

ISSUE No. 37

SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER

6 MAY 2018

# *Cathedral* WEEKLY



**“AS THE FATHER LOVES ME, SO I ALSO LOVE YOU.”**

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MAY, THE MONTH OF MARY | FR. CHRISTOPHER HOUSE  
DON'T BE NICE; BE EXCELLENT | BR. HYACINTH GRUBB, O.P.  
THE SURPRISING POWER OF DOING ACTS OF MERCY IN SECRET | DR. TOM NEAL

# Cathedral WEEKLY

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## Thank you!

Thank you to LPI, our bulletin/Weekly publishing company for upgrading our paper for the Weekly at NO additional cost. We want to continue providing the best resource for your faith formation, while also being a resource to pass along to friends who might be interested in reading the articles. Thanks to LPI for their continued support in this endeavor!

## Parish Registration

Interested in joining our Parish? You may register online at <https://spicathedral.org/new-member-registration-form/> or contact the Parish Office for a paper registration form. We will then reach out to meet with you and provide you with some more information. We look forward to meeting you! Any questions, please contact Katie Price at [kprice@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:kprice@cathedral.dio.org).

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

### Monday 7 May

7AM - Dorothy Carstens (John & Judith Carstens) 5:15 PM - Special Intention for Henry Manch (Donna Caminiti)

### Tuesday 8 May

7AM - Betty Sowarsh (Anna Rine) 5:15 PM - NO CONFESSION & NO MASS

### Wednesday 9 May

7AM - John Hennrich (Sandy Pummill) 5:15 PM - Norman & Eileen Rovey (Family)

### Thursday 10 May

7AM - Lenn Family (Family) 5:15 PM - Sharon Rickert (Pat Vaught)

### Friday 11 May

7AM - Thelma Judy (Karen Mueller-Fisk) 5:15 PM - Lenn Family (Family)

### Saturday 12 May

8AM - Patria & Rufino Gotanco (Joe & Hati Uy) 4 PM - James Sullivan (Sullivan Family)

### Sunday 13 May

7AM - Mamie Unser (Wanda) 10 AM - Charles Rossiter (Jane Fornoff) 5 PM - For the People

Like the Cathedral Weekly? Share this copy with a friend!





## May, the Month of Mary

“Bring flowers the fairest,  
bring flowers the rarest,  
from garden and woodland  
and hillside and dale; our  
full hearts are swelling, our  
glad voices telling the praise  
of the loveliest flower of the vale!”

The preceding few lines will be familiar to some who read this but probably not to too many. These words are a part of a thirteenth century hymn entitled “*Queen of the May*” and this hymn was traditionally sung during May, especially at May crowning ceremonies, in honor of Mary our Blessed Mother. Growing up at St. Aloysius on the north side, the May crowning was a yearly event as it was in many Catholic schools and hopefully it remains so; our school children crowned the statue of Mary in the fountain courtyard this past week.

May is traditionally known as the month of Mary. Centuries ago, May was dedicated to the pagan Roman goddess Flora who was the goddess of blooms. The month was dedicated to her as a way of casting our winter and welcoming in the new life of spring. As the true Christian faith spread throughout the Roman empire and the rest of the world, this festival of Flora disappeared but various practices to welcome the change in seasons remained. Beginning in the Middle Ages, a popular devotion came about entitled Tricesimum which was a thirty-day period celebrated in honor of Mary. At one time, it was celebrated from August 15th

(the Assumption) until September 14th (Our Lady of Sorrows) and still is today in some places. As time progressed, this celebration of Tricesimum was merged with honoring Mary in the month of May. By the 13th century, May was becoming synonymous with being the month of Mary throughout many parts of the Church.



During this month of May, as we continue our celebration of the Easter season and the new life won for us by the risen Christ, we are mindful again of the role that Mary played in the drama of our salvation. God’s plan for our salvation in his son Jesus began with Mary’s yes to God’s will for her.

We are invited daily to echo Mary’s yes to God’s will in our lives because salvation is the ultimate end of God’s will for each and every person. We honor Mary throughout the Church year, but particularly in this month, because she is our great model of discipleship and our great intercessor with Jesus her son.

The refrain to the old hymn states:

“O Mary, we crown thee with blossoms today, Queen  
of the Angels, Queen of the May!”

Let us crown Mary in our hearts with our own faithful discipleship in following Jesus her son, who invites all of us to fullness of life in him.

