



St. Dominic Church

December 17, 2023



FILL US ALL WITH

Joy



Pastoral Staff

Father George P. Schommer, O.P., Pastor
 Father Bede Shippis, 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.



Today is the third Sunday of Advent – *Gaudete* Sunday. The name is taken from the entrance antiphon that comes from the Letter to the Philippians wherein St. Paul writes, “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, rejoice. Indeed, the Lord is near.” The antiphons and readings direct our attention to the closeness of the Lord who comes to save us from sin and death. He comes to fulfill the prophecies and promises given so long ago that God will come to make right all that is wrong with the world including all that is wrong, wounded, and broken in our own hearts. To do so, God invites us and all humanity to turn back to him and surrender our lives to his kingship and authority. As he says through the prophet Ezekiel: “I do not wish the sinner to die, but to turn back to me and live”(33:11).

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a sure way of repentance, encountering the merciful Lord, and receiving the grace of forgiveness and absolution from sin. There is a great neglect and lack of use of this sacrament in the lives of Catholics; and this is lamentable. How easily we say that nobody is perfect, which means nobody is sinless (except the Blessed Virgin Mary). The lack of perfection means that we often sin in our thoughts and words, in what we do, and in what we fail to do. Proverbs reminds us that “though the just fall seven times, they rise again”(24:16). The humble confession of our sins to the Lord through the instrumentality of the priest allows the Lord to save us and raise us up.

Next Sunday, priests will be available for the Sacrament of Reconciliation following the 10:30 Mass in addition to the usual time before Mass. The sacrament will also be available after the 8:00 a.m. Mass on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday this week (December 18, 19, and 20). We have the regular times on the weekdays at 11:45 a.m.; Thursday evening at 7:00; and Saturday afternoon at 4:30 p.m. Remember the exhortation of St. John the Baptist to prepare the way of the Lord and make use of the multiple times offered to the parish to be reconciled with God through the gift of this sacrament. The coming of Jesus in the flesh reveals that God desires to be reconciled and united with each of us. The invitation to encounter the living and merciful Lord is made; each of us must respond.

In recent weeks, there has been confusion and misunderstanding regarding the obligation to attend Mass for the Fourth Sunday of Advent and for Christmas. In

short, the question has been whether one could attend one Mass and fulfill both obligations. Short answer, no. Two obligations means attendance at two Masses. Mass schedules offer some flexibility because of the anticipated Mass for Sunday and the Vigil Mass of Christmas, but there is no satisfying two obligations with one Mass. The Mass schedule for the Fourth Sunday of Advent, Christmas, and the New Year is printed in this bulletin.

The cleaned and restored altar rail has been reinstalled. Many have commented that its beauty is now more radiant, and they appreciate the completion of the project (even though there are few minor tasks remaining). Financing the project was made possible through an anonymous benefactor in memory of my parents Russell and Betty Schommer, and in gratitude for my priesthood.

For those interested in statistics, our parish placed 94th in the nation and 5th in the Archdiocese of Washington with the total donations raised on Giving Tuesday. Thank you to all who generously supported this effort.

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 18	Tuesday December 19	Wednesday December 20	Thursday December 21	Friday December 22	Saturday December 23	Sunday December 24
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>	NO Coffee & Donuts
Cenacle 7 p.m. <i>(via Zoom)</i>		Music Ministry Rehearsal 7 p.m. <i>Church</i>			Church Decorating 9:30 a.m. <i>Church</i>	
					Becoming Catholic 10 - 11:30 a.m. <i>Parish Conf Room</i>	

Sanctuary Candle



For the grace this week to recognize the presence of Christ in the midst of all our activities.

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 17

- 5:00 p.m. (Vigil) † Marion Maxwell
- 8:00 a.m. People of the Parish
- 10:30 a.m. Rosary Shrine of St. Jude Benefactors
- 5:00 p.m. Ania Picard

Monday, December 18

- 8:00 a.m. James McGrath, III
- 12:10 p.m. † George Kormos

Tuesday, December 19

- 8:00 a.m.
- 12:10 p.m. † Harold Vollmer

Wednesday, December 20

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

Thursday, December 21

- 8:00 a.m.
- 12:10 p.m. † Robert Koetz

Friday, December 22

- 8:00 a.m. † Dorothea Bussey
- 12:10 p.m. Ari My-An Sorbi

Saturday, December 23

- 9:00 a.m. † Nancy Turano

SAVE THE DATE!

**SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 23**

**Help decorate
the church for Christmas
beginning at 9:30 a.m.**

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.

