The name, *Cathedra*, selected for this publication, refers to the Latinized Greek for “archbishop’s chair.” Cathedral is a short form of the Latin, *ecclesia cathedralis* “church of a bishop’s seat.”
As our Lenten journey draws to a close and we embrace the hope and promise of the Easter season, I’d like to thank our parishioners, our resident priests and deacons, our music department, and staff for sharing their gifts and making this journey of faith a memorable one for all of us. The Christian life happens in community and we’re blessed to have an engaged and vibrant community here at St. Patrick’s Cathedral.

As some of you may know, we announced the activation of the geothermal plant last month. We are now heating and cooling the Cathedral with renewable energy, reducing our carbon footprint and making our city that much greener. We are very grateful for this opportunity to do our part as stewards of creation.

The installation of the Lady Chapel’s glass wall is also underway. My hope is that those wishing to spend some quiet time in prayer will always find in the Cathedral the stillness and peace that we all need from time to time. Once the walls are installed, the Lady Chapel will be that sanctuary of silence in a place that means so much to so many. Until the construction is complete, please remember that the Blessed Sacrament is reserved at the altar of St. Andrew, along the south wall of the ambulatory. Stop by any time.

Finally, now that the weather has warmed up, you’ll have to plan a Sunday excursion to the cathedral for the Kilgen Organ Series. There are between two and three recitals a month, each featuring a different organist. You won’t want to miss it. I encourage you to check our music calendar online for upcoming concerts, as well.

Easter is the season of renewal and celebration! We hope you are able to join us on Sunday, or for our weekday Masses, to give thanks for the precious gift of the season.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Msgr. Robert T. Ritchie, Rector
This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad! Alleluia! Alleluia! We have journeyed together for forty days and arrived at the heart of our faith, the ultimate affirmation of God’s love for all of creation, the Resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ! Our journey has taught us that there is no darkness in our lives, or the world, for that matter, that the light of the Resurrected Christ has not overcome. This is a message you won’t find on the pages of a self-help book or the bullet points in your newsfeed. It runs much deeper and is more lasting.

Our Lord’s triumph over death transforms not only the way we, as Christians, approach the passing of our loved ones and our own mortality; but it informs the life we choose to live here and now. Few people in recent memory have demonstrated what it means to live in the hope of the Resurrection like our own Detective Steven McDonald. I had the privilege of knowing Steven and presiding over his funeral Mass, here, at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in January. His wife Patty and son Conor were surrounded by an astounding outpouring of love and support by NYPD as well civic and business leaders from all over New York. The streets outside of St. Patrick’s were lined with New Yorkers paying their respects to this great soul. We’ve included some photos for you in this newsletter. It was quite a sight.

Steven was not just a hero to us New Yorkers. People all across the country – really, around the world – knew his story and drew inspiration from the choice he made to forgive the young man who put him in a wheelchair on that fateful July night more than 30 years ago. Steven’s life became a testament to the Christian message of mercy and hope. He taught us that the final word does not belong to the tragedies we face in our lives; nor does it belong to the headlines on the evening news. The final Word was declared on Easter morning in that Empty Tomb, and it was a resounding “Yes!” to Life. Steven also reminds us that every act of mercy we share with one other is more than just a noble gesture. It is an affirmation of the Resurrected One.

During the Easter Season the Church opens its doors just a little bit wider. We opened them in a special way on Easter Vigil as we welcomed the newly initiated catechumens into the Church - a heartfelt blessing to you all! Monsignor Ritchie and I hope to keep the spirit of the season alive throughout the year with the new narthex glass doors that were recently installed at the main entrance of the cathedral. The sliding glass doors will not only enable us to keep the bronze doors open year round, but they will also signal a warm welcome to all those wishing to stop by to light a candle. It is our way of sharing a resounding Easter “Yes!” with all of you.

A Blessed Easter!

By Timothy Michael Cardinal Dolan
“It is for me to begin the work, and let it be finished by those who can. One thing is certain: that it shall be, as far as possible, worthy of God, worthy of the Catholic religion, and an honor to this great and growing city.”

