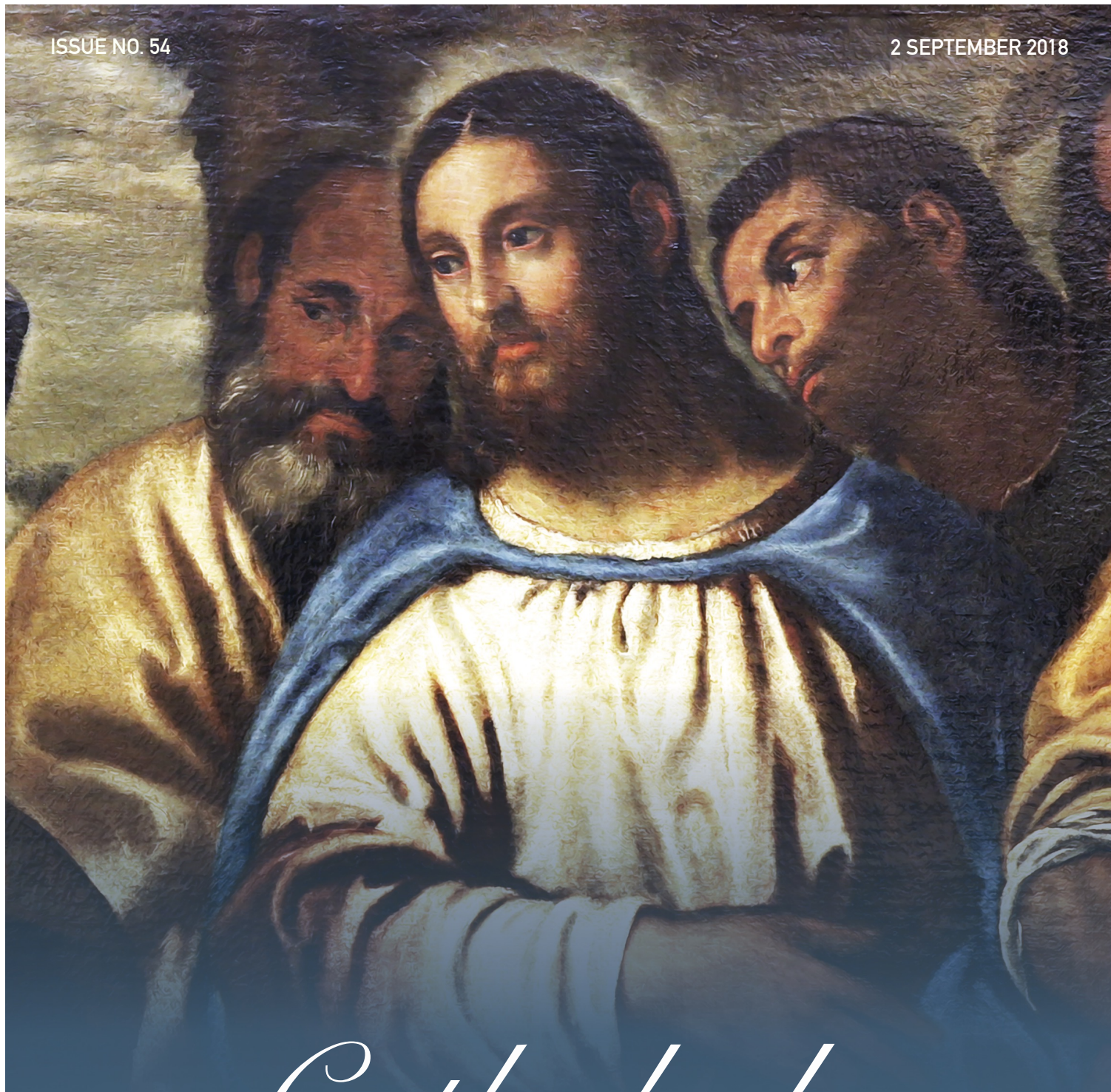


ISSUE NO. 54

2 SEPTEMBER 2018



# *Cathedral* WEEKLY

## TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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FOOTBALL, THE SABBATH, AND OUR SUNDAY SHRINE | CHRIS HAZELL  
POWERFUL PRAYER | KATIE PRICE  
ASSENT OF THE DOMESTIC CHURCH | JARED ZIMMERER

# Cathedral WEEKLY

THE MOST REVEREND THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI  
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THE VERY REVEREND CHRISTOPHER A. HOUSE, V.J.  
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[SPICATHEDRAL.ORG](http://SPICATHEDRAL.ORG)

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.

