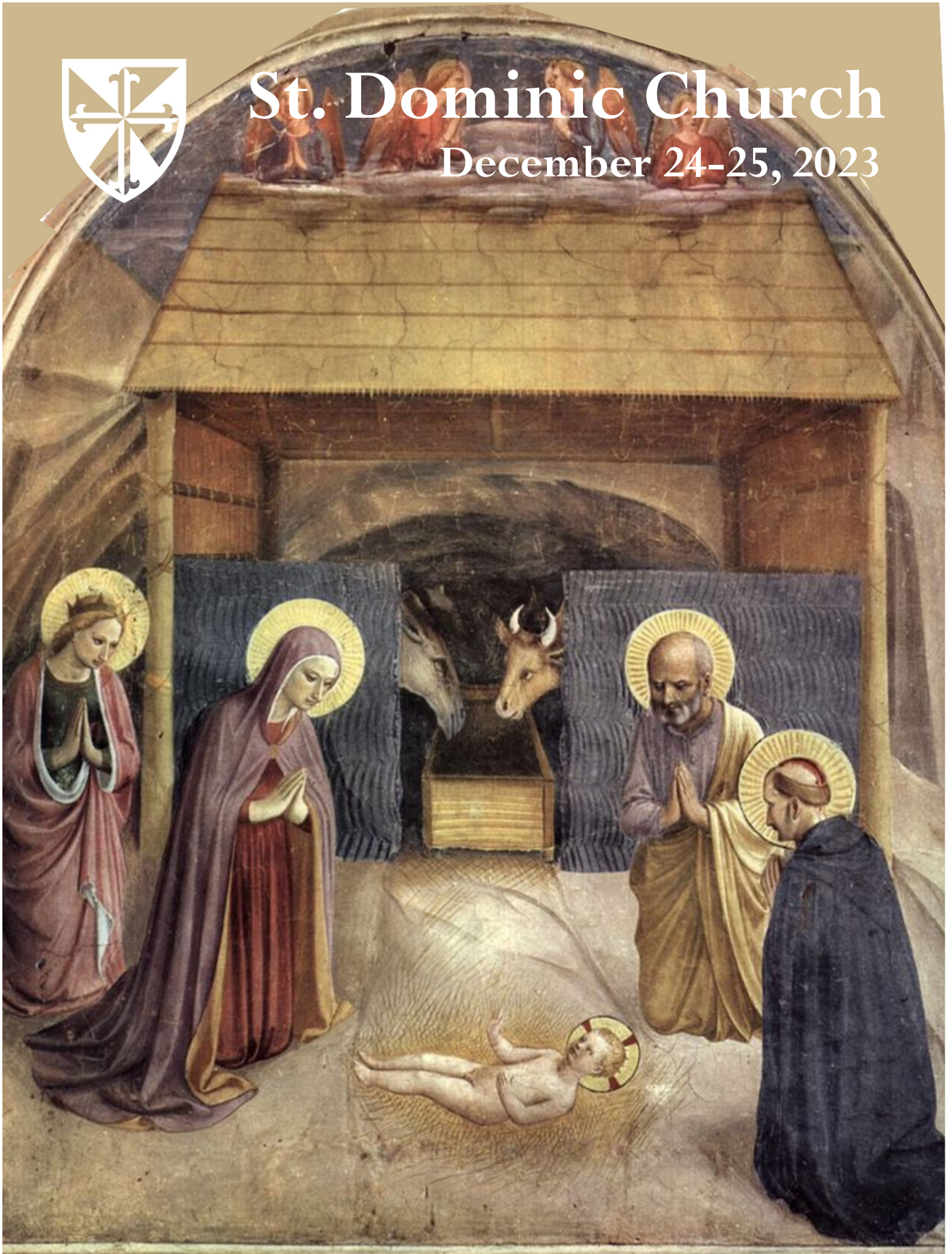




# St. Dominic Church

December 24-25, 2023



## Pastoral Staff

Father George P. Schommer, O.P., Pastor  
 Father Bede Shipps, 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](http://www.StDominicChurch.org)  
 E-mail — [Office@StDominicChurch.org](mailto: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.



