**MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK**

**Monday 12 February**
7AM - Leo Alexander Bruyere (Mary Bruyere)  5:15PM - Lawrence Bussard (Shirley Davidson)

**Tuesday 13 February**
7AM - Miles Filer (Bergbower Family)  5:15PM - Mamie Unser (Wanda friend)

**Wednesday 14 February**
7AM - Vogt Family (Bill Vogt)  12:05PM - Peggy Ushman (Stanley & Thelma Rhodes)  5:15PM - Philip Kruzick (Mary Sestak)

**Thursday 15 February**
7AM - Karen, Larry & Parents (Anonymous)  12:05PM - Catherine Staab (Brian & Mickey Lauer)  5:15PM - Betty Sowarsh (Theresa Kraus)

**Friday 16 February**
7AM - Calcara Family (Holy Angel Parish)  12:05PM - Jack Esslinger (Pat Esslinger)  5:15PM - Jasper, Elizabeth & Frances Calcara (Holy Angel Parish)

**Saturday 17 February**
8AM - In Memory of Helene O’Shea (Family)  4PM - Catherine Staab (Crystal & Norman Wiseman)

**Sunday 18 January**
7AM - Otis Huber (Family)  10AM - For The People  5PM - Miles Filer (Bergbower Family)

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**Interested in becoming a member of the Cathedral?**

Please start the process by going to the Cathedral website, [SPICATHEDRAL.ORG/registration](http://SPICATHEDRAL.ORG/registration) or contact the Parish Offices for more information. If you have any questions, please email Katie Price at kprice@cathedral.dio.org.

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**Thank you!**

Thank you to the Cathedral family, staff, and supporters for a great Catholic Schools Week 2018! We are so appreciative of the school staff and volunteers who made last week a great success for all participants! If you would like to see pictures from the week, check out the School's Facebook page!
We do not hear about lepers today. Generally, when the word is used, it is used more as a figure of speech to describe someone who has become an outsider for one reason or another. The term leprosy was a wide-ranging term for any visible skin ailment in ancient times. One form of leprosy in Biblical times was known as nodule leprosy. It would discolor the skin and skin nodules would form in the folds of the face, on the nose, lips, and forehead, ultimately disfiguring the person who was afflicted with it. The disease would also cause ulcers on the body and vocal chords, and eventually even affect the person’s mental state. Another form of leprosy was known as anaesthetic leprosy. This form of the disease would attack a person’s nerves, especially in their hands and feet, eventually causing them to lose fingers, toes, and whole limbs. Finally, any type of skin disease was considered leprosy including psoriasis.

Besides the intense physical suffering that this disease inflicted on its victims, there was also the pain of the social stigma that came with it. People long ago did not understand the nature of disease, how they were contracted, or how they occurred. Disease and illness were seen as punishments from God for sins that a person had committed. For this reason, and also for the contagious aspect of diseases, those who were found to be sick with leprosy were cast out of society. The first reading this Sunday from the Book of Leviticus tells us what was expected of those poor souls who found themselves afflicted. The unjust social stigma and shame that they faced, through no fault of their own, only compounded the suffering that they were already experiencing in their bodies. Leprosy was essentially an undeserved excommunication for which there was no real remedy. Only those who had a passing affliction, which would not have been true leprosy, were able to find themselves “clean” and able to rejoin the community.

This Sunday, Mark’s Gospel recounts the scene where our Lord Jesus is approached by a leper. The encounter was unthinkable as this man, because of his condition, was forbidden to be around others, let alone approach someone. He asks Jesus to heal him, if Jesus wills to do so, and Jesus does. The Gospel tells us that Jesus was moved with pity. Other translations say that he was filled with compassion; however, some scholars say that both of these are wrong, that the proper translation was that he was filled with anger. Anger?

Jesus’s anger would not have been with the man, but rather with the social injustice that further victimized the man, causing him to qualify his request to be healed with “if you wish.” Of course, Jesus wanted to heal the man, to “make him clean,” to bring him from the outside back into the community.