St. Patrick’s Cathedral is the legacy of the first Archbishop of New York, Archbishop John Hughes, as well as the many donors and artisans to whom he entrusted the task of building it. It seems fitting to begin the announcement of the most recent phase of renovations with this robust reminder of our mission from New York’s first Archbishop. Hughes lived in a time of unprecedented growth and social change. In fact, many have compared the rapid changes of the digital world to those of the industrial age, in the late nineteenth century. Hughes led his growing flock through the social challenges of his day with his eyes firmly fixed on the tradition which was destined to outlive him – a tradition that he knew would become an indelible part of the life of “this great and growing city.”

Almost a century and a half has passed since Archbishop Hughes called upon “those who can” to complete the work he started in 1858; and five years since Cardinal Dolan took up the mantle of builder, ensuring that the necessary upgrades and renovations be made to “America’s Parish”. This is more than just the story St. Patrick’s Cathedral; it represents an enduring theme in the arc of our faith, which started two millennia ago with the beloved Carpenter from Nazareth. The landscape of the city has changed considerably since Archbishop Hughes purchased the farmland on which St. Patrick’s now stands, but the prophetic vision of an expanding city and the spiritual needs of its people remain constant.

St. Patrick’s Cathedral stands in the heart of a city that faces the world. Like most churches, it is an evangelizing structure that proclaims the Catholic faith through the movement, art, sculptures, and architecture that holds it all together. More importantly, however, it evangelizes the world it inhabits through the sacraments and the people who are renewed by them. The announcement of the most recent phase of renovations reflects the priorities of a new generation of “builders” - a generation of builders living in twenty-first century America. In February of this year the activation of the new geothermal plant was announced. The innovative engineering plan was carried out by the Cathedral’s design team, Murphy, Burnham & Buttrick, Landmark Facilities Group, and PW Grosser, who adapted the cathedral’s existing infrastructure in order to harness clean, renewable power from an underground collection of wells to heat and cool the cathedral.

In addition to the geothermal plant’s activation, the narthex sliding glass doors were installed at the main entrance of the cathedral. They allow the bronze doors to remain open throughout the year, while conserving the energy that is used, seasonally, to heat and cool the cathedral’s interior. These innovations not only represent thoughtfully measured and necessary upgrades to a historic landmark, they also articulate the pastoral priorities of the cathedral’s leadership. The story of “our generation” of builders will include a chapter on the environment and the stewardship choices we made to preserve God’s gift of creation.

To become a builder or to help fund the geothermal initiative, please visit www.saintpatrickscedral.org/restore or email: bettina.alonso@archyny.org
Happy Easter
Pope Francis “LAUDATO SI”: A MAN ON A MISSION

By Rev. Msgr. Kevin W. Irwin

Pope Francis is a man on a mission. Like the Jesus of the gospels this first Jesuit pope is nothing less than a living parable. He talks the talk but he also walks the walk. He does both in his encyclical LAUDATO SI: On Care for Our Common Home.

Through this encyclical he invites us to listen to his words on a number of interrelated topics focused on a decidedly Catholic theology and spirituality of creation and of the environment. Through this encyclical he also invites us to see parts of the world through a set of lenses that are decidedly Catholic in being global and universal. This pope is particularly attentive to those on the margins, on the periphery. In the papacy of Pope Francis what seemed like the center is now the periphery and what seemed like the neglected periphery is now center stage.

One clear example of where this pope’s heart lies is in the way he has arranged his trips outside of the Vatican and the speeches he gives while travelling. Pope Francis certainly hit a home run when he came to these United States in the fall, 2015. But his first trip outside mainland Italy was to the island of Lampedusa, in July, 2013, to preach and welcome immigrants to the shores of Italy who were suffering economic hardship and trying to escape civil wars not of their making. He also then went to Brazil in 2013, Israel, South Korea, Albania, Turkey in 2014, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Bosnia and Herzegovinia, Bolivia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Cuba and then these United States.