## Happy Labor Day!

We hope you have a safe Labor Day weekend with family and friends. Please note that there is ONLY the 7AM Mass on Monday and NO Confessions or 5:15PM Mass. The Parish Offices will also be closed on Monday, September 3rd.

## Parish School of Religion

We are excited to begin registration for the Parish School of Religion program (PSR). After Masses this weekend please stop by the PSR registration table for more information. We are introducing a new way to register online! Go to: <https://spicathedral.org/parish-school-of-religion/>.

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

### Monday 3 September

7 AM -Russell Yanero (Bridgett Goett) 5:15 PM - NO MASS/NO CONFESSIONS

### Tuesday 4 September

7 AM -Barb McGrath (Family & Friends) 5:15 PM - Helen McCarthy (Family)

### Wednesday 5 September

7 AM - John Montgomery (John Busciacco) 5:15 PM - Gene DeRuntz (Mike & Mary DeRuntz & Family)

### Thursday 6 September

7 AM -Melvin Wilmsmeyer (Norma Lesko) 5:15 PM - Gene DeRuntz (Betty & Bob Stegmeier)

### Friday 7 September

7 AM -Paul & Marian Crowley (Celeste Crowley) 5:15 PM - Francis Schwarzkopf (John & Sandra Measki)

### Saturday 8 September

8 AM - Tina Howard (Phil & Joan LaRose) 4 PM - For the People

### Sunday 9 September

7 AM -Herbert & Hildegard Rader (Bev & Larry Hoffman) 10 AM - Charles & Mercedes Nesbitt (Kathy Frank)  
5 PM - Catherine Kelly (Family)

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





## Football, the Sabbath, and Our Sunday Shrine

As football season comes to its long-anticipated start, it seems the nation has been cast into a frenzy of excitement. I can't recall the number of times I've heard, "It's finally football season again!" and "Thank God for Sundays!" in some form or another. And yes, I agree. I

love football (especially college football), and I'm glad it's back.

A few years ago college football meant everything to me. I remember late nights in my dorm room, my tired eyes lit up by the pale flicker of my computer, where I unremittably combed various blogs and sites breaking down the upcoming season: everything from the star rankings of recent recruits to the particular strengths and weaknesses of our secondary. I obsessed over it. And since my school fielded a relatively mediocre team when I was in college, it was beyond painful to watch. Before every year I envisioned my team raising the BCS trophy like a king his scepter, garnering the nation's admiration and respect. And there I would be, amidst a sea of other Bruin faithful celebrating the win in ecstasy—it would validate our existence as a school, and in some way, my identity as a man. Say what you will about my character, my football team is a winner.



I recall one Saturday morning in December tailgating before a rivalry game at USC. Every year this game cast an all-encompassing sense of anticipation and exhilaration. Bursting with eagerness, I couldn't sleep the night before (it was reminiscent of my eight year old self before a day at Disneyland). We set up camp at 7am for a 12:30pm game on campus, enjoying all of the festive fair that accompanies a tailgate: grilled carne asada, charred hot dogs, a variety of chips and lukewarm Bud Lights. The campus was electric, and as the game neared a growing sense of emotion seemed to endlessly crescendo. Clad in "Powderkeg blue," about thirty minutes before the game, we set forth through enemy woods to the stadium. Chanting, taunting, clapping and heckling accompanied our arrogant strut through campus—all pretty standard. I recall near the end of our arduous journey getting into a man's face—a fan who admittedly had three inches and sixty pounds on me—and yelling with full

might. In my fit of sports-induced hysteria I became unreasonable, illogical and stupid. I was ready to fight this man. Why? Because he didn't like the same football team I did. And so as my friends pulled me back from the incipient confrontation, I continued to hurl taunts toward a faceless crowd in red.

