel and make disciples, and glorify God through the Eucharist and the other Sacraments, build up the communion of the Church, and serve others through the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.