

ISSUE NO. 52

19 AUGUST 2018



Cathedral WEEKLY

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

MARY AS MODEL | FR. CHRISTOPHER HOUSE
WHAT IS A SIGN FROM GOD? | ANN NAFFZIGER
HOW ST. MAXIMILIAN KOLBE LED PEOPLE INTO RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD | RICKY JONES

Cathedral WEEKLY

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MASS TIMES: SAT 4PM, SUN. 7AM, 10AM, 5PM
WEEKDAY MASSES: MON. thru FRI. 7AM, 5:15PM and SAT. 8AM
RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS): MON-FRI 4:15PM- 5PM, SAT. 9AM-10AM, 2:30PM-3:30PM, and SUN. 4PM-4:45PM

New to Cathedral?

Are you new to the Cathedral community? Are you interested in becoming Catholic? We would like to meet you! If you would like to join us formally, you can head to <https://spicathedral.org/new-member-registration-form/>. If you have any questions, please contact Katie Price at kprice@cathedral.dio.org.

Thank you!

We want to extend a very special thank you to those involved with the Annual CCCW Garage Sale. Thank you to the people who provided food for the CCCW volunteers during the week. Thank you to the CCCW volunteers and friends who offered the manpower behind the weekend. Thank you to our generous donors! We couldn't do this without you!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

Monday 20 August

7 AM - Mary Ann Midden (Cathedral Ushers)

5:15 PM - Otto Libby (Lou Ann Mack)

Tuesday 21 August

7 AM - Barb McGrath (Family & Friends)

5:15 PM - Gene DeRuntz (Theresa Harding)

Wednesday 22 August

7 AM -Becky Morgan (Larry & Bev Hoffman)

5:15 PM - Gene DeRuntz (Jim & Connie Wheeler)

Thursday 23 August

7 AM -Margaret Herman (Lou Ann Mack)

5:15 PM - Genevieve Bitschönauer (Barbara Bitschenauer)

Friday 24 August

7 AM -Barb McGrath (Lou Ann Mack)

5:15 PM - Kara Leigh Smith (Bev & Larry Hoffman)

Saturday 25 August

8 AM -Richard Micko (Ron & Cathy Boerke)

4 PM - Don Siddens (PJ. Ruth Staab and Family)

Sunday 26 August

7 AM -Mary Ann Midden (William Midden) 10 AM - For the People

5 PM - George J. Nicoud, Sr. (Tim & Judy Nicoud)

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Mary as Model

This Sunday the Church stands in between two wonderful liturgical commemorations of the Blessed Mother: the Solemnity of the Assumption and the Memorial of the Queenship of Mary. The belief that Mary was taken body and soul into heaven has been held by the faithful since the early years of the Church, but Pope Pius XII only

recently defined the dogma itself in 1950.

Tradition holds that Mary died in the presence of the Apostles except for St. Thomas. After the Apostles had placed Mary into her tomb, Thomas returned and wanted to look upon her face one last time. The tomb was opened, but Mary's body was not there, presumed by the Apostles to have been taken to heaven.

From earliest times, the Church has understood that, having lived a life of total discipleship that was free from any trace or stain of sin, the Lord Jesus commanded that the effects of death and decay would not defile Mary's body from which he had taken his own human nature.



While Mary was the recipient of a gift of redemptive grace from the moment of her conception, her own discipleship was not a passive reality. Throughout her entire life, Mary cooperated with the grace given to her by God.



She placed her total trust in God and that trust moved her to act. The same should be true for us.

We are called to place our trust each day in the goodness of God. If we truly trust in his promises, we should then be moved to active and intentional discipleship.

Mary's life was in no way easy.

She had to trust God and cooperate with his grace when the world around her would have advised her otherwise.



Her discipleship meant that she also had to share in the mystery of the Cross, but her faith was not confounded. Having lived a life of fidelity to God's will, Mary was taken to heaven and crowned Queen of Heaven and Earth. Where she has gone, we, her adopted children, hope to follow.

God has given us a wonderful model of discipleship in Mary.