Pope Francis deliberately went to the Philippines to console the victims of the typhoon Yolanda and to visit places destroyed by it. That visit “set up” the publication of LAUDATO SI: On Care for Our Common Home. The publication of the encyclical in mid June 2015 showed a man on a mission to influence worldwide awareness of the ecological disasters we face. He invites “all people of good will” to join a “dialogue” on a Catholic way of understanding the environment and the challenges this places before us in terms of understanding how creation is God’s gift to us, evaluating what needs to be done to preserve it including actions about climate change, and to engage ourselves in dong it. This kind of action is exemplified in the recent launch of the geothermal plant at St. Patrick’s Cathedral.

The cathedral’s architects and engineers designed and installed a heating and cooling system that relies entirely on renewable energy. Thermal energy is harnessed from a system of subterranean wells situated along either side of the cathedral; and then distributed throughout the cathedral.
and its adjoining buildings for heating and cooling purposes. The drilling of these wells, ten altogether, started just a few months following the publication of LAUDATO SI. While a feasibility study was conducted a few years prior to determine the appropriate and sustainable option for the historic landmark; the timing of its execution, in 2015, is clearly an example of an idea whose time had come. The geothermal plant is the first of its kind in midtown Manhattan, and allows New York’s great cathedral to regulate its temperature with increased efficiency and a considerable reduction in its CO2 emissions.

In the conversation of environmental responsibility, St. Patrick’s Cathedral is clearly leading by example.

My own recent book: A Commentary on LAUDATO SI. Examining the Background, Contributions, Implementation and Future of Pope Francis’ Encyclical (New York/Mahwah: Paulist Press, 2016) is divided into four chapters:

**Chapter 1** - “Background” offers a review and summary of several sets of documents published before from Vatican II through LAUDATO SI on issues related to ecology and the environment. This is not a “new” teaching.

**Chapter 2** - “Contributions” offers a summary of what Pope Francis adds to our understanding of the environment from the perspective of Catholic (magisterial) teaching, theology, spirituality, liturgy and practice. Central here is the move from “human ecology” (coined by St. John Paul II) to “integral ecology.”

**Chapter 3** - “Implementation” delineates and expands upon a number of issues which Pope Francis raises for reflection and action, personally, nationally and internationally (for example the actions of multinational corporations).

**Chapter 4** - “Beyond” asks “where do we go from here?” and “how do we move forward?” This involves “talking the talk” and “walking the walk” in the footsteps of Pope Francis, a man on a mission.

Rev. Msgr. Kevin W. Irwin is Dean Emeritus School of Theology and Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America and a priest of the Archdiocese of New York.
Our Lady requested that Catholics do the following on the first Saturday of the month for five consecutive months: 1. Go to confession (can be within 8 days of the 1st Saturday, or even within the month); 2. Receive Holy Communion; 3. Recite five decades of the Rosary; 4. Make a fifteen-minute meditation on fifteen mysteries of the rosary; and 5. Do these acts of love with the intention to make reparation for offenses committed against Our Lady's Immaculate Heart. She promised the grace of final perseverance to those who make these First Five Saturdays.

Let us take up this call from Our Lady. Let us participate in Christ’s victory over sin and death by doing our part to assist souls most in need of His Divine Mercy. We can also accept the invitation of Pope Francis to gain the plenary indulgence by praying before an image of Our Lady of Fatima in a church on the 13th of the month, this May through October. These dates correspond to Our Lady’s apparitions to the children in 1917. I encourage you to offer the indulgence for a soul in purgatory. Surely, if we follow through on this, Our Lady will be consoled and honored, and our “spirit will rejoice with God” our Risen Savior!