Are we willing to do the same for the “lepers” among us?

We know all too well of societal sins: racism, sexism, and other forms of discrimination. As Christians, it should be second nature for us to be angered by the injustices around us and for us to seek to end them, to bring those on the outside in. Sadly, these sins find their way into the Church’s members as well and there is no room for these attitudes and behaviors whatsoever. There are also “lepers” around us whom we do not recognize; those who carry shame and guilt for reasons unknown to us. For them we must always be ready to be sources of the mercy and compassion of God.

Why does Jesus tell people that he has cured, such as the man in this Sunday’s Gospel, not to tell anyone? He does this because he knows that there is going to be pushback from the powers of the world who do not want to hear and heed his message or to accept the change that Jesus seeks to bring. Jesus knows that this pushback is inevitable, but he wants to be able to preach and minister as freely as possible in the time that he has, which is limited. If we would follow the Lord’s example and seek to bring in those who have been cast out, we too can expect pushback from the powers of the world. These powers do not accept the Gospel today any more than they did 2,000 years ago. So, do what is right and holy and let the world pushback. Seek those who have been pushed out, those who are the modern “lepers.” The world will not like it, but the world’s opinion is ultimately worthless. Remember, we who bear the name “Christian” do not belong to the world.

Father Christopher House is the Rector-Pastor of the Cathedral and serves in various leadership roles within the diocesan curia.
The Cathedral Guide for Lent 2018

You Are Invited to Join Us!

This week we are announcing the dynamic programs, enriching faith formation reflections, and additional sacramental opportunities open to all during the Lenten Season. In our effort to provide radical hospitality, we have created a variety of opportunities online and in person. We know busy schedules can make it difficult to attend programs, so we have created plenty of online opportunities for faith formation, as well. From online to in-pew, we have an opportunity for you to grow in your Catholic faith at Cathedral this Lent!

Important Dates

Wednesday, February 14th
Ash Wednesday
Mass Schedule: 7AM, 12:05PM, 5:15PM
Confessions: 4:15PM- 5:00PM

Sunday, March 25th
Palm Sunday
Mass Schedule: 7AM, 10AM, & 5PM
The Bishop will preside the 10AM Mass

Tuesday, March 27th
Chrism Mass
Mass Schedule: 7AM, 12:05PM, & 6:30PM
No 5:15PM Mass. No Confessions

Thursday, March 29th
Holy Thursday
6:30PM Mass ONLY
No confessions

Friday, March 30th
Good Friday
3PM Liturgy
No 7AM or 5:15PM Mass
Confessions following the 3PM Liturgy

Saturday, March 31st
Holy Saturday
8PM Mass Only
No Confessions

Sunday, April 1st
Easter Sunday
7AM & 10AM Mass
No 5PM Mass
No Confessions

Monday, April 2nd
Monday after Easter
7AM Mass Only
No Confessions

Weekday Schedule

The Cathedral offers additional opportunities for the Sacrament of Confession and daily Mass during the season of Lent. Please see the days and times of these additional opportunities below.

Daily Mass - Monday through Friday
7AM, 12:05PM, 5:15PM

Daily Confessions - Monday through Friday
4:15PM- 5:00PM

Adoration - Wednesdays
Following the 7AM Mass until the 5:15PM Mass

Stations of the Cross - Fridays
Following the 5:15PM Mass

Weekend Schedule

The Cathedral will remain with the normal weekly schedule during Lent, except for dates noted on the left.

Weekend Mass Schedule
Saturday Morning Mass 8AM
Saturday Vigil - 4PM
Sunday 7AM, 10AM, 5PM

Weekend Confessions
Saturday 9AM - 10AM & 2:30PM - 3:30PM
Sunday 4PM - 4:45PM
The Passion Narratives
March 6th & March 19th
7PM Cathedral Atrium
Come join Fr. House for formation and education on Mark and John’s Passion narratives, which will grow your understanding of the life, suffering, and death of Jesus. We will explore Mark (March 6th) and John’s (March 19th) Passion Narratives. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!