Looking back on it now, it's obvious that I idolized the sport. It provided me with certain things that I wanted: a sense of belonging, an end goal to root for, something to occupy my idle time, an enjoyable escape.

I still think sports can provide these things, and they're a great gift to be enjoyed by all means. I'm still a huge college football fan, as evidenced by my continued tendency to yell at the T.V.

and pace nervously in front of it on 3rd and long. But at least in my case, I worshiped it. I allowed the game to influence me to an unhealthy degree. My moods and feelings were fettered to the outcome of a game. If we won, especially a game we weren't expected to, there was a great sense of joy and thrill. If we lost, a dark cloud of agitation and deep disappointment plagued me.

Our stadiums have become our shrines. It's hardly surprising that football games fall on Sunday (in addition to Saturdays, Thursdays and Mondays), subtly reflecting what our country worships today. According to the NFL, the average NFL game received 17.6 million viewers,

and 205 million Americans watched at least one game last year. Our Sabbath day has morphed into a twelve-hour stint of binge watching, especially with the recent popularity of fantasy football.

If we're busy giving all of our time and selves to this sport, then how can we fulfill the role God calls us to fulfill?

We're called to live fruitful lives, and to invest our gifts and time into building his kingdom. On Sundays, are we setting aside time to reach out to our loved ones, be present with our families, spend time with friends in a spirit of rest, serve those in need, or, especially, take time for quiet reflection and communion with God?

**Continued on p. 6...**

# STEWARDSHIP



## Stewardship Activity

### Stewardship of Time

It is the start of a new school year for many, and hopefully that leads us to thinking of ways we can start anew to grow closer to Jesus. This week, consider starting a prayer journal. Here is a link to an article from Busted Halo on starting a prayer journal: <https://bustedhalo.com/ministry-resources/start-prayer-journal>

### Stewardship of Talent

Have you shared your ministry interest with Cathedral staff? Have an idea? Email Katie Price with your ministry inquiry or to discuss your idea at [kprice@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:kprice@cathedral.dio.org)

### Stewardship of Treasure- August 25th & 26th

Envelopes: \$ 4,333.00  
Loose: \$ 2,994.14  
Maintenance: \$ 5.00

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TOTAL: \$ 7, 332.14

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

***Difference: \$ 8,575.75***

July EFT (\$17,586.10)

## Sacraments

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

## Scripture Questions

First Reading: DT 4:1-2, 6-8

The Book of Deuteronomy contains a series of speeches that Moses delivered to the Israelites prior to their entry into the Promised Land. In today's speech, Moses emphasizes the importance of carefully observing the Lord's commandments as key to being a great nation. Why do you think believers often fall short of following God's laws?

Second Reading: JAS 1:17-18, 21B-22, 27

The letter of James is a prime example of early Christian wisdom literature. What advice does James offer in regard to practicing one's faith?

Gospel Reading: MK 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

The Pharisees and scribes, concerned about Jewish purity laws, learn a lesson today from Jesus about where true defilement resides -- within people's hearts. How do you work at being clean of heart?



## Powerful Prayer

I have been hesitant to dive into the conversation surrounding the latest scandals, but working to promote good stewardship and discipleship leads me to many Catholics who question why. The questions I have received include:

"How can I support a church with this type of scandal?": "Why are we asked to practice good stewardship when others clearly have not?": and the most common, "What happens now?" Personally, I too am upset, confused, disappointed and fooled. I had the opportunity to meet and sit with one of the accused at a Catholic Awards conference, and yes, this man was being honored. Looking back at that experience, I am left feeling fooled for having thought this was a man of God, a Shepherd, a model for Christian discipleship.