Through her intercession may we experience an increase in faith to move us to act on the grace given us by God so that we may seek his will in all things. Finally, having persevered faithfully in this earthly life, may we join with Mary and all the saints in the praise of God forever in the heavenly kingdom.

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

STEWARDSHIP



What is a Sign from God?

There are many events, supernatural or otherwise, that happen in the Bible, which can loosely be termed "signs from God." Some appear in dreams, like the image of Jacob's ladder (Genesis 28:11-22).

Others happen during waking hours, as when God spoke to Moses from the burning bush (Exodus 3:1-15). Some, like those in the Gospel of John (One example — Jesus changing the water into wine at the wedding at Cana), are more often thought of as miracles, although the gospel writer used the term "signs." What they all have in common is that they were unexpected or extraordinary events that made someone stop and take notice of God's presence and work in the world.

They may have served to remind the people of a promise God had made (as in Jacob's dream). They may have served to offer hope and anticipation of the liberating work that God was about to do — as when God told Moses from the burning bush that he was preparing to liberate the Hebrew slaves in Egypt. Or they may have called the people's attention to the miraculous power of God in their midst in the person of Jesus.



Today, it is more often ordinary events that we interpret with extraordinary meaning that we take as signs from God. For example, we feel an unexplained nudging to attend one school over another, only to realize years later that we were "meant to be" at that particular college because that is where we met our future spouse. Or a friend's mother dies unexpectedly and we understand it as a sign that we should give attention to a painful relationship with one of our own parents. We miss a bus, which leads to an unexpected reunion with a long-lost friend.

The ways in which God is still speaking today are manifold. It takes ears to hear, openness to discern what God might be inviting us to, and the willingness to look for meaning in what might seem like random events in our lives. Just as in the Bible it sometimes took more than one person to discern the meaning of God's signs, having conversations with good friends and trusted spiritual mentors helps as well.

Ann Naffziger has written articles on spirituality and theology for various national magazines and edited several books on the Hebrew Scriptures. This article was published with permission from Busted Halo and the original link is: <https://bustedhalo.com/ministry-resources/what-is-a-sign-from-god>

Stewardship Activity

Stewardship of Time

As your kids or grandkids head back to school, start a new tradition through prayer. Pray before they head out the door, pray when you pick them up, or pray a decade for them during the day!

Stewardship of Talent

Each of us has something to share, if you are interested in joining a ministry or starting one up at the Cathedral, please contact Katie Price, kprice@cathedral.dio.org

Stewardship of Treasure- August 11th & 12th

Envelopes:	\$ 4,752.00
Loose:	\$ 4,142.51
Maintenance:	\$105.00

TOTAL: \$ 8,999.51

Needed to operate weekly: \$15,907.89

Difference: \$6,908.38

July EFT (\$17,586.10)

Cathedral Choir Try It Night

Am I good enough?

That question is often asked when someone talks to me about singing in the Cathedral Choir.

Well, now's the time to find out!

Join members of the choir on Wednesday, August 29th and sing with us.

We'll meet from 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM and show you the music we sing, the way we rehearse and give you the chance to sing along.

Cathedral Choir is open to singers who are incoming freshmen in High School and up.

To reserve your spot, please contact Mark Gifford, Choir Director either by calling the Cathedral or writing to: markcicmusic@gmail.com.



How St. Maximilian Kolbe Led People into Relationship with God

Accepting fully the shared mission as a member of the Body of Christ—that you are called just like the original eleven Apostles to

“make disciples of all nations”
(Mt 28:18)

—you know and believe that you are sent out into the world to bring people to Jesus, or even more so to bring Jesus to the people. Yet this mission can often seem overwhelming.

Facing the daunting task of sharing your faith in Christ, especially in our overly secularized modern culture, is too often perceived as mission impossible. And although at times I share this sentiment, I am reassured of the possibility—and dare I say assurance—of evangelical success by the example of the holy men and women who have gone before us and who share this mission with us even from heaven.

St. Maximilian Kolbe is a man most often remembered for his heroic death at the hands of the Nazis, but even before this culminating moment he had long before laid down his life for God. As a Conventual Franciscan he founded an impressive friary that ended up being one of the largest of its time, which took up the task of publishing a newspaper called “The Knight,” which became recognized as one of the greatest in his home of Poland, and soon around the world as far as Japan.