Lenten Stewardship: An Afternoon of Reflection
Sunday, March 4th
3PM - 4:45PM Cathedral Atrium
Join the Cathedral’s Stewardship Coordinator, Katie Price for an afternoon reflection on stewardship, as a way of life during Lent. If you are looking to have a greater understanding of stewardship, this is a great afternoon for you! From storytelling to Scripture, this afternoon will cover the foundations for stewardship, while providing practical steps to incorporate stewardship during your Lenten season. All are welcome!

Sacred Sounds, Sacred Spaces, Music Mondays
Mondays Online (Facebook Live Event)
Starting Monday, February 19th at 11:45AM
You might not be able to be present with us on Mondays, but during Lent you can join Cathedral Director of Music, Mark Gifford, for spiritual hymns in person or on Facebook Live. We are going to be streaming approximately 10 minutes of hymns, which will nourish your soul and be available anytime during the week via Facebook or the Cathedral website. More detailed information will be made available soon, including the start time if you would like to join us in person or online.

Sunday Scripture Reflections
with Fr. Braden Maher
Online via website, email, and Facebook
During Lent, dive deeper into the Scriptures each week, as Fr. Braden Maher covers the upcoming Sunday Scripture readings via video. These videos will be made available on our Lenten webpage spicathedral.org/lent-2018 and the Facebook page. Sign-up on the website to join the Cathedral Weekly eblast!

Conversations with Katie and Fr. Wayne Stock
Online via website, email, and Facebook
During Lent, Katie Price, Coordinator for Stewardship at the Cathedral and Fr. Wayne Stock will reflect on a variety of topics in an interview style format. These videos will cover topics such as Confessions, Lenten practices, Prayer, Vocations, and the Triduum, just to name a few.

Lenten Stewardship Challenge
Online via website, email, and Facebook
During Lent, we will provide daily videos and graphics that will offer one stewardship practice or thought to encourage an active stewardship way of life.

Cathedral Online Prayer Wall
Online via spicathedral.org/lenten-prayer-wall
Join us for our first-ever online Lenten Prayer Wall. At home, work, wherever and whenever, take a look at the Lenten prayer wall and for a few minutes pray for those needing support, healing, and the power of prayer. Your prayer intentions can be submitted on the page and after approval, will be posted. If you would like your prayer intention to be anonymous, you may select the checkbox on the form and know your prayers will be shared with Cathedral Parish staff only.

What’s For Dinner?
Thursday, March 1st
6PM - 7:15PM Cathedral Atrium
Join us for our Lenten What’s for Dinner series. All are welcome and families are encouraged to attend. We will be providing the main course, and attendees are encouraged to bring a side dish to share. We will have faith formation for children, as well, so families are encouraged to come together!

The Forge Saturday Bible Study
Every Saturday starting February 17th
10AM Cathedral Atrium
Join young adults (people in their 20’s and 30’s, married or single) from across the Diocese for a co-ed, enriching journey through the Scriptures. We are following the Lenten Journey provided by Dr. Scott Hahn and his team at the St. Paul Institute. The program is called The Bible and the Sacraments. All are welcome to join us!

Online Faith Formation
spicathedral.org/lent-2018
Check out the webpage for all programs, ministry opportunities, and special liturgies. We will be posting a calendar of events and programs similar to these announcements. During the week, we will be sharing Lenten resources and reflections online. Please share the page with anyone that is looking for resources and spiritual formation during Lent!