On this Fourth Sunday of Advent, the Gospel reading for Mass directs our attention to the moment of the Annunciation and the Incarnation of God in the womb of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The miracle of this event is the result of Mary's surrender to and acceptance of God's will for her life. Her "yes" brings the savior and redeemer into our world. Each day of our lives, we are invited to imitate her and to say "yes" to the will of God for our lives. Doing so will obtain an abundance of grace for ourselves and make our lives a blessing to others. As soon as Mary had given her "yes" to God to be the mother of Jesus, she set out to bring the good news of salvation to a member of her family. Through the angel, Mary had a personal encounter with God – an encounter that signaled that God was coming into the world so that every person could encounter him. This was joyful news, and it was incumbent upon Mary to share it.

Since we are also entering into the Christmas feast, the Annunciation and the Visitation of Mary is an excellent example of evangelization within our families. We who pray, receive the sacraments, and engage in works of mercy have ongoing encounters with the Lord. He speaks to us, sanctifies us, and increases charity in our souls. God's grace enters our lives and begins to bear good fruit. Subsequently, the Lord gives us opportunities to share this good news within our families. The celebration of Christmas is a time when many families are reunited, if only for a short time. There are expressions of love, joy, and hospitality that enhance the bond shared by blood or marriage. These are moments of evangelization – without words and with words. The love of God entered the world through the birth of his Son. And the love of God has entered our hearts through our encounters with him. That love should proceed from us to the other as other.

Sometimes these gatherings are "complicated." If so, bring those complications to the Lord and surrender them to him. Surrender the persons who are not practicing their Catholic faith. Surrender the persons who are living lives contrary to God's plan for human flourishing. Surrender the persons who are difficult to have around because of weakness, sickness, or contrariness. Holiday gatherings may not be the time for direct or explicit conversations regarding faith and living by faith. Remember what Jesus says in the Gospel of John, "For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the

world might be saved through him"(3:17). Loving the sinner is the methodology of evangelization at these times. Jesus has come to be the savior of every person and it is his love that opens the human heart.

Merry Christmas! is a greeting that communicates the joy of the birth of Jesus – true God and true man. We welcome the Christ child into our world and into our lives with the song of the angels "Glory to God in the highest." The Christ child is the gift which humanity has needed since the time of Adam and Eve. There may be wars and violence, but the angels continue to sing "peace to people of good will." There may be anxieties and economic hardships, but Jesus has been born in time to dwell among us and to remain with us all days. There may be pain and physical suffering, but we are sustained by the hope that the Christ child comes to take our infirmities upon himself. He is the God-man who is like us in all things but sin, reconciling us with the Father through his filial obedience.

The Dominican Friars at St. Dominic Church extend prayerful best wishes for a blessed Christmas. We hope that you will be filled with joy and peace as we celebrate the birth of Our Savior Jesus Christ. May his Mother, Mary, help you to ponder with her this great revelation of divine love and experience the closeness of God in your life. May St. Joseph help you to protect the gift that is received and nurture it to an ever-greater maturity.

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

*Fr. George, O.P.*

George P. Schommer, O.P.  
Pastor

Monday December 25	Tuesday December 26	Wednesday December 27	Thursday December 28	Friday December 29	Saturday December 30	Sunday December 31
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>	<b>No Coffee &amp; Donuts</b>
					St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry Collection at each Mass this weekend.	

**Sanctuary Candle**



*For all Christian families: that they may  
bear witness to the hope that is born  
from the fruit of love.*

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 24**

5:00 p.m. (Vigil) † James Dixon  
8:00 a.m.  
10:30 a.m. People of the Parish  
5:00 p.m. Rosary Shrine of St. Jude Benefactors  
9:00 p.m.

**Monday, December 25**

10:30 a.m. People of the Parish

**Tuesday, December 26**

8:00 a.m. † Stephanie Hoppe  
12:10 p.m.

