

ISSUE NO. 75

27 JANUARY 2019



# *Cathedral* WEEKLY

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

AN ACCEPTABLE TIME | FR. CHRISTOPHER HOUSE  
LEFTOVERS | KATIE PRICE  
MAINTAINING INNER PEACE | CHRIS HAZELL



# Cathedral WEEKLY

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

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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.

## Welcome to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception!

On behalf of our bishop, the Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki, our parishioners, deacons, and priests, I welcome you to the mother church of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.

The seat of the diocese was moved to Springfield from Alton in 1923. In the same year, "Old St. Mary's" church of Immaculate Conception Parish was named as the pro-cathedral of the new diocese until this cathedral church was built and dedicated in 1928. Currently, our diocese comprises twenty-eight counties in central Illinois, serving over 140,000 members of the Catholic faithful.

I hope that your visit to our Cathedral is one of grace and beauty and that you feel at home in the mother church. I also hope that you will find this edition of the *Cathedral Weekly* to be both informative and spiritually enriching. May God bless you and yours!



Very Reverend Christopher A. House  
Rector

## MASS INTENTIONS FOR THE UPCOMING WEEK

### Monday 28 January

7 AM -Louise Rees (Thelma Burch)

5:15PM - Special Intention for Michael Mattox (Ellen Mattox)

### Tuesday 29 January

9 AM -Charles Morris (Family)

5:15PM - John Gueguen (Kay & Dick King)

### Wednesday 30 January

7 AM -Bobby Jo Davis (Ruth Davis)

5:15 PM - John "Jack" McCarthy (Family)

### Thursday 31 January

7 AM -Joyce Jenness (Jerry & Pat Goclan)

5:15 PM - Ronnie Briggs Jr. (Fr. Zach Edgar)

### Friday 1 February

7 AM -Mary Ann Midden (William Midden)

5:15 PM - Shirley Logan (Lisa Logan & Family)

### Saturday 2 February

8 AM -Barb McGrath (Sue Warner)

4 PM - Becky Morgan (Faye Mini-Reyman)

### Sunday 3 February

7 AM -For the People

10 AM - Charles & Mercedes Nesbitt (Kathy Frank)

5 PM - John Piccinino (John Busciacco)

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## An Acceptable Time

Last Sunday, the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, presented us with the Gospel of the wedding feast at Cana, particularly the miracle of the water made wine. This first miracle by our Lord, as reported by John, points to the dawning of a new age, a new time: the time of the Messiah. These days of the Messiah are a time of

grace and mercy, when God has opened up his own divine life to us in and through Jesus Christ. The good news for us is that these days are still upon us as the world continues to live in them until the Lord Jesus returns in his glory.

These days were heralded in many ways and times. This Sunday's Gospel continues the theme of Epiphany which has been presented to us for four Sundays now through the star and the Magi, the voice of the Father at Jesus's baptism, the water made wine, and now this Sunday with Jesus's proclamation in his home synagogue in Nazareth of the words of the Prophet Isaiah. Jesus proclaims, *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.* At the end of the proclamation, Jesus announces that *today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.* He is the one of whom Isaiah spoke. He is the fulfillment of the promise of the prophets and the manifestation of God's grace in the world.



To bring sight to the blind, liberty to captives, glad tidings to the poor, and freedom to the oppressed, is monumental task, one that is fit for the Messiah...and for us. We cannot do any of these things as Jesus did and continues to do, but, as disciples, we are called to carry Christ into the world each and every day. It is the



Lord Jesus who brings true freedom and sight, who lifts up the soul and fills it with richness. We are the vessels, the messengers by which he chooses to be continually made known in the world. We are called each day to be deliberate in our discipleship, to make the conscious choice for Christ every day so that we may be a means, an avenue through which Jesus can be known and touched by those whom we meet.