*Father Christopher House is the Rector-Pastor of the Cathedral and serves in various leadership roles within the diocesan curia, specifically Chancellor and Vicar Judicial.*

## Stewardship Activity

### Stewardship of Time & Talent

Time in prayer is a great practice for discerning your talents and what you may be able to share with the Parish!

### Stewardship of Treasure

Weekly Collections: April 28th & 29th

Envelopes: \$7,011.22

Loose: \$6,531.08

Maintenance: \$80.00

TOTAL: \$13,622.30

*Needed to operate weekly: \$15,907.89*

*Difference: \$2,285.59*

April EFT: \$18,486.10

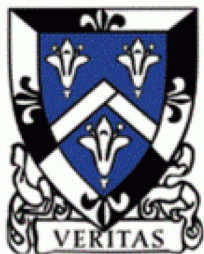
*These are recurring electronic donations over the month.*

## Parishioner News

We are adding a new section to the Weekly in the coming weeks. To celebrate our community and to get to know each other better, we are creating a section in the weekly that highlights parishioner news, prayer requests, and sacramental news to share.

Have some news you would like to share?  
Please email Katie Price at [kprice@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:kprice@cathedral.dio.org).





## Don't Be Nice; Be Excellent

*"Be excellent to each other"* is not only the catch-phrase of an 80s cult classic but also an excellent guide to life. And despite its dubious origin, there is wisdom contained in the memorable phrase, a wisdom of which we might need reminding.

Being excellent means much more than being polite or nice to each other. Although it certainly contains both politeness and pleasantness, there are times when politeness becomes an obstacle to the good and pleasantness a fruitless distraction from the bad, and sometimes excellence cannot be decorous.

Being excellent encompasses what is commonly called "tough love." Because love requires giving a child his shots. Love requires uncomfortably confronting a friend's self-destructive behavior. Love requires taking the car keys from an elderly relative. And in some cases, love demands unpleasantness, demands refusing superficial niceties. It calls for excellence, which means doing what is truly good for each other.

In a way, "be excellent to each other" is a consequence of Saint Thomas's definition of love: "to will the good of another." And thus, the Christian life proposes new forms of excellence, elaborated in the works of mercy. In one way, the memorable maxim recalls the work of admonishing the sinner. To be excellent to the sinner is to admonish him for his sin, at the

proper time and in a prudent manner, in order to lead him back to Christ. It also recalls the work of evangelization, the sharing of the life-giving message of forgiveness and redemption purchased by Jesus Christ for each and every person. Withholding the Gospel from someone, even if it's easier and nicer and politer, is leaving someone lost in the darkness without the Light of Life. And that's most un-excellent. Servant of God Dorothy Day, champion of the poor, says the same.

Together with the works of mercy, feeding, clothing and sheltering our brothers, we must indoctrinate. We must "give reason for the faith that is in us." Otherwise our religion is an opiate, for ourselves alone, for our comfort or for our individual safety or indifferent custom.

We cannot live alone. We cannot go to heaven alone. Otherwise, as Peguy said, God will say to us, "Where are the others?"

If we do not keep indoctrinating, we lose the vision. And if we lose the vision, we become merely philanthropists, doling out palliatives.

Don't dole out spiritual palliatives when you know the Divine Physician who freely gives the miracle cure. Don't be nice and polite at the expense of the good. "Be excellent to each other."

*This article was written by Br. Hyacinth Grubb, O.P., who entered the Order of Preachers in 2013. A Colorado native, he graduated from Columbia University where he studied Electrical Engineering. This article appeared in the Word on Fire blog, used with permission.*



## A Special Note from the Director of Music

Here's a great discipleship opportunity!

Do you like to sing? Would you be interested in singing in a group for one of the weekend masses? I would love

to hear from you.

If you come to mass on Sunday Morning, the Cathedral Choir is hoping to add more singers to its ranks. If you come to Saturday Mass or Sunday evening Mass, we are hoping to have start a choir for those masses, too!

If you are not sure if you are qualified for one of the groups, but are interested, please get in touch with me and I'll be happy to set up a time when you and I can meet and see if you might be a good addition to one of our choirs.

You can: Call me at the Cathedral. My extension is 132. Email me at [markcicmusic@gmail.com](mailto:markcicmusic@gmail.com).

Meet me in the choir loft after any mass that I'm playing.

Let's make music together.

*Mark E. Gifford, Director of music and Organist*







## The Surprising Power of Doing Acts of Mercy in Secret

Do acts of mercy in secret. Just do some good things that no one knows about. — Fr. Tom Hopko

There's a tension in the Gospel between Jesus' command to do good in public so others can see it and glorify God (Matt. 5:16) and the

command do good in secret so only God sees it (Matt. 6:2-5).

