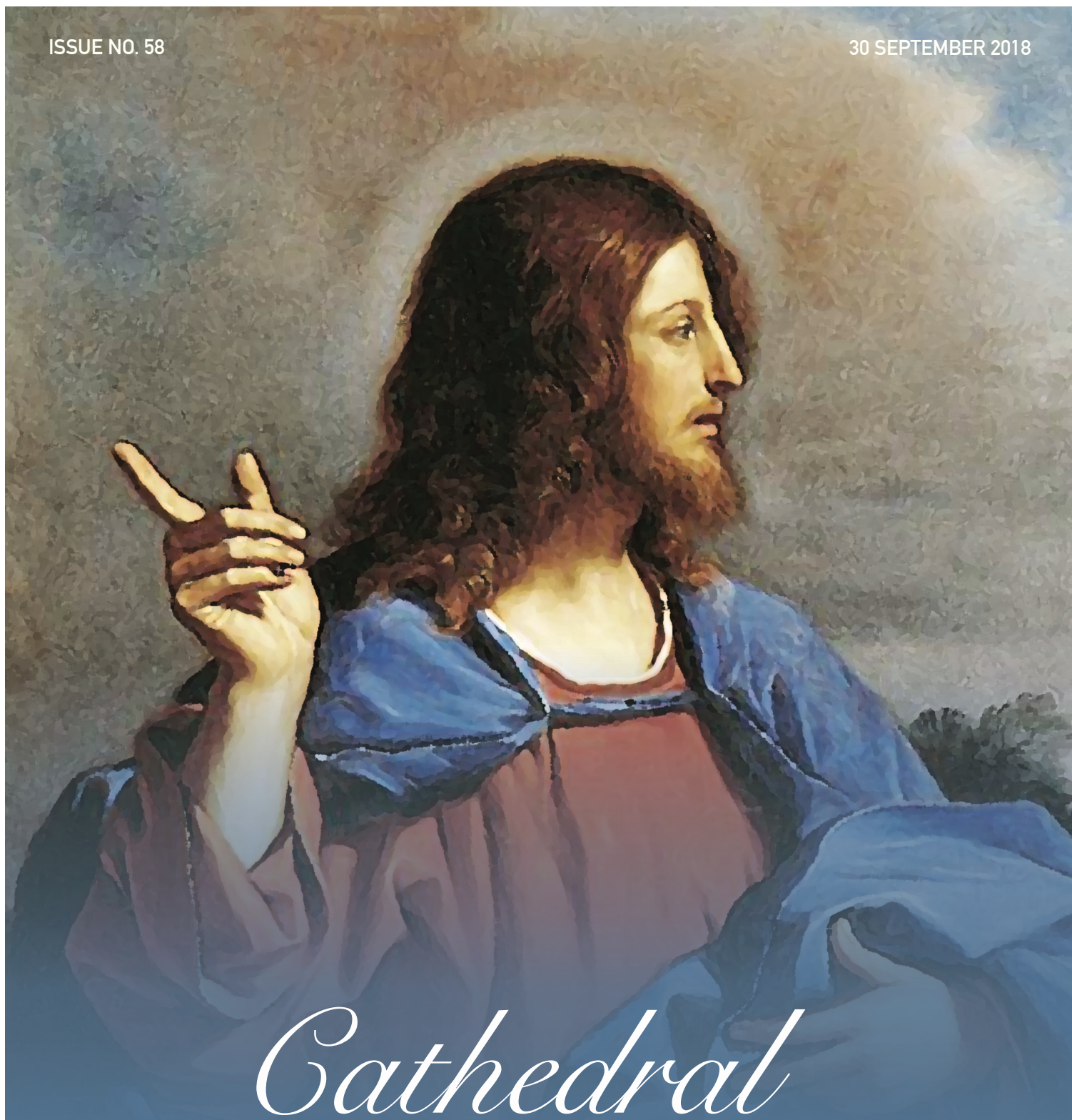


ISSUE NO. 58

30 SEPTEMBER 2018



Cathedral WEEKLY

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SIN, DESPAIR AND HOPE | FR. CHRISTOPHER HOUSE
INTRODUCING THE SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP | KATIE PRICE
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS | TRACY EARL WELLIVER

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

DEACON T. SCOTT KEEN

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524 EAST LAWRENCE AVENUE SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62703
217.522.3342 - CATHEDRAL OFFICE
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.

