

ISSUE NO. 55

9 SEPTEMBER 2018



Cathedral

WEEKLY

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

STRIVING FOR SAINTHOOD | FR. CHRISTOPHER HOUSE
THE CASE FOR RADICAL HOSPITALITY AT CATHEDRAL | KATIE PRICE
JOIN US IN LITURGICAL MINISTRY | VICKI COMPTON
FALL FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS AT CATHEDRAL

Cathedral WEEKLY

THE MOST REVEREND THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
NINTH BISHOP
OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS

THE VERY REVEREND CHRISTOPHER A. HOUSE, V.J.
RECTOR

THE REVEREND WAYNE STOCK
PAROCHIAL VICAR

THE REVEREND MICHAEL FRIEDEL
PAROCHIAL VICAR

DEACON IRVIN LAWRENCE SMITH

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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

Diocesan Victim Assistance is available. For the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, please contact: Patricia Kornfield at 321-1155.

Alpha Celebration!

If you have been wondering what has been happening here every Wednesday night with the Alpha program, now is your turn to come check it out! Next Wednesday, September 12th at 6:30PM in the Cathedral Atrium, we are hosting an Alpha celebration for all who are interested in learning more. Come with a friend!

Interested in Becoming Catholic?

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults is a process developed by the Catholic Church for prospective converts to Catholicism. Through weekly sessions, candidates can have their questions answered while gradually being introduced to Catholic beliefs and practices. Deacon Scott Keen, our facilitator, will be available after all Masses on Sept 8-9 and 15-16 to answer your questions, or call the Cathedral office at 522-3342.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

Monday 10 September

7 AM - Gene DeRuntz (Mary Ann Jackson)

5:15 PM - Mrs. Mary Ratna Kumari Pandity (Suseela Pandity)

Tuesday 11 September

7 AM -Special Intention (Carl & Lou Ann Corrigan)

5:15 PM - Mary Ann Midden (William Midden)

Wednesday 12 September

7 AM -Melvin Wilmsmeyer (Marie Loftus)

5:15 PM - Mrs. Mary Ratna Kumari Pandity (Suseela Pandity)

Thursday 13 September

7 AM - Gene DeRuntz (Joe & Susan Burmeister)

5:15 PM - Diana Runge (Jim & Sandy Bloom)

Friday 14 September

7 AM -Richard Logan (Marty & Helen Dooley)

5:15 PM - Charles Pierceall (Linda Pierceall)

Saturday 15 September

8 AM -Gene DeRuntz (JoAnn Barnett)

4 PM - Josephine Beagles (The Beagles Family)

Sunday 16 September

7 AM -For the People

10 AM - George Gifford (Rose Marie Bates) 5 PM - John & Edith Bakalar (John Busciacco)

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



Striving for Sainthood

The other day I came across this comment on Catholic social media:

"We often think saintliness is the product of the right circumstances. If only we had more time, we would pray. If only there were no annoying people, we could love others. If only nothing bad ever happened, we might be thankful and patient. But holiness isn't a matter of perfect circumstances. They don't exist. Holiness is what we do with imperfect circumstances."

The problem of evil, inside and outside of the Church, is nothing new. The problem is that we become complacent in the struggle. Like a war that drags on and on, there are times when there are lulls in the fighting and the danger of being caught off guard becomes very real. We may be tempted at times to look for the lulls, to desire a misunderstood notion of peace, namely a lack of hostility or struggle, but for the Christian, this can never be the case.

In Matthew's Gospel, the Lord Jesus states: *from the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent are taking it by force* (Matthew 11:12). Evil is at work in the world and it seeks to do two things. First, it seeks to prevent souls from coming to Christ and entering into his kingdom, or, second, it seeks to separate those souls from Christ who have already chosen him and life in the kingdom. Each of us individually is called to respond to the problem of evil. We need to answer the call to holiness. We need to answer the call to become saints.

Now that sounds like a tall order, but it isn't. Let's take a moment and look at the big "S" saints, those who have been formally canonized by the Church. Why were they canonized? It was not because they were miracle workers (God works the miracles) or because of the pious legends associated with them, but rather because of the quality of their lives. For those who did not suffer martyrdom, before the Church ever looks at purported miracles, it first looks into the life of a candidate for what is termed heroic

virtue. This type of virtue is not to be confused with perfection. Heroic virtue is the result of an imperfect soul living this life in cooperation with the grace of God. It is living defiantly for Christ in the face of evil and the temptation to be absorbed by self-interest.