We are not tasked with this responsibility without any assistance. Luke tells us that in making this proclamation in Nazareth, that Jesus had returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit. The same is true for us. Through Baptism and Confirmation we are imbued with power of the Spirit to proclaim Jesus Christ in every aspect of our lives. Let us avail ourselves to the power of the Spirit that, in and through us, the Lord Jesus may continually be made known in the world, a world that needs to know and accept his love, his grace, and his mercy. Now is the acceptable time for us to answer this call.

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

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Cover Photo: Charleston, SC, USA - March 12, 2011: A stained glass window depicting Jesus preaching to a crowd of people. It is located in the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist in downtown Charleston. The Cathedral began construction in 1890 and opened in 1907. The stained glass windows were created by Franz Mayer and Co, a German stained glass design and manufacturing company, based in Munich, Germany,

# STEWARDSHIP



## Stewardship Activity

### Stewardship of Time

During Catholic Schools Week, please considering praying for the administrators, students, parents, and supporters of Catholic Schools in this Diocese.

### Stewardship of Talents

Thank you to the Altar Servers, adults and youth, who came to a training and dinner this week!

### Stewardship of Treasure Jan. 19th & 20th

Envelopes:	\$6,711.43
Loose:	\$2,010.48
Maintenance:	\$85.00

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Total:	\$8,806.91
December EFT	(\$18,934.45)

Thank you for your generosity and support!

## Sacraments

Are you looking for sacramental information? Please contact the Parish Offices at 522-3342.

## Scripture Questions

First Reading: 1 COR 12:12-30

Nehemiah served as governor of Judah in the mid-5th century B.C., about 50 years after the Israelites return from exile in Babylon. Nehemiah encouraged the people to find strength in the words of Scripture read by Ezra. How do you use Sacred Scripture in your spiritual journey?

Second Reading: 1 COR 12:12-30

St. Paul speaks at length to the Corinthians about the "one body" of Christ and the "many parts" of the believing community. How do you think this is a winning argument for a Christian community experiencing division?

Gospel Reading: LK 1:1-4; 4:14-21

We hear today the prologue to Luke's Gospel and Jesus' words in his hometown of Nazareth. In the prologue, Luke reveals his sources and his motivations for writing his Gospel. What do you find most compelling about Luke's prologue?

## Leftovers

If there is time...if we can fit it in...if we feel up to it...if we have the spare change...each of us has probably used one of those excuses in our lifetime to avoid going somewhere or doing something. The excuses are abundant. When it comes to our faith life, there should be no excuses, right? An intentional disciple makes time, prioritizes time for service, gives abundantly. I get it, we are all busy. Between work, extracurriculars, family obligations, the list goes on and on for where we spend our time, talents, and treasure. However, when we are in pursuit of intentional discipleship you *intend* to pray more, serve more, and give more. It's priority #1.

I have often said it is easier to teach children about stewardship than us adults. Take this example, when I ask children what the first day of the week is they respond Sunday. Easy. They look up at the visual calendar posted on the wall and see Sunday all the way to the left. To kids, Sunday is the first day of the week. Ask adults the same question and you get a totally different answer. In a small poll I did with some adult friends of mine, I asked them the first day of the week. Monday. The first day of the week in many of our minds, without really thinking about it, is the day when we have to get back to work, get the kids loaded in the car, think about lunches, snacks, after school activities, the board meeting later....and again, the list goes on and on.



Interesting, isn't it? If you were to ask yourself that question before reading this article, would you say that your week started on Sunday or Monday? Now, why is this significant? Because depending on if you are a Sunday or Monday person, your state of mind regarding stewardship might change. "First fruits" mentality is seeing Sunday as the beginning of the week. Your week begins with Sunday Mass. Your first "appointment" is time in prayer, your first "activity" is serving during Mass (Reader, Usher, Musician, etc.), your first "expenditure" for the week is your gift to the Church. Time, talent, and treasure- a stewardship way of life, completed by 9am Sunday morning. What a way to kick-off your week! In the leftover state of mind, you might miss Mass because you ran out of time this weekend, or didn't have extra cash to contribute, or energy to serve. Do we give our leftovers or the first fruits?

Now, don't feel left out if you attend Saturday evening. I am sure you get the idea. We must make choices that prioritize stewardship, if we are on a pathway to intentional discipleship.