The resolution of this tension is to be found in the intention of the do-gooder:  
why do you do what you do?

For Jesus, the only authentic intention of the disciple is summed up in the twofold commandment: love of God and love of neighbor. Love, which is willing the good of neighbor and the glory of God, takes us out of ourselves, out of our proclivity toward wound-licking and naval-gazing, and reorients us toward God and neighbor. The music of love takes as its refrain the words Jesus spoke as He consecrated the bread and wine:

“...this is my Body which will be given up for you...my Blood...shed for you and for many...”

In those simple words is a revolution, as “my” is out-turned and placed in service to “you.” For those who dare to eat this Bread and drink this Cup, any and every claim to what is mine is immediately placed in service to the well-being of others and the glory of God (which is really saying the same thing). If I say this is “my body” or “my money” or “my home,” the Christian conscience obliges me at once to consider in what way God wishes me to rightly place those gifts I hold in my possession in service to the common good.

There's no mistake that we call the bread and wine, after they have been transformed under the force of Jesus' words “...for you...”, the Real Presence. *Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.*



Doing good for others in secret is a wonderful asceticism for disciplining our broken tendency to turn everything back on ourselves. This is especially true when we do secret good for those who do not do good to us (Matt. 5:46). The early Fathers often counseled fasting and praying for one's enemies without ever making it known. The frequent practice of secret mercies and kindnesses can also help prepare us for handling our public good deeds when they get praised. Not by mere protestations of pious humility — “No, really, it's all God” [btw: no it's not, it's cooperating with grace] — but by very naturally experiencing an inner gratitude that you were able to benefit someone else and so manifest the glory of the God who is love. The joy of praise is found in its acknowledgment that love is the true measure of all things.

My spiritual director of 25 years ago used to say to me, “If anyone praises you for this or that, remind yourself:

‘How much God must love them to give me these gifts.’ It's not about you. Gifts are ‘about you’ only inasmuch as they're about those they were given for.”

He continued, “The day that this thought naturally occurs to you when you are praised is the day you'll know you've tasted real humility.”

Still waiting.

A number of years ago some unknown person began paying for our utilities every month, and would send us gift cards in the mail to a local grocery store. We tried every way of finding out who they were to thank them, but we were never able to. One of my children said, “Makes me want to be a better person knowing there's someone like that out there.”

Yes. Glory to God, the hidden Giver of all gifts.

*Dr. Tom Neal presently serves as Academic Dean and Professor of Spiritual Theology at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, Louisiana and has a particular passion for exposing the unlimited potential of theology to offer the faithful a deeper sharing in the mind and heart of Jesus Christ. Tom received a Masters in Systematic Theology from Mount St. Mary's University and a PhD in Religion at Florida State University.*

# June 18 – 20, 2018 Nelson Center, Springfield, IL

Bishop Paprocki – The Holy Goalie  
Christopher & Richard Gomez – University of Illinois Illini Hockey

3 day camp  
where leaders  
are built,  
hockey is  
played,  
& faith is  
strengthened



Every child  
(ages 7-17)  
can attend  
through sibling  
discounts  
& scholarships



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## Sharing the Gospel

I would be really happy, if only I was ? rich ? popular ? better looking ? the boss. Those selfish wishes sound great, but they cannot give you true happiness inside. In today's Gospel, Jesus shares the three secrets to his complete happiness: (1) Jesus obeyed God; (2) Jesus knew God loved him; (3) Jesus loved other people enough to die for them. Wow. Jesus was completely happy, but he was not selfish at all. In fact, Jesus told his friends if they followed his loving example, they could be completely happy too. Follow Jesus to be filled with happiness from the inside out.

JN 15:9-17

## Let Us Pray

Lord,

God, on my own I am selfish. Thank you for loving me. Help me to obey you. Help me to love other people as much as Jesus does.

Amen.

### Puzzle

Find the heart that matches.



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### Mission for the Week

Read John 15:9-17 with your family. God loves you, and he wants you to be completely happy, but you need to let go of your selfishness. You can obey God and love others by sharing your time with them. You can show your love for God by sharing your money with others, too.

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Growing with the  
**GOSPEL**

My Church  
My Family and Me

John 15:9-17 ■ 6th Sunday of Easter

CYCLE B



### Read the Gospel and Color



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COLORING GRAPHIC: B056East6\_gg5.tif

Name \_\_\_\_\_