CCCW Socktober

The Cathedral Council of Catholic Women (CCCW) invites each of you to join with other area parishes to participate in Socktober. During the month of October, you will find a laundry basket at each of the Cathedral entrances to collect socks for the homeless and disadvantaged in our community.

The greatest need is socks (and hats & gloves!) for adult males. However, there is a need among women and children in area shelters as well. Thank you for your participation in Socktober!

Knights of Columbus Annual Steak and Whiskey Dinner

The Father Tolton Knights of Columbus Council will be holding their Annual Steak & Whiskey Scholarship Dinner on Friday, November 2, 2018 from 7-11 pm. \$40 per person includes a steak from Magro's Meat and Produce, baked potato, vegetable, salad, four whiskey tastings and dessert from Pease's at Bunn Gourmet. Go to <https://kofc16126.bpt.me> to reserve your spot today!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

Monday 1 October

7 AM - Barb McGrath (Family & Friends)

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

Tuesday- October 2

7 AM - Becky Morgan (Larry & Bev Hoffman) 5:15 PM - Casson & Warner Families (Sue Warner)

Wednesday-October 3

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

5:15 PM - Alice Bates (Bates Family)

Thursday-October 4

7 AM - Mary Midden (William Midden)

5:15 PM - Tom & Mary Patton (Sue Warner)

Friday-October 5

7 AM - Anna Eleyidath (YMCA Friends)

5:15 PM - Irvin Larry Smith (Harvey & Nancy Schrenk)

Saturday-October 6

8 AM - Patria & Rufino Gotanco (Joe & Hati Uy)

4 PM - For the People

Sunday-October 7

7 AM - Deceased Members of the Charles Clayton Family (McGrath Family)

10 AM - Charles & Mercedes Nesbitt (Kathy Frank) 5 PM - John Montgomery (John Busciacco)

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



Sin, Despair and Hope

Sometime over the coming month, about this time every year, I will make time to watch the movie *The Exorcist*; I bet your eyebrows have risen at this point in reading this. The movie is based on the book written by William Peter Blatty that focuses on a twelve-year-old girl who is possessed by a

demon and the investigation that ultimately leads to two Jesuit priests performing a major exorcism for her deliverance. I read the book when I was in seminary at Mundelein in 1998 for the 25th anniversary of the movie's release; the book spooked me far more than the movie ever did and I remember not sleeping well for a few nights.

The book itself was inspired by actual events concerning a Lutheran boy in Silver Spring, Maryland whose family turned to the Catholic Church for help. The quest for help eventually took them to the Jesuits in St. Louis, Missouri where the boy was delivered from the power of demonic forces after a major exorcism in 1949. In the story *The Exorcist* there is a break in the ritual being performed by the two Jesuit priests. During this break, the younger priest, who is having a crisis of faith, asks the older priest why a twelve-year-old girl; the older priest responds "to make us despair."



In the Book of Genesis we see that it is the devil who tempts us to turn inward on ourselves and away from God, which is ultimately the definition of sin; to the present day, we are tempted to serve ourselves, our wants, our desires, to be the ultimate end in ourselves.

Let's be clear: the devil does not make any of us sin; we make the choice ourselves even though the devil may give the invitation. Why? Sin separates us from God directly or indirectly.

Sin directly separates us from God when a sin is ours, when it is the result of our own action or inaction, the result of our own choices. Sin can also indirectly separate us from God when it is the sin of someone else and we are moved to despair. I am afraid that this indirect phenomenon is more pronounced than ever right now, especially in the Church. We see evil committed by another,

and some run into the danger of losing hope and falling into despair, which then can ultimately lead us to despairing of the goodness and love of God.



The Lord gives us strong words in this Sunday's Gospel reading from Mark: if your hand, foot, or eye are going to keep you from entering into heaven, then get rid of them. The Lord Jesus is telling us that there is nothing in this life be it material things, relationships, pleasures, behaviors, whatever that are worth risking the gift and the promise of eternal life with God in heaven. We are also warned sternly to be on guard that we do not lead anyone else into sin, because the punishment for that will be severe.