The Saints have not been declared so by any unique merit of their own, but because they allowed the grace of God to be living and effective in them, by living ordinary lives in extraordinary ways, many times in adversity. The same graces that were offered to them are offered to each of us. Like the saints, we have to want the grace of God, to cooperate with it, and, at times to seek that grace out. If we are simply waiting for the perfection of times and circumstances, then we are going to have to wait until the Lord's return when he will make all things new. We cannot wish dark times away. We are called to act, to be light that scatters the darkness. The world needs our witness. The world needs us to be striving to become saints.

In the great novel *The Fellowship of the Ring*, part of *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy by J. R. R. Tolkien, an unlikely character named Frodo is given a tremendous and unenviable task of having to destroy a ring associated with a great and evil power. To destroy the ring will take great effort and sacrifice on his part. He laments this task to his friend and guide named Gandalf.

Frodo states: "I wish the Ring had never come to me. I wish none of this had happened." Gandalf replies: "So do all who live to see such times, but that is not for them to decide. All we have to decide is what to do with the time that is given to

us. There are other forces at work in this world, Frodo, besides the will of evil."

God's grace is present in the world and he wants that grace to be manifested and working in our lives each day. When we want that too, then evil is pushed back, darkness recedes, and the Kingdom is advanced. Times are not perfect, life is challenging, but the Kingdom is worth fighting for. Answer the call to become a saint, not waiting until heaven, but striving for it here and now.

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



Stewardship Activity

Stewardship of Time

Take some time with the Jesus Prayer, "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner!" Learn more from this link to a video from Matt Fraud: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=4Qvsg-R4WMU

Stewardship of Talent

Are you interested in serving your Parish and drawing closer to Jesus at the same time? Join us for any or all of these trainings: Readers Sept. 13th 10:00AM or 7:00PM; Communion Ministers, Sept. 17th 10:00AM or 7:00PM; Ushers/Greeters, Sept. 24th 10:00AM or 7:00PM.

Stewardship of Treasure- September 1st & 2nd

Envelopes:	\$ 6,400.00
Loose:	\$ 3,495.67
Maintenance:	\$ 930.00

TOTAL: \$ 10,825.67

Needed to operate weekly: \$15,907.89

Difference: \$ 5,082.22

August EFT (\$16,984.00)

Sacraments

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Gloria Casey and for her family and friends who have laid her to rest this past week.

We have had no recent Baptisms, or Marriages. Looking for information? Please contact the Parish Offices at 522-3342.

Scripture Questions

First Reading: IS 35:4-7A

Nearly 800 years before the birth of Christ, Isaiah prophesied that the Lord would come to save and heal his people. We hear Jesus fulfilling this prophecy in today's Gospel reading. Why do you think God waited 800 years to fulfill Isaiah's prophecy?

Second Reading: JAS 2:1-5

James warns of the dangers of showing partiality for the rich over the poor. Why does this remain a challenge for believers even today?

Gospel Reading: MK 7:31-37

Why do you think Jesus ordered the people who witnessed his healing of the deaf man with a speech impediment not to tell anyone?



The Case for Radical Hospitality at the Cathedral

Many of you may have witnessed quite a setup on Wednesday evenings after you come out of daily Mass. We have the linens out, pitchers of

cool refreshments, a team busily working to set out quite a spread of food, and usually me struggling to get technology perfect. If you were to stay for the Alpha session you would witness even more hospitality. This program has introduced many to the loving and welcoming embrace of Jesus Christ through open discussion and dialogue. We have had Catholics, non-Catholics, searchers and seekers of all different walks of life. Particularly, we have served guests that others, like in the Second Reading this week, may have shut out. This is radical hospitality, and there is a case to be made for why Cathedral should be the epicenter of radical hospitality.

At many parishes, Alpha consists primarily of a crowd of parishioners. What has been surprising at Cathedral is that while we do serve many parishioners, some of the most engaged participants have been those whom we have never met before. I won't say names, but at least two tables I have led have provided

me the opportunity to step out of my comfort zone and to witness exactly what the Second Reading is calling us to do this week.

James 2: 1-5 is short and to the point. How are we to consider ourselves intentional disciples if we only surround ourselves with what is comfortable or known? How many times did Jesus perform miracles to outsiders, lay hands on the "unclean," or provide ministry to the outcasts? The answer: All. The. Time. This is radical hospitality, not the typical donuts after Mass or the fancy entryway and kiosk. While both are nice, neither are radical.