On May 13, 2017 the Church commemorates the 100th Anniversary of the first apparition of Our Lady of Fatima in Portugal. Our Lady appeared on the 13th of each month, May through October 1917, culminating in the famous “Miracle of the Sun,” to send a message to the Church and the world through three humble shepherd children. To commemorate this anniversary, Pope Francis announced that Catholics can receive a plenary indulgence in the following three ways (fulfilling the usual requirements): by making a pilgrimage to the Shrine in Fatima, Portugal; or, by participating in public prayer and veneration of the Virgin Mary before the image of Our Lady of Fatima at a church on the 13th day of the month, May to October 2017; or, for those who are infirm, by praying privately in front of a statue of Our Lady of Fatima and spiritually uniting themselves to the jubilee celebrations on the days of the apparitions, the 13th of each month of the same time frame.

The significance of Our Lady of Fatima’s visit and message should not be overlooked as relevant only to those living in the first quarter of the 20th century. It remains current and is worth considering again during this anniversary year. The message of Fatima called for prayer, repentance, abandonment of sin, and acts of reparation for offenses committed against God. Specifically, Our Lady urged the daily recitation of five decades of the Rosary for peace, acts of sacrifice, especially doing our daily duty for the conversion of sinners, wearing the Brown Scapular, and offering acts of reparation for offenses against her Immaculate Heart, which she revealed to children as a heart crowned with thorns. The children understood that sacrifices merited graces for sinners and consoled her wounded Heart.

Here is where you and I enter: we are called to do our part to make the First Five Saturdays. What is required?
IN MEMORY OF DETECTIVE STEVEN MCDONALD
LA PASCUA, EL CHOCOLATE Y EL VINO
Por el Padre Fredy Patino

Que tal estuvo la cena de pascua? Pudiste comer todo aquello a lo que renunciaste por 40 días? En este tiempo hay una tendencia en la cual muchas personas para la Cuaresma adoptan hábitos muy saludables; dejan de tomar vino, dejan de comer chocolates y otros adoptan por alejarse de las redes sociales por un tiempo. Al llegar a la Pascua se vive con gran alegría el Domingo de Resurrección, nos reunimos con familiares y amigos convirtiéndose este día en una verdadera fiesta. Aprovechamos la oportunidad para comer; especialmente aquello que se dejó durante la Cuaresma. Luego sin darnos cuenta nos volvemos a ocupar en tantas cosas y aquellos hábitos que tomamos en la cuaresma los dejamos de lado posiblemente hasta el próximo año; muchas veces con la intención de que en el próximo año seremos más fieles a ese voto de no tomar vino o no comer chocolates.

Pero, deberían los hábitos de la Cuaresma y la preparación del corazón para celebrar la Resurrección de Jesús desaparecer completamente por el resto del año? La respuesta está en el entendimiento que cada uno tenga sobre lo que es la Pascua. No se puede desperdiciar esta oportunidad para recordar que la Pascua es celebrar que nunca moriremos. La Pascua nos recuerda que por la resurrección de Cristo todos participamos de esa vida divina y que Jesús esta siempre dispuesto a renovar nuestro corazón y desea que nos encontremos con Él. La Pascua nos recuerda la promesa que recibimos el día de nuestro bautizo de que nunca moriremos si seguimos a Jesús y si somos fieles a Él. Jesús nos invita a que amemos a Dios profundamente, que nos amemos y nos ayudemos los unos a los otros, y que amemos sus enseñanzas. Debemos amar al maestro y amar profundamente sus enseñanzas las cuales son la guía para llegar a Él.