ALL ARE INVITED
Solemn Vespers
on
Epiphany Sunday
January 7th
7 PM

*Reception immediately following
in the parish meeting room*



St. Dominic Church

Offertory

Monthly Offertory for November 2023

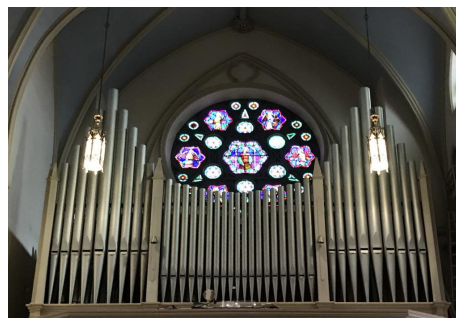
Received	\$14,905
Budgeted	<u>\$12,692</u>
Deficit/Surplus	\$ 2,213
Received via Faith Direct	\$18,431
Budgeted via Faith Direct	<u>\$15,125</u>
Deficit/Surplus	\$ 3,306
Summary	
November Deficit/Surplus	\$ 5,549
Deficit/Surplus from July 1	\$ 7,419

Limited Sponsorship Opportunity

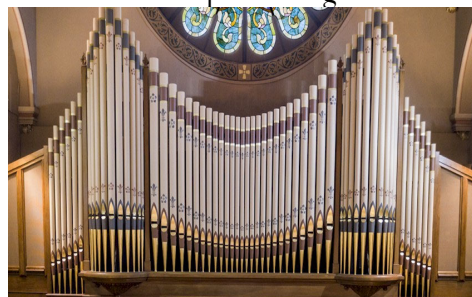
Help St. Dominic Church paint and stencil the 37 façade pipes of the Roosevelt Organ. A donation of \$5,000 per pipe can be made in gratitude, in honor of, or in memory of a person or organization. A donor recognition plaque will be installed.

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!

Offertory

Week Ending December 10, 2023

Received	\$2,839.00
Budgeted	\$3,846.00
Deficit/Surplus	(\$1,007.00)

Electronic Giving Options



Faith Direct



venmo

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.





NATIONAL
**Eucharistic
Revival**

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

1391 Holy Communion augments our union with Christ. The principal fruit of receiving the Eucharist in Holy Communion is an intimate union with Christ Jesus. Indeed, the Lord said: "He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him." Life in Christ has its foundation in the Eucharistic banquet: "As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so he who eats me will live because of me."

On the feasts of the Lord, when the faithful receive the Body of the Son, they proclaim to one another the Good News that the first fruits of life have been given, as when the angel said to Mary Magdalene, "Christ is risen!" Now too are life and resurrection conferred on whoever receives Christ.

1392 What material food produces in our bodily life, Holy Communion wonderfully achieves in our spiritual life. Communion with the flesh of the risen Christ, a flesh "given life and giving life through the Holy Spirit," preserves, increases, and renews the life of grace received at Baptism. This growth in Christian life needs the nourishment of Eucharistic Communion, the bread for our pilgrimage until the moment of death, when it will be given to us as viaticum.

1393 Holy Communion separates us from sin. The body of Christ we receive in Holy Communion is "given up for us," and the blood we drink "shed for the many for the forgiveness of sins." For this reason the Eucharist cannot unite us to Christ without at the same time cleansing us from past sins and preserving us from future sins: For as often as we eat this bread and drink the cup, we proclaim the death of the Lord. If we proclaim the Lord's death, we proclaim the forgiveness of sins. If, as often as his blood is poured out, it is poured for the forgiveness of sins, I should always receive it, so that it may always forgive my sins. Because I always sin, I should always have a remedy.

Advent Psalm

O shepherd of Israel, hearken,

O guide of the flock of Joseph!

Rouse your power, and come to save us.

O Lord of hosts, restore us,
if your face shine upon us, then we shall be safe.

O Lord of hosts, how long will you burn with anger
while your people pray?

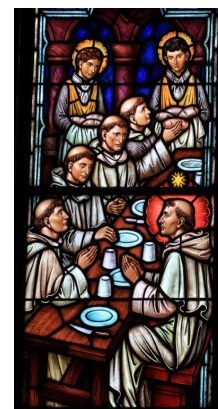
You have fed them with the bread of tears
and given them tears to drink in ample measure.

You have left us to be fought over by our neighbors,
and our enemies mock us.

O Lord of hosts, restore us,
if your face shine upon us, then we shall be safe.

Church History

The 5th double window on the north side of the church depicts the Miracle at St. Sixtus. The friars had given their food to the poor and had nothing to eat. At St. Dominic's intercession, two angels appeared with bread and began to serve the brothers, beginning with the youngest member of the community. Dominican priories and convents commemorate this miracle by serving meals first to the younger members of the Order.



~ Courtesy of Mary Moran



“ When you pray, you only have to ask for two things: You should ask for the light to see the will of God, and you have to ask for the courage to be able to do the will of God.”

—Venerable Msgr. Aloysius Schwartz

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.

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. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry



We will be collecting your donations for the St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry the weekend of December 30 & 31.

Make sure your items are unopened and have not expired. Your donations will be shared with those in need in Southwest & Southeast. Place your items in front of the pulpit at the front of the church or you are welcome to drop off donations at any time during normal business hours in the parish office.

Catholic Charities Legal Network

Catholic Charities Legal Network counsels and provides legal representation to low-income and poor residents throughout the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. and relies heavily on volunteer lawyers to fulfill its mission. If you are a lawyer in active status who wants to make a real difference in the lives of families and individuals struggling in our community, please reach out to Dan Collopy at (301) 615-0949 or daniel.collopy@cc-dc.org to discuss how you can help. The Legal Network handles most civil practice areas and criminal expungements.



Visit St. Dominic's website!

 <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.