40 Days for Life
Daily from Ash Wednesday to Palm Sunday
Springfield Right to Life and the Diocesan Office for Pro-Life and Special Ministries is again sponsoring a 40 Days for Life prayer vigil. It will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 14th, and conclude on Palm Sunday, March 25th. The prayer vigil will be conducted from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., seven days a week during the 40 days, on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood, 601 N. Bruns Ln. This year, we are inviting families to participate in the vigil, please contact Katie Price, Stewardship Coordinator, at kprice@cathedral.dio.org and together we will coordinate times and promotion. For more information and to sign up for a vigil time individually, please visit: https://40daysforlife.com/local-campaigns/springfield/, call Angela Tranquilli at 217-523-2700, or e-mail info@springfieldrfl.org.
Journey to the Foot of the Cross

Bishop David L. Ricken of Green Bay, Wisconsin, former chairman of the Committee on Evangelization and Catechesis of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), offers “10 Things to Remember for Lent”:

**Remember the formula.** The Church does a good job capturing certain truths with easy-to-remember lists and formulas: 10 Commandments, 7 sacraments, 3 persons in the Trinity. For Lent, the Church gives us almost a slogan—Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving—as the three things we need to work on during the season.

**It’s a time of prayer.** Lent is essentially an act of prayer spread out over 40 days. As we pray, we go on a journey, one that hopefully brings us closer to Christ and leaves us changed by the encounter with him.

**It’s a time to fast.** With the fasts of Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, meatless Fridays, and our personal disciplines interspersed, Lent is the only time many Catholics these days actually fast. And maybe that’s why it gets all the attention. “What are you giving up for Lent? Hotdogs? Beer? Jelly beans?” It’s almost a game for some of us, but fasting is actually a form of penance, which helps us turn away from sin and toward Christ.

**It’s a time to work on discipline.** The 40 days of Lent are also a good, set time to work on personal discipline in general. Instead of giving something up, it can be doing something positive. “I’m going to exercise more. I’m going to pray more. I’m going to be nicer to my family, friends and coworkers.”

**It’s about dying to yourself.** The more serious side of Lenten discipline is that it’s about more than self-control – it’s about finding aspects of yourself that are less than Christ-like and letting them die. The suffering and death of Christ are foremost on our minds during Lent, and we join in these mysteries by suffering, dying with Christ and being resurrected in a purified form.

**Don’t do too much.** It’s tempting to make Lent some ambitious period of personal reinvention, but it’s best to keep it simple and focused. There’s a reason the Church works on these mysteries year after year. We spend our entire lives growing closer to God. Don’t try to cram it all in one Lent. That’s a recipe for failure.

**Lent reminds us of our weakness.** Of course, even when we set simple goals for ourselves during Lent, we still have trouble keeping them. When we fast, we realize we’re all just one meal away from hunger. In both cases, Lent shows us our weakness.

This can be painful, but recognizing how helpless we are makes us seek God’s help with renewed urgency and sincerity.

**Be patient with yourself.** When we’re confronted with our own weakness during Lent, the temptation is to get angry and frustrated. “What a bad person I am!” But that’s the wrong lesson. God is calling us to be patient and to see ourselves as he does, with unconditional love.

**Reach out in charity.** As we experience weakness and suffering during Lent, we should be renewed in our compassion for those who are hungry, suffering or otherwise in need. The third part of the Lenten formula is almsgiving. It’s about more than throwing a few extra dollars in the collection plate; it’s about reaching out to others and helping them without question as a way of sharing the experience of God’s unconditional love.

**Learn to love like Christ.** Giving of ourselves in the midst of our suffering and self-denial brings us closer to loving like Christ, who suffered and poured himself out unconditionally on cross for all of us. Lent is a journey through the desert to the foot of the cross on Good Friday, as we seek him out, ask his help, join in his suffering, and learn to love like him.
**Sharing the Gospel**

**MK 1:40-45**

A man came up to Jesus with sores all over his body. He wore a hood over his head and a robe with long sleeves to hide his sores. He said, "If you want to, you can heal me." Jesus touched him and said, "I do want to. Now your sores are gone." Jesus said, "Do not tell anyone about your healing." The man was too excited to keep a secret. He told everyone he met.

**Pray Together as a Family**

Lord,

Help us to come to you for nourishment, strength, and comfort in our times of need. Help us to recognize those around us that are hurting or need our help. May we be able to help each other grow closer to you.

Amen.

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**Puzzle**

Circle the picture that is the same as the first one. Then color in all the pictures.

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**Read the Gospel and Color**

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