

ISSUE NO. 80

3 MARCH 2019

# *Cathedral*

## WEEKLY

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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PREPARING FOR LENT | FR. CHRISTOPHER HOUSE  
LENT 2019  
PRO-LIFE RESOURCES



# 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

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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  
Adoration: Tuesdays & Thursdays 4PM to 5PM

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


Please remember that if you or a loved one is in the hospital, a nursing home or home-bound, to contact the Parish offices or Sr. Francella at 522-3342 x 142. Hospitals may know you are Catholic, but not know you are from Cathedral. We would be happy to visit.

## 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 4 March

7 AM - Ralph Walter, Sr. (Jean Moss & Ralph Walter) 5:15PM - Shirley Logan (Lisa Logan & Family)

#### Tuesday 5 March

7 AM - Louise Rees (Woody & Rita Halbrook) 5:15PM - Kara Leigh Smith (Friends From Isbe)

#### Wednesday 6 March

7AM - Mary Ann Midden (William Midden) 12:05PM - Barbara McGrath (Sue Warner)  
5:15PM Tom Shrewsbury (Carl & Lou Ann Corrigan)

#### Thursday 7 March

7AM -Bill Crumly (Kate Hughes) 12:05PM - Sp. Intention for Lost Souls (CCCW)  
5:15 PM - Victims of Clerical Sexual Abuse (Anonymous)

#### Friday 8 March

7 AM - Bobby Jo Davis (Ruth Davis) 12:05PM - Betty Edgar (Dan & Ann Stock) 5:15PM- Mary Corrigan (Carl & Lou Corrigan)

#### Saturday 9 March

8 AM -Gertrude Rutkowski (Barbara & Lance Todoroff) 4PM- Judith Hubbell (Family)

#### Sunday 10 March

7 AM -Mary Ann Midden (William Midden) 10AM- For the People 5PM- John Montgomery (John Busciacco)

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



## Preparing for Lent

Yes it's later this year but the time is finally upon us as this coming Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, marks the beginning of the holy season of Lent. Like many things in life, what you get out of Lent will depend on what you put into it and, with Lent, attitude is everything. I will confess that in my younger days that I saw Lent as nothing more than a forty-day slog through drudgery and Friday nights of limited options for going out to eat; once again, attitude is everything. So how do we see/approach Lent?

Lent is a great love story.

It may not seem to be so on the surface but what is the season all about? If we first focus on sacrifice, self-denial, and penance, then we will be placing our focus in the wrong area. Lent is a great love story because it is about a God who has a love for us that is unbreakable, unrelenting, and inexhaustible, even though we are guilty of rejecting his love time and time again. The selections that the Church gives us from the Scriptures demonstrate this. We are reminded that God has chosen us to be his own and that he has done this in a wonderful way in his only Son through baptism. Through sin, we have squandered the grace that God has given us through this sacrament, but Lent is about a call to return to that grace again. This is what the first four and a half weeks of the season speak to, from Ash Wednesday until the Fifth Sunday.

The second part of Lent continues to tell that same great love story but recalls how this love of God was perfectly manifested in the Paschal Mystery of Jesus, that is, in his passion, death, and resurrection. The fifth week of Lent transitions us to Holy Week which ends with the triumph of Easter. It is at this glorious feast that we renew our baptismal promises, having focused on allowing God to renew the grace of that same sacrament in us throughout Lent.

Sacrifice and self-denial are our responses to the gift of God's grace that is offered to us for our renewal. The penances and pious acts that we may choose to adopt are not ends in themselves, but acts by which we seek to root out in our lives what does not belong so that the grace of God may find a welcome place deep in our lives. The same is true about the reception of Ashes on Ash Wednesday. The ashes we receive are nothing more than the ash of old palms that has been blessed. There is nothing mystical about the ashes in themselves. What is important about the ashes is that we receive them as an outward sign of an inner desire to change our lives, to be converted back to right relationship with God. The reception of ashes and pious acts of sacrifice and self-denial must come from a genuine desire to change; if not, then these acts are empty.



There are many things that we can do for Lent: add daily Mass to our daily routine, pray the Stations of the Cross, read the Scriptures daily, participate in giving to CRS Rice Bowl, give alms in the special collections for charity, give your time to a good cause, add time for daily prayer, and the list goes on and on. Whatever you may do or not do, make whatever choice you do in the hope of growing deeper in the love that God has for you. Lent is not about what do I have to give up but rather how can I respond to the Lord's

call to turn back to him. The first reading on Ash Wednesday from the Prophet Joel says: *"even now, says the Lord, return to me with your whole heart."* Make sure that this coming Lent is about your journey deeper into the grace, love, and mercy that is freely offered to us by our God through Jesus.

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





## Keeping a Holy Lent

The season of Lent begins this year on **Ash Wednesday, March 6th** and ends just prior to the Mass of the Lord's Supper on **Holy Thursday, April 18th**, when the Easter Triduum begins. Lent is the principal penitential season of the Church year.