Cathedral is just the place to be radical. We share Communion each week with about 50% guests in our pews. We serve the community at large as they ring the doorbell at the church offices looking for help. We answer calls of searchers and seekers who don't know how they got here, but who know something is calling them to Jesus. We are a hotspot for radical hospitality. Where do we begin? Well, start today in the pews. Notice anyone unfamiliar around you? Reach out a hand and say "Hello," or send over a friendly smile. Ultimately, radical hospitality starts with each of us—so why not start now?

Katie Price is the Coordinator for Stewardship at the Cathedral. She can be contacted by calling the Parish Offices or emailing her directly at kprice@cathedral.dio.org.



Join Us in Liturgical Ministry

When Father House introduced me to the parish, he mentioned that one of my responsibilities is to help the parish implement the goals of the recent synod. This is a responsibility I gratefully embrace. Despite my great love for the Missions and the privilege it was to serve as diocesan mission director for over 15 years, helping to build a community of fervent and intentional disciples is the ministry I have been longing to do for the past several years. And honestly, the Cathedral parish is the place I most want to do this. I am excited about the unique mix of parishioners and visitors that makes up this community. Because we have so many visitors with us, especially at daily and weekend Masses, we have a special opportunity for evangelization and hospitality. The Cathedral has always been known for excellent Liturgy, and we are going to make sure it continues to be all that it can be to provide people with a transcendent experience of God in the midst of a welcoming community.

This week we will begin a series of formation opportunities for all liturgical ministers. This is not happening because ministers are not doing a great job already. Rather, the parish has a responsibility to continue to form all members, especially those who participate in liturgical ministries. This is also an opportunity for new people to volunteer and deepen their own discipleship by serving the parish in a new way. Finally, the parish will be adopting a software system to schedule liturgical ministers. The software will allow ministers to select the dates and times they are available to create a balanced and conflict-free schedule across multiple ministries. The formation sessions will include information on the new software system which all ministers will need to be able to access. All current ushers, greeters, lectors and ministers of holy communion who would like to continue to volunteer are encouraged to attend. Additional ministers, men and women of all ages, are needed and welcome! All formation/training sessions will be held in the school hall at 10:00am and in the atrium at 7:00pm on their scheduled dates.



movements. Service in one of the Liturgical (Mass) ministries listed below is an excellent way to serve God and His people. Please prayerfully consider joining one of these ministries.

Ministers of Hospitality

Ministers of Hospitality provide a welcoming atmosphere and service to the needs of all who enter the Cathedral. They serve at weekend and special occasion Masses. Men and women, singles, couples, and families are needed! A minister of hospitality needs a warm smile and pleasant disposition, and the ability to work as a team player.

Greeters

Greeters are posted at the doors of the Church to provide a first welcome to all who enter. Ushers also welcome parishioners and visitors to the Cathedral. They provide assistance in seating, collect and take up the gifts, direct the communion procession, hand out bulletins, and generally attend to the needs and questions of the congregation. Formation session Monday, Sept. 24, 10:00am and 7:00pm.

Lectors

Lectors proclaim the Word of the Lord to the assembly at Mass and other liturgies. If you have a love for God's word and the willingness to learn to proclaim it effectively, please consider volunteering for this ministry. Lectors must be confirmed Catholics, 16 years or older. Formation session Thursday, Sept. 13, 10:00am and 7:00pm.

Extraordinary Ministers

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion assist with the distribution of the Body and Blood of Christ during Mass. No experience is necessary. Participation is open to fully initiated (Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist), practicing Catholics. Formation session Monday, Sept. 17, 10:00am and 7:00pm.

Spiritual and practical formation is provided for all Liturgical ministers, including how to manage their schedule using a new parish software system. Formation sessions will be repeated in October. We hope you will join us!

Vicki Compton is the new Coordinator of Faith Formation and Mission at the Cathedral. She can be contacted for more information by calling the Parish Offices or reaching out via email at vcompton@cathedral.dio.org.

As a worshipping community we are all called to actively participate in our liturgies through song, prayer, silence, and ritual

Fall Faith Formation Programs at Cathedral

We are excited to announce a series of faith formation programs at the Cathedral this fall! Please bring a friend and join us for any or all of these formative programs. All are welcome and we will do our best to provide light hospitality. If you have any questions, please contact Katie Price at kprice@cathedral.dio.org.