*Katie Price is the Coordinator for Stewardship at the Cathedral and within the Diocese of Springfield. She can be reached at the Parish Offices or at [kprice@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:kprice@cathedral.dio.org).*





## Maintaining Inner Peace

A couple times a week I run along a small bay that neighbors my house. In the early mornings, if I'm able to get out at that time, I'm always struck by the stillness of that stretch of mirrored silver. The bay's anchored tranquility brings me a sense of peace if I only take a moment or two to look at it. It's an image that in

some way soothes my soul.

In Father Jacques Philippe's modest little book, *Searching for and Maintaining Peace: A Small Treatise on Peace of Heart*, he calls to mind this metaphor for the soul:

Consider the surface of a lake, above which the sun is shining. If the surface of the lake is peaceful and tranquil, the sun will be reflected in this lake; and the more peaceful the lake, the more perfectly will it be reflected. If, on the contrary, the surface of the lake is agitated, undulating, then the image of the sun can not be



reflected in it.

It's a deeply simple yet profound stroke of insight—our souls can only reflect God's love and grace if they are calm and delicately moored. The peace promised to us by Jesus Christ two millennia ago only flowers in the soil of a serene heart.

What makes Philippe's humble treatise so illuminating is its insistence that our highest priority when it comes to the spiritual life must be acquiring and cultivating this state of peace. If we don't, though we may still do good works, we will be harried by the warring emotions and worries within us that keep us from experiencing God's love. In other words, we won't have the peace that God desires for us. There is a difference between serving and suffering accompanied with the balm of God's peace, and doing so left to our own human—and tragically inadequate—devices.

When I was a little kid, I had this absurd fear that if I forgot to mention a certain family member in my prayers they would be left without the benefit of God's grace. It's funny now to look back on that, and though I've matured from such a grossly limited view of God these many years later, there is still a streak of that mindset tangled within my own spirituality. At times, I'll still feel an overwhelming sense of obligation—an iced interior command—to do something, one spurred by fear, worry, or pride. And even though such an action may be good and well intentioned, it will cause me to lose something of immeasurable value—my peace.

What a premium we place on peace. We can easily spot a deep thirsting for peace within our culture—a desire to unplug from its charged pace—through the popularity of all types of activities with peace as their aim: meditation, mindfulness, yoga, tailored Spotify playlists, breathing exercises, and so on. As the human person yearns for food, sleep, affection, and purpose, it also yearns for peace. Speaking strictly of the body, we need time for peace and quiet—sleep, healthy exercise, and leisurely activities. But the same is true for our spiritual lives. The soul yearns for the

respite that only comes from submersion into the cooling water of God's grace. Jesus spoke about the soul's desire for peace and fulfillment that exceeds the needs of the corporeal. After Jesus multiplied the loaves for the five thousand, the crowds sought him with unwavering determination.

When they finally found him, Jesus addressed them in this way:

Amen, amen, I say to you, you are looking for me not because you saw signs but because you ate the loaves and were filled. Do not work for food that perishes but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. (Jn. 6:26-27)

When we look at our own pleas for God to work in our lives—to gift us and our loved ones with good health, success, love, meaningful employment, etc.—when we're honest, we don't do it because we want simply the object of our intention. If we pray to be healthy, and God miraculously heals us, we soon find that it wasn't enough. Not even close. The sign in and of itself is never enough. We don't want miracles; we want fulfillment. We want to know complete love, peace, and union with the one who understands us perfectly, the one who created us for such an end.

## Continued from p. 5

And so this spiritual food—God’s love and peace—can only come from a commitment to following Christ and aligning our wills to God. In doing this, we acquire the peace of a clear conscience—a pure heart. Father Philippe highlights the necessity of our goodwill in order to experience God’s peace for our souls. He clarifies what he means by “goodwill” with encouraging language:

[Goodwill] is not perfection, nor sainthood achieved, because it could well coexist with hesitations, imperfections and even faults...it is the habitual disposition of heart which permits the grace of God to carry us, little by little, toward perfection.