### Lenten Regulations

Catholics who have celebrated their 14th birthday are bound to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday, each Friday in Lent, and on Good Friday. Catholics who have celebrated their 18th birthday, in addition to abstaining from meat, should fast, i.e., eat only one full meal on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. Small quantities of food may be taken at two other meals but no food should be consumed at any other time during those two days. Liquids do not break the fast and nourishment needed for special needs (such as illness or pregnancy) should always be taken. The obligation of fasting ceases with the celebration of one's 59th birthday.

Resources provided by the Cathedral to help you along the Lenten Journey! Available at the Church entrances.

### Open Your Heart to God, Lenten Reflections from Pope Francis, Thomas Merton and Henri JM Nouwen Daily Prayer Booklet

Christ has called us to be his disciples, but we must always work to make the relationship better. Since Lent offers us a chance to grow in friendship with God, we turn to three experienced friends of Jesus—Pope Francis, Thomas Merton and Henri J.M. Nouwen to share their insights about how to open our hearts to God in reflection and prayer, in our encounters with others and in our work for God's kingdom on earth. Each daily reflection includes a related scripture quote and a prayer starter question.

### Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowl and Calendar

During Lent our parish will participate in a faith-in-action program that invites us to encounter the needs of the world with the hope of the Resurrection. During this holy season, it is important to reflect on the crosses of hunger, poverty and war that our brothers and sisters carry. Please take a rice bowl and calendar and use them to guide your daily meal, prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Visit [crsricebowl.org](http://crsricebowl.org) to watch videos of the people and communities you support through your Lenten gift to CRS Rice Bowl.

### Almsgiving: Second Collections During Lent

Ash Wednesday, March 6th: Church in Eastern Europe (only offering)  
 March 10th: St. Martin de Porres Center  
 March 17th: Catholic Charities (envelope in packets)  
 March 24th: Helping Hands of Springfield

## Lenten Schedule

### Mass

Sunday Masses: Saturday Evening Vigil- 4 PM,  
 Sunday- 7 AM, 10 AM, 5PM

Weekday Masses: Monday thru Friday- 7 AM, 12:05PM, 5:15 PM, Saturday 8 AM

### Confessions

Monday thru Friday 4:15 PM to 5 PM,  
 Saturday 9 AM to 10 AM and 2:30 PM to 3:30 PM,  
 Sunday 4 PM to 4:45 PM

### Adoration

Tuesday and Thursday 4 PM- 5 PM

### Ash Wednesday

Ashes will be distributed at these Mass times: 7 AM, 12:05 PM, and 5:15 PM.

### Stations of the Cross

Friday during Lent immediately following the 5:15 pm Mass. The Stations will also be prayed on Good Friday at 12:05PM.

*Sign-up to be a Liturgical Minister or find out more information today by emailing Vicki Compton, [vcompton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:vcompton@cathedral.dio.org).*



Your journey begins here! We are here to listen to you, to pray with you, to serve with you, and to grow into intentional disciples with you. If you have been away from the church for awhile, welcome back. You are welcomed with open arms! If you are a current parishioner looking to get involved, contact us so we can help you. If you have questions, seek us out. We are here to serve. Contact the Parish Offices anytime at 217-522-3342 or fill out the contact form on our website [spicathedral.org](https://spicathedral.org).

**The Cathedral Lenten page is at <https://spicathedral.org/len-2019/>**

## Lenten Faith Formation Programs

### **A Historical, Theological, and Liturgical Look at Lent- 3/11**

Ashes. Fasting. Veiled Images. Join Fr. House for a look at the "Why's" behind the do's and don'ts of the Lenten Season. Cathedral Atrium, Monday March 11th at 7 PM.

### **Humanae Vitae- 3/19**

Pope Paul VI published his landmark encyclical fifty years ago in 1968 and many in the world have been debating it ever since. Father House will explore the major themes of this encyclical and the predictions made in it by Pope Paul VI. Cathedral Atrium, Tuesday March 19th 7 PM.

### **The Passion Narrative in the Gospel of St. Luke- 4/3 & 4/10**

In preparation for the celebration of Holy Week, join Father Fridel for a study of our Lord's Passion as recorded by St. Luke. Cathedral Atrium, 7 PM Wednesday April 3rd & 10th.

### **Catholicism: The New Evangelization- Starts 3/5**

This video and discussion series, hosted by Bishop Robert Barron, explores the Church's mission within the challenges of contemporary culture. Cathedral School basement, Tuesdays, March 5-April 9, at 10 AM.



### **Scripture Reflections by Fr. House**

Fr. House will be sharing daily scripture reflections throughout Lent. You can find these daily videos on the Diocesan Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/diospringfield/> or you can go to the [spicathedral.org/len-2019](https://spicathedral.org/len-2019) webpage and SIGN-UP to receive the

Scripture videos in your email inbox everyday!