I think we have all asked the question recently, "What now?" It becomes too easy in these situations to jump to conclusions or make rash judgements without due diligence. Many, including the Pope, have advocated for a time of repentance and prayer. The most important tool we have in our "stewardship toolkit," as I often call it, is the power of prayer. Drawing closer to our relationship with Jesus through prayer provides comfort and clarity. Whether you are in a time of hardship or profound joy, fully

committing to the act of prayer and opening your heart to how God is calling you is one of the greatest gifts we can receive. In conversations with some of my colleagues and friends, we discussed how our prayer is needed now more than ever. We, the faithful and committed, are needed to help heal, strengthen, and respond to these challenges through our collective prayer.



Prayer during this time isn't a radical suggestion. Or is it? Maybe it is exactly the solution needed, but the one we least understand in a time like this. Many of us might be searching for something more concrete, severe, or "just." However, those thoughts indicate to me that we don't fully comprehend the power prayer holds in our lives.

The type of prayer that I am referring to isn't normal or routine. It is beyond reciting a common prayer before meals or a quick prayer before bed. The prayer we need requires our full commitment and presence—mind, body and heart. This type of prayer places yourself in the position of receiving and witnessing powerful, meaningful, and lasting relationship with God. Not to mention, staying focused on Christ, who is the only one we can rely on to heal, renew, and bring good out of the worst situations. I believe if we lead with prayer, we will get through this turbulent time and find ourselves in a place of comfort, healing, mercy and peace.

*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](mailto:kprice@cathedral.dio.org).*





## Assent of the Domestic Church

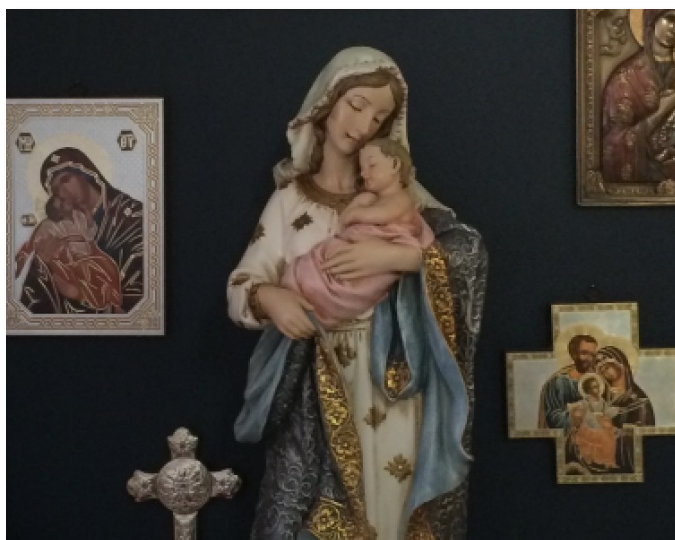
When my wife and I put our house on the market, by the grace of God we had three showings in less than a week. It occurred to me that when people I have never met come into my home, I often wonder what goes through their mind as they enter and take the inevitable tour. It's probably quite obvious that we are a family with many

children as there is a bunk bed and a single bed surrounded by toy boxes full of weaponry and basketballs in one room and a crib accompanied by a play kitchen and pink, frilly dolls in another. However, another aspect that simply can't escape the inquisitor is that this home is also one where religion is a deeply rooted aspect of the family dynamic. Specifically, a Catholic dynamic.

I remember one day when I was finishing a quick run, and as I was about thirty meters away from my home, I noticed a nice man in a suit carrying a book and a few materials. It was obvious to me that he was either a Mormon or a Jehovah's Witness, and my delight in the possibility of a discussion made my adrenaline kick back in after a two-mile jog. However, just before he was going to knock on the door I saw him peer over to a plaque that my family has on the front of the house. This plaque has the images of the Sacred Heart and the Immaculate Heart along with the words, "May the Blessed Mother and Christ our Lord protect this house from harm."

After gazing over to the picture in detail he neglected to knock and started walking to his car. As I jogged into the driveway, he noticed me and we had a decently short conversation about the importance of faith, but the man wasn't that interested in talking. I don't know whether it was the picture that scared him off or he simply felt the need to leave, but one thing is for sure: that man knew where I stood before we even had a discussion.