A desire to love and know God is enough (despite our continued faults and weaknesses). It’s this desire that is necessary—something that must originate with God himself—for us to even have recourse to the peace Jesus promises.

We know, however, once we have allowed God into our lives and are taking seriously the spiritual journey, maintaining our peace is still difficult, especially in the face of suffering and temptation. But that is often the very goal of the battle—to keep our peace no matter our circumstances.

Therefore, maintaining this peace should be the priority of the spiritual life, more so than eliminating our faults and weaknesses. Obviously, we are to strive to eliminate these things as they keep us from loving God and others, though we should do so with a peaceful resolve that acknowledges we will not reach perfection in this life. Peace comes from knowing God loves us—and not just saying we know it, but knowing it in our flesh and bones.

On the contrary, the real spiritual battle, rather than the pursuit of invincibility or some other absolute infallibility beyond our capacity, consists principally in learning, without becoming too discouraged, to accept falling occasionally and not to lose our peace of heart if we should happen to do so lamentably, not to become excessively sad regarding our defeats and to know how to rebound from our falls to an even higher level.

If I’m honest, this idea was a major paradigm shift—a shattering realization. What if when we sinned, instead of allowing the spirit of unhealthy discouragement, vague despair, and gnawing worthlessness grab hold of us, we immediately sought to regain Christ’s peace by asking for forgiveness, accepting it with humility, and doing the best we can to do better next time? What if we didn’t do things for God because we felt we had to, or that we should in order to avoid punishment, or because our ego and the devil demand it, but because the peace of God dwelling

within us desires nothing more than to serve others and God? Whereas fear coerces us to love, peace inspires us to.

Never be in a hurry; do everything quietly and in a calm spirit. Do not lose your inner peace for anything whatsoever, even if your whole world seems upset. (Saint Francis de Sales)

Let us not forget that Martha, the one who diligently labored for Christ, was told she had opted for the “lesser” part. Mary, the one sitting serenely at the feet of Christ, was extolled.

If we acquire peace, then we find that all the good we do pours out, even in the face of great suffering or hardship. The saints aren’t saints because they never sinned; they are saints because they harbored a peace laced with the understanding that they were loved infinitely by God—despite their own sins, sufferings, and temptations. When we accept our smallness with humility, we receive the light of his peace and presence.



We will still fail at times to maintain our peace. The lashes of suffering, trial, and hardship will jar us. But the battle won’t be over, and with grace, we will once again find peace. And as we do this more and more throughout our lives, like the thousands of saints before us, our peace will intensify and won’t be plucked from us as easily.

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give it to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. (Jn. 14:27)

*Chris Hazell is the founder of The Call Collective, a blog exploring the intersection between faith, culture and creativity. (<http://thecallcollective.com/stay-updated/>) He holds bachelors' degrees in English and Economics from UCLA and currently works as a Lead Content Strategist for Point Loma Nazarene University.*



## Sharing the Gospel

The prophet Isaiah wrote about Jesus a long time before he was even born. When Jesus read Isaiah's words, they described Jesus perfectly. Jesus did come to free people from sin, to help those in pain, and even to help blind people see.

## Let Us Pray

Dear God,

Thank you for sending Jesus to help us. Thank you for the many blessings I have in my life. I am grateful for... [Fill in the gifts God has given to you].

Amen.

### Puzzle

Circle these words from today's Gospel:

SPIRIT	FREEDOM	LORD
CHOSEN	SIGHT	JESUS
POOR	SUFFERS	TRUE

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

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### Mission for the Week

Look up Isaiah chapter 61 and read it with your family. Then read Luke 4:14-21. Jesus kept all of those promises!

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## Growing with the GOSPEL

My Church,  
My Family and Me

Luke 1:1-4; 4:14-21 ■ 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

CYCLE C



### Read the Gospel and Color



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TEXT: C069OT3\_gg2nd3rd.txt

COLORING GRAPHIC: C069OT3\_gg5.tif

Name \_\_\_\_\_