El Papa Benedicto XVI en su homilía de la Pascua del 12 de abril del 2009 nos dijo: “abramos el corazón a Cristo muerto y resucitado para que nos renueve, para que nos limpie del veneno del pecado y de la muerte y nos infunda la savia vital del Espíritu Santo: la vida divina y eterna”. Estas palabras del Santo Padre nos recuerdan que por la Resurrección de Cristo todos participamos de esa vida divina y que Jesús esta siempre dispuesto a renovar nuestro corazón y desea que nos encontremos con Él. La Pascua nos recuerda la promesa que recibimos el día de nuestro bautizo de que nunca moriremos si seguimos a Jesús y si somos fieles a Él. Jesús nos invita a que amemos a Dios profundamente, que nos amemos y nos ayudemos los unos a los otros, y que amemos sus enseñanzas. Debemos amar al maestro y amar profundamente sus enseñanzas las cuales son la guía para llegar a Él.
Jesús anhela ansiosamente que sus seguidores lleven su luz al mundo entero y comuniquen la buena noticia de que el nos ha salvado. Hoy más que nunca el mundo está sediento de la luz de Cristo. El mundo necesita a Dios! Él nos invita para que seamos sus manos y su voz en el mundo. Dios nos llama a que llevemos su mensaje y seamos embajadores de su amor para todos aquellos que están sedientos de Él. El mundo quiere y necesita un cambio y los seguidores de Cristo podrán cambiarlo. No se necesita tener dinero ni fama para cambiar el mundo, solo basta dejar que Dios haga su voluntad atreves de nosotros. Fíjate en la vida de los apóstoles; hombres sencillos, sin dinero ni fama y Dios mostró su gloria por medio de ellos. Fíjate en la vida de Santa Teresa de Calcuta y el impacto que logró tener en el mundo entero y que hoy sigue teniendo. Ella amó profundamente a Jesús y sus enseñanzas y es un gran ejemplo para todos nosotros. Cuando le preguntaron quien era Jesú para ella respondió:

“Para mí, Jesús es El Verbo hecho carne…la verdad, para ser proclamada; el camino, para ser recorrido; la luz, para ser encendida; la vida, para ser vivida; el amor, para ser amado; la alegría, para ser compartida; el sacrificio, para ser dados a otros; el pan de vida, para que sea mi sustento; el hambriento, para ser alimentado; el sediento, para ser saciado… el desamparado, para ser recogido; el enfermo, para ser curado; el solitario, para ser amado; el indeseado, para ser querido... el anciano, para ser atendido. Para mí, Jesús es mi Dios. Jesús es mi esposo. Jesús es mi vida. Jesús es mi único amor. Jesús es mi Todo.”

Ya lo ves, hay mucho por hacer. Ve y cambia el mundo. El mundo no cambia con las grandes decisiones; el mundo cambia con las pequeñas acciones que nacen fruto del encuentro del alma con Jesús resucitado tal y como lo vivió Santa Teresa de Calcuta.

Es hora de que el alma de fruto de lo que cultivó en la Cuaresma. No hay que esperar a que llegue otra Cuaresma para acercarnos a Dios. Él momento perfecto es hoy y no te preocupes, toma un poco de vino y come unos cuantos chocolates. Jesús entenderá.
CATHEDRA
A publication of St. Patrick’s Cathedral,
America’s Parish Church
Reverend Monsignor Robert T. Ritchie, Rector
Reverend Andrew King, Master of Ceremonies
Patrick Danczewski, Director of Cathedral Gift Shop
Kevin Donohue, Director of Building Operations
Mercedes Lopez Blanco, Director of Communications
Jennifer Pascual, DMA, Director of Music and Organist
Loul Puliafito, Director of Development
Peter Fitton, Director of Volunteers

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Mass Times:
Monday through Friday: 7:00, 7:30, 8:00 am,
12 Noon, 12:30, 1:00, 5:30 pm
Saturday: 8:00 am (in Lady Chapel)
12 Noon, Vigil Mass: 5:30 pm (Fulfills Sunday obligation)
Sunday: 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:15 am (Choir)*
12 Noon, 1:00, 4:00 (Spanish), and 5:30 pm
*Watch Mass live: saintpatrickscathedral.org/live/

Confession Times:
Weekdays: After morning Mass and from Noon to 1:20 PM
Saturdays: Noon to 12:45 PM and 3:30 to 5:30 PM
Reconciliation is available in languages other than English.
For more information, please contact the priest on duty at:
St. Patrick’s Cathedral Parish House
14 East 51st Street
New York, NY 10022
212.753.2261