Reading the first person accounts of people who knew and loved him, it is easy to see why he was so quick to offer his life for a stranger in a concentration camp. For he had already given himself completely over to the perfect will of God, taking up wholeheartedly the mission of the Apostles. Yet he approached it in a way that wasn't off-putting as many of we Christians tend to be.

“I never heard him preach, knew him as a confessor, or anything like that. I came to visit him whenever I was at Teresín, spending three or four hours at a time with him because he attracted me. He radiated goodness. Everyone, I think, felt happy just to be with him, no matter what one was doing. One felt he very rarely thought of

himself – that he was always making renunciations. Nevertheless, he wasn't a sad, but a cheerful, man. I can't even tell you what his title was – whether he was editor, superior, or what. He wasn't trying to be impressive. If a man ever existed ... who had no prior, that was Father Maximilian. He was just like a child, and this appealed to me. We just used to play, eat, whatever, but he had a great influence on me. His friendship was a benediction.”

(Prince Drucki-Lubecki in “A Man for Others”)

Those are the words of a man deeply impacted by his friendship with St. Maximilian Kolbe. He was attracted to him because “he radiated goodness.” How many of our friends can say that about

us? Yet it's true that those souls filled with God are people who reflect his light on the world. And we are attracted to that holiness—not necessarily the solemn, silent saint with his eyes always downcast, but the joyful, humble holiness as described here. This is the kind of person you just want to be around, the kind of person deep down that we all want to be. In fact, it's the kind of person that God has created us to be, that he challenges us to be.

To live in intimate relationship with God, to be a person of deep faith, and to share that faith in a way that is natural, organic, and personal is the best way to fulfill the mission that Jesus entrusted upon us.

“Father Maximilian was a wonderful salesman for Christianity because he never pushed it. He never criticized or challenged any other religion. People would come and see us. They saw our life. They asked whatever questions they wanted and he answered—that was all. Like a good salesman, he let them see the product, gave them the information they asked for, and then left them strictly free to make up their own minds.”
(John Dągīs in “A Man for Others”)

Continued on p. 6

p. 5 continued...

Think of it less as telling people about Jesus, and more as showing people Jesus in yourself, in who you are and how you live. Your lived example will be more convincing, more inviting, more attractive, and in the end more challenging to others as you invite them through your actions to get to know God. To employ the image used above: a good salesman doesn't just sell a product; he believes in his product, he uses the product himself, and he can't live without his product, which is why he wants to share this product with others.

A Christian who is living the mission of a disciple is one who believes in Jesus, who knows Jesus, who can't live without Jesus, and who wants to share with others the love, peace, and joy that he has experienced as a result of living in relationship with Jesus.

Customer testimonials are the best way to sell a product, just as personal example is the best way to lead people to Christ. Tell them who God is and what he has done in your life, but even more importantly, show them who God is and what he has done in your life.



My favorite prayer to say before sharing my faith with someone comes from Psalm 51 in the Christian Community Bible – Catholic Pastoral Edition. I share it here in the hope that it might serve you as well as it has served me.

“Renew my joy in your salvation. Sustain in me a willing spirit. I will teach the wicked your ways, that they may return to you. Save me from death, O God, my saving God, that my tongue may proclaim your healing power. O Lord, open my lips that my mouth may proclaim your praises.”
(Psalm 51:14-17)

*A convert to Catholicism, Ricky came into the Church in 2008 and has been on fire ever since, having served as a catechist and parish leader. He blogs about faith at LeadersThatFollow.com. He is the author of *Seven Lessons in Leading People to Life Change*, a practical guide for living your faith, leading people into relationship with God, and building up the Church. Together with his wife Johana he founded The ROCK Association a 501(c)3 non-profit organization that has as its mission providing resources, training, and the construction of buildings for the purposes of faith formation. They are currently building a convent in Tanzania, but they make their home in sunny Los Angeles, California with their two young boys.*

Everyday Stewardship

We can easily feel obligated to attend a party, wedding, or other event that we find ourselves invited to as a guest. If we want to go, then we get dressed up and rush off with anticipation of fun and good times with friends. If we dread going, we get ourselves together slowly and arrive late, hoping that the event will not be so long and we can then get on with the rest of our day. The difference in our feelings may have to do with many aspects: the host, the attendees, the reason for celebration, or even the venue. Either way, the invitation has been given to us because someone feels that our presence would make a positive difference. Our response is entirely our own. We decide how we will answer the invitation.