As the individuals receiving a walk-through of my home took a look around, they might have noticed much of the same type of art, statues, and the holy water font by the front door. And if they took a quick gander into any of my four bookshelves stacked full, the same impression might have been produced. I wonder how much of an effect this might have had. Are these people Christian? If so, where do they worship? Are they secularists? If so, I wonder what their synopsis of my home decoration was. Did they think that some quack lives here, some religious fanatic with crucifixes in every room who must be out of his mind? Or did they respect the fact that this home is inhabited by a family with



priorities? Either way, I hope that they came away knowing that in these walls for the past four years has lived a family who has dedicated their lives to something higher than themselves, and that in this home Jesus Christ is Lord.

Blessed John Henry Newman, an evangelistic game-changer, taught extensively on the concept of "Real Assent" versus "Notional Assent." Real Assent is based on an experience of the senses which draws man to recognize a higher good. For example, a beautiful church or seeing the good sisters helping the poor in Calcutta would cause an instinctive rise of an emotional response to the beauty of the situation and a desire to strive for its Source. Notional Assent is much more of an educational standpoint, convincing a person of truth through the reasonable and recognizable facets of humanity's relationship with the divine. And as Newman stated in his Grammar of Assent: "Real apprehension (assent), then, may be pronounced stronger than notional, because things, which are its objects, are confessedly more impressive and affective than notions, which are the objects of notional.

Experiences and their images strike and occupy the mind, as abstractions and their combinations do not."

It is in this boundary, that of Real Assent, in which I think families ought to see their homes. When a person visits your home, whether or not he shares the same faith, could they recognize that you are indeed a Catholic Christian? And in your dealings with them do you treat them in such a manner that those pictures, statues, and regalia ring true? The domestic church is undeniably a place where God dwells.

Now, I am not saying that we ought to fill our homes with a ridiculous amount of overpowering images which would cause the average person to squeak in fear. Rather, what I am hinting at is that in today's culture the average American person doesn't really get to experience the beauty of the Catholic faith's tradition in the arts and the senses, unless they are willing to step into the doors of a church or visit the beauty that is Europe or the borders of the old Byzantine Empire. In the public square they won't see any of it. In many of our separated brethren's churches they will not see it. Perhaps their only opportunity up to this point in their lives to see such works is in the home of their "Catholic friend." We shouldn't disappoint. Take pride in your Catholic heritage and be willing to put it on full display.

*Jared Zimmerer is a Catholic author, speaker, blogger, husband and father of 6 and the Director of the Word on Fire Institute. He also holds a Master's Degree in Theology from Holy Apostles College and Seminary.*

## Continued from p. 3

In Saint John Paul II's apostolic letter, *On Keeping the Lord's Day Holy*, he raises these very same questions:

Why not make the Lord's Day a more intense time of sharing, encouraging all the inventiveness of which Christian charity is capable? Inviting to a meal people who are alone, visiting the sick, providing food for needy families, spending a few hours in voluntary work and acts of solidarity: these would certainly be ways of bringing into people's lives the love of Christ received at the Eucharistic table.

Even though this day should offer us rest from the toils of our workweek, it doesn't mean we rest from bringing Christ's love to our communities and homes. In addition to allowing us time to serve and love others, it gives us time for reflection—the opportunity to reassess our lives and order them properly in light of the Gospel. Saint John Paul II speaks about this as well:

Through Sunday rest, daily concerns and tasks can find their proper perspective: the material things about which we worry give way to spiritual values; in a moment of encounter and less pressured exchange, we see the true face of the people with whom we live. Even the beauties of nature—too often marred by the desire to exploit, which turns against man himself—can be rediscovered and enjoyed to the full. As the day on which man is at peace with God, with himself and with others, Sunday becomes a moment when people can look anew upon the wonders of nature, allowing themselves to be caught up in that marvelous and mysterious harmony which, in the words of Saint Ambrose, weds the many elements of the cosmos in a “bond of communion and peace” by “an inviolable law of concord and love..