Book Study

Facilitated by parishioner Mary Francis and open to all, the book study group will choose a book on saints, spirituality, prayer, Church teaching, or something else to read and discuss. Bring your book suggestions and a snack to share if you like.
Cathedral School Hall, Wednesdays beginning September 19, 6:30-8:00pm

Bible Study

With men and women of Cathedral parish on the first and third Tuesday of the month beginning on September 18. Facilitated by parishioner Larry Travis.
Cathedral parish library, 1st and 3rd Tuesdays beginning September 18, 6:15-7:45pm

Catholicism Series

Bishop Robert Barron journeys around the world and deep into faith to teach us what Catholics believe and why. This video and discussion program uses the spiritual and artistic treasures of the Faith to illuminate the key teachings of the Church. Facilitated by Vicki Compton.
*School Hall, Tuesday mornings
September 18-November 20, 10:00-11:30am*

Stewardship Thoughts: Recognize God in Your Ordinary Moments

I love watching replays of great sports highlights. Sometimes you see something so extraordinary that you tell others they have to see it to believe it. The one-handed catch, the in-the-park home run, and the photo finish are all examples of these types of moments. They are amazing feats that boggle the mind.

I wonder how many people in biblical times saw Jesus perform miracles and told others they wouldn't have believed it unless they saw it with their own eyes. Of course, we believe the stories of his miracles, and we didn't see them in person. We do believe them, don't we?

There is no television program that features replays of the actual miracles Jesus performed 2,000 years ago. However, there are miracles every day for the world to see. Many of those come

The Mystery of God: Who God Is and Why He Matters

Join Father House for a DVD presentation by Bishop Robert Barron followed by discussion. This series will explore the mystery of the Triune God as understood in the Church's Tradition and taught by such individuals as St. Augustine, St. Thomas Aquinas, and Pope Benedict XVI.
Cathedral Atrium, Tuesdays September 25th and October 2nd & 9th, 7:00pm

Festival Choir Concert

Choirs from throughout the diocese will come together for a musical celebration of the 90th anniversary of the Cathedral.
Cathedral, Saturday, October 13, 7:00pm

Priest, Prophet, and King

The three-fold ministry in which all of the baptized share comes from Jesus himself as Priest, Prophet, and King. Father House will present this DVD series by Bishop Robert Barron that explores who Jesus Christ is as God-made-man and Savior of the world.
Cathedral Atrium, Tuesdays October 23rd, 30th, & November 6th, 7:00pm

The Last Things

As the Church year comes to an end and the faithful are reminded to turn their attention to the Second Coming of Christ, Father Stock will explore the concept of the Four Last Things as taught by the Church: Death, Judgment, Heaven, and Hell.
Cathedral Atrium, Mondays November 19th & 26th, 7:00pm

about by allowing God to work through us. People are waiting to be healed and fed, and mountains are waiting to be moved. There might not be a replay for these miracles either. However, people will be amazed by the power of God. Jesus said we could do these things if we had faith. Blessed are those who believe but who have not seen. Furthermore, blessed are those who perform great works with God so that others may see.

--Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS



Sharing the Gospel

Imagine what it would be like to be deaf and unable to hear music, voices or anything. In today's Gospel reading, Jesus did something amazing. Jesus healed a deaf man, so that for the first time he could hear and talk clearly. What would you listen to? What would you say?

MK 7:31-37

Let Us Pray

Lord,

You are so amazing. Thank you for healing the deaf man. Help me to use my ears and my voice to praise you. Help me to be a witness to your message here on earth.

Amen.

Word Search

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

GALILEE
DEAF
TALK

TOUCH
FINGERS
EARS

SPIT
TONGUE
AMAZED

O D L A D H M A C D
F T O N G U E R O G
N A D W A B G I S N
H L I N L M D E A F
J K S P I T S A U I
L E O H L V I R E N
A M A Z E D K S O G
W H F B E O B T I E
E L T O U C H M L R
T M N G S W I E K S

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Mission for the Week

Go to the library and find out how to say "Jesus loves you" in sign language. On the way home, pretend you cannot hear or speak.

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Growing with the
GOSPEL



Mark 7:31-37 ■ 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

CYCLE B



Read the Gospel and Color



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Name _____