**Wednesday, December 27**

8:00 a.m.  
12:10 p.m. Brent Kuch

**Thursday, December 28**

8:00 a.m. Audrey & Stephen  
12:10 p.m. Matthew Deigan

**Friday, December 29**

8:00 a.m.  
12:10 p.m. Timothy Daniel Dingman

**Saturday, December 30**

9:00 a.m.



**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*

**Flocknote — Keeping in Touch with Us**

The parish uses a service by the name of *Flocknote* to create and send our weekly electronic parish bulletin (and other notifications when needed).

We currently have two groups — “Everyone” and “News for Parishioners.” When you sign up, you will automatically be added to the “Everyone” group where you will receive general emails. If you are a parishioner, you’ll want to be sure and click “News for Parishioners” as well to receive the weekly parish bulletin and other specific information of importance to parishioners. You will be able to unsubscribe or change your email at any time.

To sign up, visit our website at [www.StDominicChurch.org](http://www.StDominicChurch.org) and scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on the graphic that looks like the banner below.

Keep in touch with us  
VIA EMAIL USING FLOCKNOTE.



CLICK  
HERE

Request a Blessing  
of Your Home



The Church offers an Order of Blessing of Homes during the Christmas season, especially the feast of Epiphany, which will be celebrated this year on January 7, 2024.

Contact the parish office to schedule for a priest to come to your home. There is a 2-week scheduling window from January 2 through January 14.



## Offertory

Week Ending December 17, 2023

Received	\$2,888.00
Budgeted	\$3,846.00
Deficit/Surplus	<b>\$958.00</b>

## 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 2024 dates available! 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.



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



**SAINT PAUL**  
STREET EVANGELIZATION

### Taking the Catholic Faith to the Streets!

St. Dominic Church is partnering with the St. Paul Evangelization Institute to bring the Gospel of Jesus and the faith of the Catholic Church to our neighborhood and city. The mission of the Institute is to **Train, Equip** and **Mobilize Catholics** for the urgent work of evangelization.

Why evangelize? Consider that 41% of those baptized and raised as a Catholic leave the Church permanently; 69% of Catholics do not believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist; and for every 1 person that joins the Catholic Church, 6 people leave. Beyond the Catholic realm, about 3 in 10 US adults are now religiously unaffiliated, some identified as "nones" - people who describe themselves as atheists, agnostics or "nothing in particular" when asked about their religious identity.

Considering that God "desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth," there is an imperative for the disciples of Jesus to give witness to the love, mercy, forgiveness, and new life received from a personal relationship with Christ.

The training program, with Father George in attendance, begins on Sunday, January 28, 2024. All interested person are invited to contact the parish office for information and registration. ([office@stdominicchurch.org](mailto:office@stdominicchurch.org) or (202) 554-7863)





NATIONAL  
**Eucharistic  
Revival**

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

1394 As bodily nourishment restores lost strength, so the Eucharist strengthens our charity, which tends to be weakened in daily life; and this living charity wipes away venial sins. By giving himself to us Christ revives our love and enables us to break our disordered attachments to creatures and root ourselves in him:

Since Christ died for us out of love, when we celebrate the memorial of his death at the moment of sacrifice we ask that love may be granted to us by the coming of the Holy Spirit. We humbly pray that in the strength of this love by which Christ willed to die for us, we, by receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit, may be able to consider the world as crucified for us, and to be ourselves as crucified to the world.... Having received the gift of love, let us die to sin and live for God.

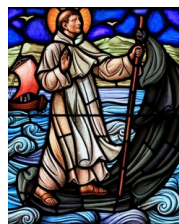
1395 By the same charity that it enkindles in us, the Eucharist preserves us from future mortal sins. The more we share the life of Christ and progress in his friendship, the more difficult it is to break away from him by mortal sin. The Eucharist is not ordered to the forgiveness of mortal sins - that is proper to the sacrament of Reconciliation. The Eucharist is properly the sacrament of those who are in full communion with the Church.