Our sins separate us from God and can also work to separate others from him as well. We must be on guard to seek the good, to seek the things of heaven, to seek God in all that we do. Personal sin can lead us to despair in that we can fall into the trap of believing that we are unforgivable. Sins can lead us and other people to despair by questioning why God would let such things happen. As disciples, we are called to never lose hope; hope in the power of God's mercy and forgiveness in our own lives and in the lives of others; hope that the grace of God can effect true change in our lives through conversion; hope in the fact that God is alive and at work in the world and that his sacred act of our redemption is on-going.



When faced with the power of sin, when tempted to lose hope because of evil in the world, let us always remember the words emblazoned under our Lord in the image of Divine Mercy: Jesus, I trust in you.

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

SEASON OF STEWARDSHIP



Stewardship Activity

Stewardship of Time

Did you know that Cathedral has daily Mass during the week? Come join us Monday thru Friday – 7:00AM and 5:15PM.

Stewardship of Talent

Interested in serving during Mass? Reach out to Vicki Compton, who will hold trainings this fall at vcompton@cathedral.dio.org.

Stewardship of Treasure- September 15th & 16th

Envelopes: \$6,087.00
Loose: \$2,435.83
Maintenance: \$100.00

TOTAL: \$8,622.83

Needed to operate weekly: \$15,907.89

Difference: \$7,285.06

August EFT (\$16,984.00)

Sacraments

Please continue to pray for those listed on the online prayer wall. We have not had any recent funerals, weddings, or baptisms. Looking for sacramental information? Please contact the Parish Offices at 522-3342.

Scripture Questions

First Reading: NM 11:25-29

Today's reading recounts stories of jealousy and envy that occurred under Moses' leadership during Israel's 40 years in the desert. How does your faith community deal with this type of tension among members?

Second Reading: JAS 5:1-6

James levels some scathing indictments against the rich in his community. How do James' words evoke an examination of conscience for you?

Gospel Reading: MK 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

Jesus warns his disciples to avoid ascribing false motives to fellow believers. How do you prevent yourself from falling into this trap?



During the next few weeks, we will be introducing our first Season of Stewardship. The Season of Stewardship is the opportunity for each of us to prayerfully consider the many ways we act as good stewards and answer the call to be disciples. More information will be coming and if you have any questions, please send them to Katie Price at kprice@cathedral.dio.org. We will be focusing on how we can each act as stewards through sharing in prayer (time), service (talent), and giving (treasure).

This week we will be reflecting on prayer and formation, which are two of the Pillars of Stewardship.

Looking for Resources on Prayer and Formation?

- Consider watching this video on our relationship with Jesus and the importance of the Mass- it is very moving and powerful! <https://bit.ly/2QYKZhH>
- Need some inspiration for going to Sunday Mass or have someone in your life that needs inspiration?
- <https://bit.ly/2ONejWS>
- USCCB Prayer and Devotions: <http://usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/prayers-and-devotions/prayers/index.cfm>
- Consider creating a personal plan to grow as a Christian Disciple with resources for discernment by going on spicathedral.org/seasonofstewardship

Looking for Opportunities for Prayer and Formation at Cathedral?

Mass and Confession Times:

Sunday Masses: Saturday Evening Vigil – 4:00PM Sunday – 7:00AM, 10:00AM and 5:00PM

Weekday Masses: Monday thru Friday – 7:00AM and 5:15PM Saturday – 8:00AM

Reconciliation (Confessions): Monday thru Friday – 4:15PM to 5:00PM, Saturday – 9:00AM to 10:00AM and 2:30PM to 3:30PM, Sunday – 4:00PM to 4:45PM

Take a look at the Fall Formation Calendar here: <https://spicathedral.org/adult-faith-formation/>



The Pillars of Prayer and Formation

“Nothing we do as a good steward is more important than our relationship with Jesus. Your volunteerism, hospitality and formation is nothing without the beating heart of stewardship, which is your relationship to Jesus. Jesus is the example steward.”

Many of us find stewardship challenging. At the heart of a good steward is a deep acknowledgement of God’s love, mercy, and blessings in their life and their willingness to give all of it back. Yes, all of it. That is a challenge for many of us. It is clear why Jesus is the ultimate steward. He sacrificed everything.

