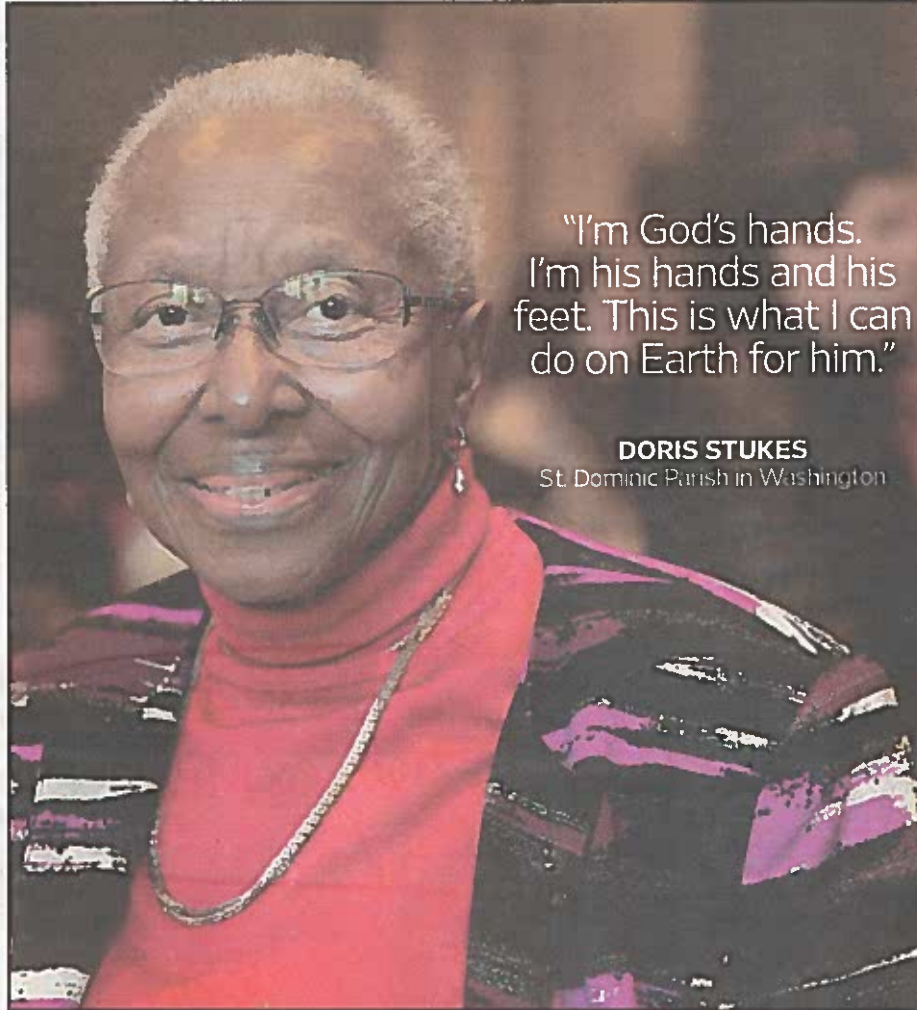


SENIORS

Retiree who does 'little of everything' at St. Dominic's honored for service



"I'm God's hands.
I'm his hands and his
feet. This is what I can
do on Earth for him."

DORIS STUKES
St. Dominic Parish in Washington

CS PHOTO BY JACLYN LIPPELMANN

Doris Stukes, who in her retirement continues to serve in a variety of ministries at St. Dominic Parish in Washington, received the Manifesting the Kingdom Award from Cardinal Wuerl on Dec. 8 in recognition of her faithful service to the Church.

By Mark Zimmermann
Catholic Standard

At St. Dominic's – the Washington parish staffed by Dominicans – Doris Stukes says, "I do a little of everything."

The 87-year-old native of Tuskegee, Alabama, serves as a lector and Eucharist minister during Masses at St. Dominic's, brings Communion to shut-ins, distributes clothing to the homeless and serves on the pastoral council. In the community, she tutors second graders at DC Bilingual Public Charter School, helping teach them to read.

She was among 156 area Catholics to receive the Archdiocese of Washington's Manifesting the Kingdom Award from Cardinal Wuerl during a Jan. 8 Mass at

the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception, in recognition of her faithful service to the Church.

"I've always been very active in the Church," said Stukes, who converted to the faith in her home state.

She moved to the Washington area in 1957 to join the Veterans Administration Medical Center as a chemist, and her work included doing cardiopulmonary research. After working at the VA for nearly four decades, she retired about 20 years ago and has been a devoted volunteer at St. Dominic's Parish.

"I'm God's hands. I'm his hands and his feet. This is what I can do on Earth for him," she said.

Then with a smile, she added, "If I do a good job here, I'm hoping I'll be welcomed into heaven!"