And this time for reflection—this quiet re-molding of the soul to align better with our Father's will—is not merely a checkbox to be checked; rather, it allows us to forge a conscience that is capable of answering the demands of love in our lives—to become the unrepeatable and inimitable light we're all called to be in the world:

“The whole function of the life of prayer is, then, to enlighten and strengthen our conscience so that it not only knows and perceives the outward, written precepts of the moral and divine laws, but above all lives God's law in concrete reality by perfect and continual union with His will.”

– Thomas Merton, *No Man Is An Island*

Being a Trappist monk, Merton knew well the indispensable character of reflection in forming our lives toward God's will. There is also no doubt that when so many of us are burdened by the necessary obligations of our working and family lives during the week, that Sunday should serve as a cool fount of respite—a day to place our packs to the ground and drink from the waters of God's flowing grace and nourishment. Yet, again, even Merton wouldn't say that the enjoyment of something like football is a bad thing. It's not inasmuch as it allows proper rest and enjoyment without hindering the other vital aspects of the Sabbath needed for our continued spiritual journey: the mass and the Eucharist, time for reflection, visiting with family and friends, serving others in need of love and compassion. Instead, we come to find that by limiting our consumption of a certain good—even our nation's new favorite past time—we are able to drink of its enjoyment more fully:

“Pleasure, which is good, has more to do with virtue than it has with sin. The virtue that is sufficiently resolute to pay the price of self-denial will eventually taste greater pleasure in the things it has renounced that could ever be enjoyed by the sinner who clings to those same things as desperately as if they were his God.”

So the good news for football and sports fans, like me, is that it can still serve to nourish us in wonderful ways. However, it must not be heralded as the source and summit of our week. At that point we've begun to worship as opposed to enjoy it. It then becomes an unsatisfying attempt to fill a void—something to render our lives meaningful, or in some cases, keep us distracted from our otherwise unhappy and listless way of living. The result, inevitably, will be a greater sense of ennui and boredom. Our source for meaning and identity must be God—a life offered to him and others in love. If that conviction rests at the heart of who we are, then we'll be able to order the role of sports—and all entertainment and pleasure—properly in our lives.

So yes, thank God for Sundays. And also for football.

*Chris Hazell is the founder of The Call Collective. He holds bachelors' degrees in English and Economics from UCLA and currently works as a Lead Content Strategist for Point Loma Nazarene University.*

# FAMILY CORNER



## Sharing the Gospel

Wash your hands before you eat! Did you know that rule came from God, so that we would stay healthy? In today's Gospel, the Pharisees liked to wash their hands and follow God's rules, only because they liked to show off. Don't be like those Pharisees. When you follow God's rules, do the right thing out of love for God.

MK 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

## Let Us Pray

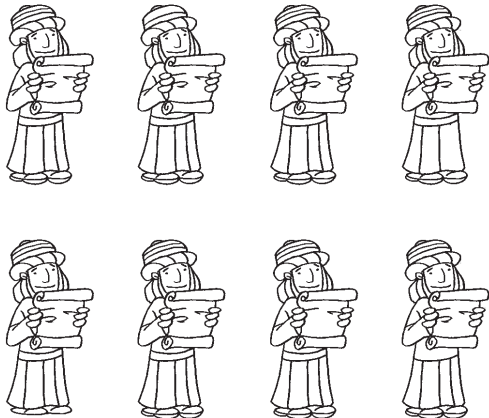
Lord,

Help me to keep my heart clean, full of love for you and other people. Help me to realize the blessings you have given to me, my family, and my friends and to share my appreciation for them by praying, serving, and giving.

Amen.

### Puzzle

Find the matching pair.



©LPI

ANSWER: three and six



### Mission for the Week

The next time you wash your hands, thank God that he made rules to keep us all safe, healthy and happy.

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## Growing with the GOSPEL

My Church,  
My Family and Me

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 ■ 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

CYCLE B



### Read the Gospel and Color



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