For any additional questions please call the Parish House: 212.753.2261

DIRECTIONS:
St. Patrick’s Cathedral
5th Avenue between 50th/51st Streets
New York, NY
Subway:
E or 6 trains to 5th Avenue/53rd Street
4 5 6 or NQR to 5th Avenue/59th Street
BDFM to Rockefeller Center

Gift Shop:
Visit Our Shop Online – www.stpatscathedralgiftshop.com
15 East 51st Street, between 5th Avenue and Madison Avenue
Hours: 8:30 am to 8:00 pm, Monday through Friday
10:00 am to 6:00 pm, Saturday and Sunday

Virtual Visit – saintpatrickscathedral.org/visit
St. Patrick’s Cathedral is the Mother Church of the
Archdiocese of New York and the seat of its Archbishop.
Built by contributions large and small, it remains emblematic
of the ascendance of religious freedom in the New World.

FRIENDS OF MUSIC
AN EVENING OF SCHUBERT
THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2017, 7:00 PM
FEATURING:
MASS IN G, D167 AND MAGNIFICAT IN C, D486
PERFORMED BY:
ST. PATRICK’S CATHEDRAL CHOIR AND ORCHESTRA

ORGAN DUETS
SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 2017, 7:00 PM
FEATURING WORKS OF:
BÖLTING, CALLAHAN, SOUSA AND WAGNER
PERFORMED BY:
DR. JENNIFER PASCUAL, ORGANIST
DR. LYNN TRAPP, ORGANIST
Charitable Bequests

There are several ways to name the Cathedral as a beneficiary of your will or living trust. You can make a cash bequest, leave a specific asset such as appreciated securities, or designate that the Cathedral will receive all or a percentage of the remainder of your estate, after your other beneficiaries are provided for.

Gifts of Retirement Plan Assets

Retirement plan assets could be the most heavily taxed of all your assets if left to heirs. With the income and estate taxes, more than half could be whittled away. You can preserve more of your estate for your heirs and meet your philanthropic goals by leaving your retirement plan assets to a tax-exempt charitable organization such as the Cathedral.

Gifts of Appreciated Securities

Giving appreciated securities is now more advantageous with the rise in the value of securities and higher tax rates. For securities held longer than one year, you can deduct their full market value (top federal rate 39.6%) regardless of what you originally paid for them. You also avoid paying capital gains tax (top federal rate 23.8%).

Charitable Gift Annuities

A charitable gift annuity is a simple contract that offers a tax-advantaged way to provide fixed guaranteed income to you and/or another individual. At the death of the last income beneficiary, the remaining principal is transferred to the Cathedral. You can begin to receive income when you need it most, either right away, or at a pre-determined future date such as retirement.

Charitable Remainder Trusts

You can donate a wide variety of assets to a charitable remainder trust, including cash, appreciated securities and real estate, and receive a percentage of the trust’s value as income. In years when the trust assets appreciate; the distribution will increase; if asset values decline, distributions are lower. At the death of the last income beneficiary, the remaining principal is transferred to the Cathedral.

Contact Us

We would be most grateful for the opportunity to discuss these gift arrangements and other giving ideas with you, your family and your professional advisers.

Loual Puliafito
Director of Development, St. Patrick’s Cathedral
(646) 537-7830 ext. 847
LoualPuliafito@saintpatricks cathedral.org

As you think about your Christmas and end of year giving, you may wish to consider some giving options that could benefit you and provide for the Legacy of the Cathedral.
Veneration of the UN International Pilgrim Statue of the World Apostolate of Fatima & the first class relics of Blessed Francisco & Blessed Jacinta Marto will also be held.

Prayer petitions can be written, which will then be delivered to the apparition chapel in Fatima, Portugal.

~When~
May 13, 2017

- Veneration of the Pilgrim Statue & Relics: 10:00am-12:00pm & 2:00-4:00pm
- Mass: 12:00-1pm
- Holy Hour & Procession: 1:00-2:00pm

~Where~
50th Street & 5th Avenue

For more information: https://archny.org/events/100th-anniversary-of-our-lady-of-fatima