What relationship do we have in our lives in which we are willing to sacrifice everything? I am sure you might be thinking of a family member, spouse, or a child. You would sacrifice your life



for them, right? Now, would you so quickly sacrifice everything for Jesus? Jesus’ unconditional love for me and His sacrifice convinces me that the activities I do with being a good steward must begin with the acknowledgement that a relationship with Him is the first step.

The first pillar of stewardship is prayer. It is through prayer that we can encounter and experience a

deeper relationship with Jesus. In fact, if we did not begin with prayer, we would be acting like the Church is just like any other nonprofit. For example, what nonprofit doesn’t ask for volunteers or donations (talents and treasures)? I can’t think of any nonprofit that doesn’t ask good stewardship from their supporters. What Jesus is calling us to be is more than that. Jesus asks for your soul and substance. He asks for your non-renewable resource—time.

When you give of your time, you are giving unselfishly because you will never get that time back. Consider this, if you gave \$5 extra to the offertory basket this weekend what are the chances that you would get that \$5 back at some point? Probably high because you might get a promotion, or a monetary birthday gift, or perhaps win on a lottery card. However, when we give our time toward deepening our relationship with Him, we prioritize this

unselfish gift. You will never get time back. But isn’t that time with God a worthy sacrifice? Despite our busy lives, stewardship of prayer is an act of trust. When you are worried you won’t have time to make it to Mass, make time and trust. When you are worried you won’t have time to make it to Bible Study, prioritize it and trust. When you feel overwhelmed with your calendar, prioritize your relationship with Jesus, don’t *squeeze Him in*.



Another pillar of stewardship closely tied to prayer is formation. This year at Cathedral we have added a collection of faith formation offerings, from liturgical ministry training and formation to reflections with the priests. Consider joining us! While formation can be done in community, it can also happen at home. When a family prays before meals together or when you offer a Mass Intention, you are being formed into the disciple Jesus is calling you to be. Formation is an ongoing process. As we all know, no one is perfect and surely no one is an “expert.” Yes, even our wise priests have continuing formation! Each of us should be constantly growing, learning, and sharing in the beauty and wisdom of our Catholic tradition.

As you continue to learn about stewardship over the next few weeks, we hope you will take some time to consider the benefits of stewardship as a way of life. You will never regret praying more, serving more, or giving more. In 2 Corinthians 9: 6-8, we are reminded that a life of giving is often a life filled with abundance:

“Consider this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work.”

Katie Price is the Coordinator for Discipleship and Stewardship at the Cathedral. She is also working in the Discipleship and Stewardship effort at the Diocese of Springfield. She can be reached at kprice@cathedral.dio.org.

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 Vicki Compton at vcompton@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

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



Everyday Stewardship Thoughts

My oldest son is named Nathanael. We used the biblical spelling of his first name, and he has spent his entire life of 20 plus years having to correct people who try to spell his name. Those who have not met him before have no idea for sure how to spell his name. Of course, when we named him, we gave him a name that not

only his friends would know him by, but by which God would know him.

In the Gospel of John, Jesus tells Nathanael that he is "a true child of Israel." Nathanael wonders how Jesus knew him. Jesus knows him before he even speaks to him. Jesus knows us and

calls us to believe in him. However, do we know him enough to be willing to follow him?

Many of our sons and daughters believe in Jesus. We believe in Jesus. He knows us all better than we know ourselves. But do we truly know him? Do we have a genuine relationship with him? Have we allowed him to transform our lives? I know my son believes in Jesus. I believe in Jesus. I hope and pray we both can grow to know Jesus at least half as much as he knows us.

Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS is the Director of Parish Community and Engagement for LPI, Inc. He has a BA in theology from DeSales University and a MTS from Duke Divinity School.

Sharing the Gospel

The disciples started to feel proud because they thought they were the "in" group of friends of Jesus. One day they saw a complete stranger working powerful miracles in the name of Jesus. The disciples told the stranger to stop because he was not part of their special group. The disciples should have encouraged him instead.

Let Us Pray

Dear God,

Help me to work side-by-side with other people who love Jesus, no matter who they are.

Amen.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of yourself helping another Christian who does not belong to your church.



Puzzle

Find 10 differences.



© LPI



Mission for the Week

Pray for missionaries around the world who teach others about Jesus.

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Growing with the
GOSPEL

My Church,
My Family and Me

Mark 9:38-43, 45, 47-48 ■ 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

CYCLE B



Read the Gospel and Color



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