Every Sunday, every day in fact, you and I have received an invitation to a banquet more celebratory and grander than any wedding or birthday party. The host is actually Jesus Christ himself, and he has prepared a feast that promises to satisfy. He has prepared for this event by giving all he has to give. No host has ever been more gracious. His hope is that you will be happy to attend for your presence does make a tremendous difference. Would he invite you if attending made no difference at all? Will you RSVP with a sense of joy and anticipation? If this is just another invite that obligates you and you approach the event with indifference, the host wonders if you really comprehend what he went through to make this meal possible. He also wonders if you really understand what is truly being celebrated.

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

Scripture Questions

First Reading: PRV 9:1-6

The Jewish sage of Proverbs uses domestic images to invite believers to participate in divine wisdom. What do you find attractive about obtaining wisdom?

Second Reading: EPH 5:15-20

Paul defines wisdom to the Ephesians as understanding "what is the will of the Lord." What do you understand as the will of the Lord?

Gospel Reading: JN 6:51-58

The Bread of Life Discourse reaches its zenith in Jesus saying, "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you." How is this assertion central to our Catholic belief in the Eucharist?

Sharing the Gospel

Would you like to live forever? Jesus would like you to. God sent Jesus so that one day we could live with him forever in heaven. Remember how the Israelites waited every morning for manna? Do you remember they got so hungry they cried? Well, Jesus wants us to wake up every morning, excited to meet him and talk to him. When we read God's word, and when we pray every day, he wants to come inside our hearts. He wants to be the one to fill every one of our needs.

JN 6:51-58

Let Us Pray

Lord,

Dear God, help me to keep coming back for more of Jesus every single day.

Amen.



Word Unscramble

Unscramble words from today's Gospel reading:

bread	world	life
heaven	eat	true
people	drink	food

edrba	<u>b</u> <u>r</u> <u>e</u> <u>a</u> <u>d</u>
lfei	— — — —
wldor	— — — — —
ppleeo	— — — — —
dnkri	— — — — —
fodo	— — — —
hevena	— — — — —
tuer	— — — —
eta	— — —

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Mission for the Week

Ask your parents if you can have a snack of grape juice and bread today. Talk about how the Israelites came to get manna every morning. How can you as a family make Jesus a part of your day, every day?

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Growing with the
GOSPEL

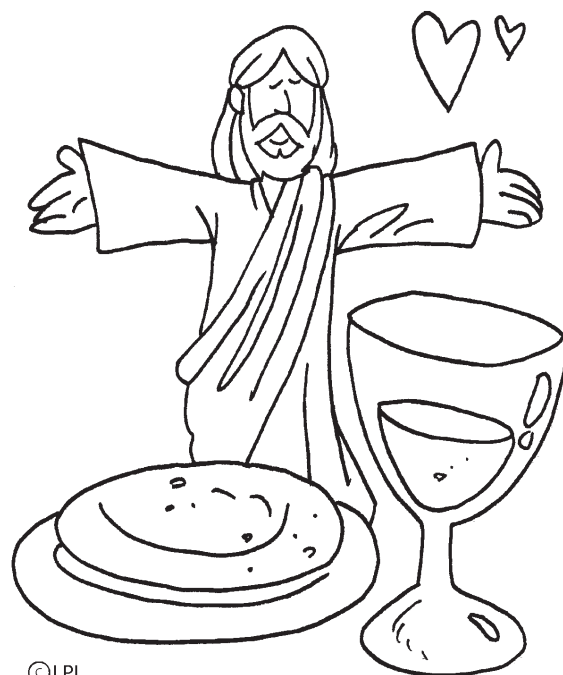
My Church,
My Family and Me

John 6:51-58 ■ 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

CYCLE B



Read the Gospel and Color



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Name _____