1396 The unity of the Mystical Body: the Eucharist makes the Church. Those who receive the Eucharist are united more closely to Christ. Through it Christ unites them to all the faithful in one body - the Church. Communion renews, strengthens, and deepens this incorporation into the Church, already achieved by Baptism. In Baptism we have been called to form but one body. The Eucharist fulfills this call: "The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not a participation in the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not a participation in the body of Christ? Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread:"

If you are the body and members of Christ, then it is your sacrament that is placed on the table of the Lord; it is your sacrament that you receive. To that which you are you respond "Amen" ("yes, it is true!") and by responding to it you assent to it. For you hear the words, "the Body of Christ" and respond "Amen." Be then a member of the Body of Christ that your Amen may be true.

## Church History

The 5th double window on the north side of the church features St. Raymond of Peñafort (1175-1275), whose feast day is celebrated on January 7th. The window illustrates a scene when, according to Dominican tradition, he once rebuked the king of Aragon for his immoral behavior. He was unable to leave the island of Majorca to return to Spain because the king forbade sailors to give him passage. St. Raymond placed his cappa, the black mantle of the Dominican habit, on the water, stepped on it, and floated to the mainland.



~ Courtesy of Mary Moran

## 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](mailto:stimoney@att.net).

## Monthly Church Cleaning



Volunteers needed to help with our monthly church cleaning on Saturday, January 13th after the 9 a.m. Mass. No experience required. New volunteers are always welcome. **No more than an hour of your time is required.**

If you are interested in helping, please call the Parish Office at (202) 554-7863 or email us at [Office@StDominicChurch.org](mailto:Office@StDominicChurch.org).

## 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.

## Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center



We will be collecting your donations of practical baby items like diapers, wipes and formula for the Capitol Hill Pregnancy Center at each Mass **next weekend**, December 2-3, 2023.

Place your items in front of the Ambo 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.

Thank you for showing support for those families that have chosen life!



Visit St. Dominic's website!

## Interested in Joining St. Dominic Parish?

We would love to welcome you into our parish! Visit [StDominicChurch.org](http://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.

### COVER IMAGE:

Nativity  
By Fra Angelico  
1440-1441  
Basilica di San Marco, Florence, Italy

 <b>KALAS FUNERAL HOME</b> <i>Celebrating Life's Journey</i> Serving St. Dominic Church since the 1940s.	6160 Oxon Hill Road Oxon Hill, Maryland 20745 (301) 567-9424 <a href="http://www.kalasfuneralhomes.com">www.kalasfuneralhomes.com</a>
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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.*



Restoring the Beauty  
of the  
Roosevelt Organ  
with Stenciling  
37 Façade Pipes



St. Dominic Church

Washington, DC

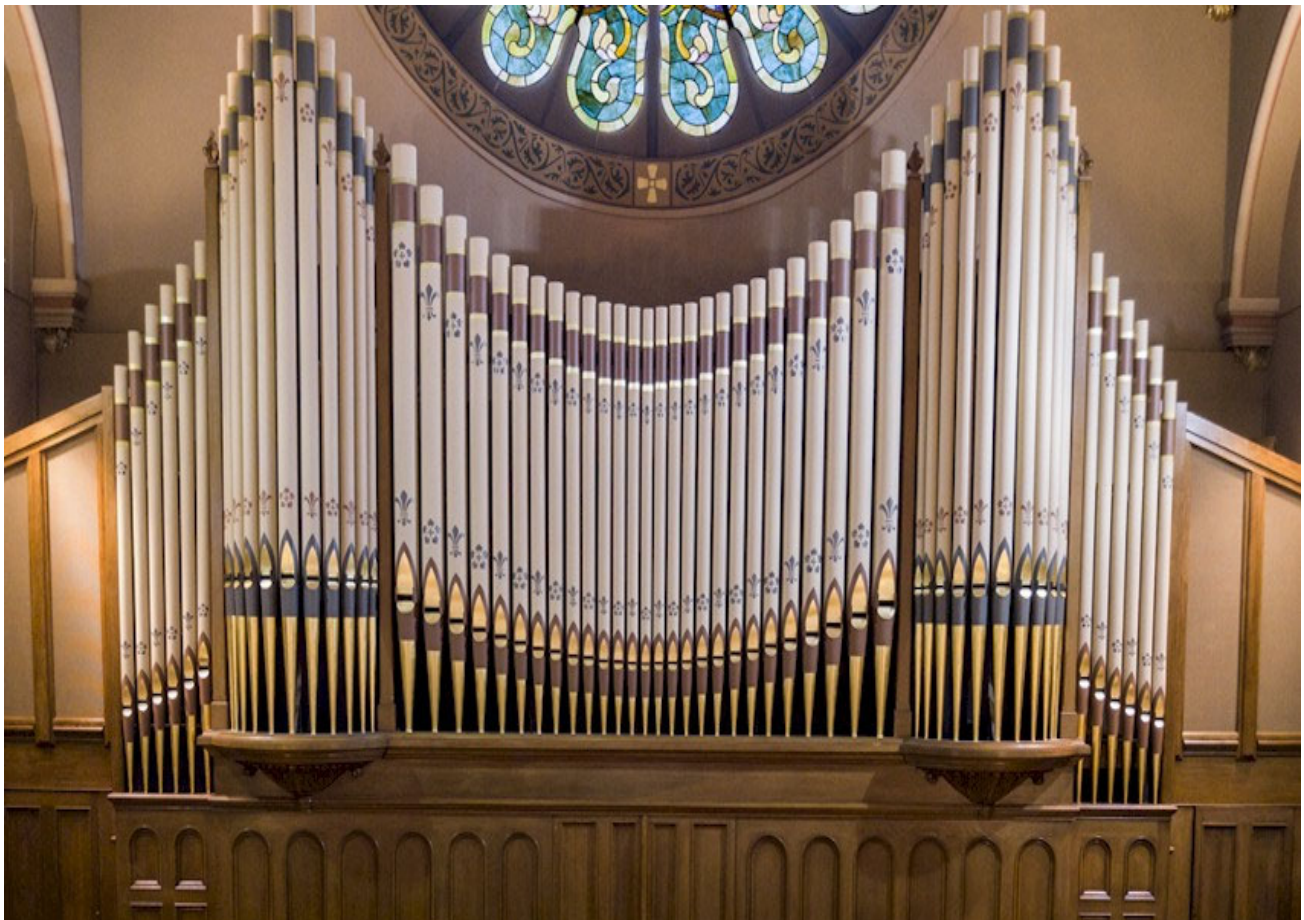
## Previous Design of Stenciling

In an older installation of the organ, the façade pipes looked like the picture below. These few pipes are now within the pipe chest in a horizontal installation. The other façade pipes have been covered over with silver paint.



## Conceptual Design of New Stenciling

New stenciling of the current façade pipes will bring physical beauty worthy of the historic Roosevelt Organ. The boldness and integrity of the design will draw the human eye to the organ gallery and evoke a desire to hear the sound of music the instrument is designed to produce.



Stencil painting of pipe organ façade pipes was a significant feature of 19th century pipe organs. Simple and less expensive wood cabinetry thus became supportive of a visual design on the façade pipes. The cabinetry of the Roosevelt Organ at St. Dominic Church is quite simple. Stencil painting the façade pipes in harmony with the colors of the rose window and church will integrate the instrument within the building.

# 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.

I would like to donate \$\_\_\_\_\_ for the painting and stenciling of \_\_\_\_\_ pipes (\$5,000 each).

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

=====

I do not wish to memorialize the pipe(s) with any names or intentions.

I wish to memorialize the pipe(s) using one (or more) of the following:

In Honor or Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given by \_\_\_\_\_

In gratitude for the beautiful music of our Parish, (or other: \_\_\_\_\_)

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

*Make checks payable to St. Dominic Church "Organ Pipes" in the memo line, or make the donation electronically using the QR codes below. When donating electronically, email [office@stdominicchurch.org](mailto:office@stdominicchurch.org) with your "memorialization" above and we will verify your donation.*