## Lenten Online Prayer Wall

Please share your intentions with us! Your intentions will be remembered during Adoration each Tuesday and Thursday. You may fill out the intention in the prayer book near the pulpit or you may submit your intention online at [spicathedral.org/len-2019](https://spicathedral.org/len-2019) and we will place it in the book on your behalf. We will be holding your intentions in our prayers throughout Lent.

## Lenten Discipleship Challenge

As disciples we are called to journey together and accompany each other during our challenges and joys. This Lent, let us model that call by sharing the Lenten journey with a friend.

Find a friend and join the Lenten Discipleship Challenge with us!

Each week we will post a spiritual challenge from the Cathedral Lenten prayer booklets or the CRS Rice Bowl challenge. You and your partner will accompany each other by discussing the challenge and holding each other accountable to completing the challenge. We are often more successful at reaching goals when we have a partner to keep us accountable. The first challenge will be shared on Ash Wednesday and each subsequent Sunday.

If you are serious about growing your relationship with Jesus this Lent, find a partner and journey together. If you do not have a partner, please reach out to Katie Price at [kprice@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:kprice@cathedral.dio.org) or 217-522-3342. The Cathedral staff are committed to journeying with you and will offer to be your partner if you do not have one.

# STEWARDSHIP



## Stewardship Activity

### Stewardship of Time

As we prepare for Lent, consider one prayerful activity that can be added to your daily routine.

### Stewardship of Talents

We need help with the 12:05 PM Mass during Lent. Please reach out to Vicki Compton if you can help at [vcompton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:vcompton@cathedral.dio.org).

### Stewardship of Treasure February 23rd & 24th

Envelopes: \$4,795.95

Loose: \$2,386.90

Maintenance: \$1,255.00

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Total: \$8,437.85

January EFT (\$18,137.45)

## Sacraments

For Sacramental information, please contact the Parish Offices at 522-3342.

## Scripture Questions

First Reading: SIR 27:4-7

Sirach tells us much is revealed about a person's heart by one's speech. As a Christian, when is it best to weigh your words carefully?

Second Reading: 1 COR 15:54-58

Paul tells us that as believers, our share in Jesus' resurrection from the dead destroys the victory and sting of death. How do we convince non-believers of this good news?

Gospel Reading: LK 6:39-45

Jesus challenges his followers to stop judging others and be open to forgiving. Why do you think this is so hard for people to do?



## The Blessings of Cathedral: I Get to Go to Holy Mass

I have a brochure entitled, "Why do we 'have' to go to Mass?". The cover photo portrays a young child facing backwards in the pew and looking bored. My husband, a convert, long ago also asked the same question about the "obligation" of going to Holy Mass. Each question came

from a different orientation, i.e.,

boredom versus obligation. Of course, the answer is because it is one of the Ten Commandments to Keep Holy the Lord's Day! It is not an obligation so much as it is a commitment to honor the Lord's Day.

Personally, I never had either of these feelings because I always felt it was an honor to go to Holy Mass (BTW, when did we drop

the "Holy" Mass part?). Every Sunday on the way to Holy Mass I say to myself, "I GET to go to Holy Mass today." It is an invigorating expectation! As I genuflect to the Altar and Tabernacle, I'm excited!

After Vatican II lay people were encouraged to participate more fully in the Liturgy. I finally got the courage to volunteer as a Lector/Reader and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion. What a gift that has been in my life. I GET to give Jesus to others. I GET to serve Him more dearly. I GET to speak His words in this Holy place, our Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception What a blessing!

*Rebecca and husband, Woody, have been Cathedral parishioners since the mid-1990's and led the Cathedral Bible Study group for many years. She assists Sr. Francella with home and hospital visits. Rebecca has served as CCCW President, Springfield Deanery President, Springfield Diocesan CCW President, Chicago Province Director, and National Council of Catholic Women President.*

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## Cathedral Parishioner Catholic School Tuition Scholarship Information!

The Cathedral Parish believes in the value of Catholic education and is committed to assisting parishioners who choose a Catholic education for their children by receiving a \$500 tuition scholarship to each child enrolled in a Springfield Catholic school in grades K-12.

The scholarship is eligible to any parishioner household who is registered and active. An active parishioner is defined as someone who regularly attends Mass on Sundays, supports the parish financially, and is active in the life of the parish. While all three of these qualifications are important, Sunday Mass participation is of the greatest importance because faith formation begins with participation at Sunday Mass. To be eligible as a parishioner household, the family must be registered and active parishioners for a minimum of six months before the application is made for the scholarship.

The scholarship will be paid directly to the school that the student attends. The funds will be attributed toward the 2018-2019 school year. The application is NOW available at the Parish Offices and posted online ([spicathedral.org/scholarship](http://spicathedral.org/scholarship)). Applications are DUE by March 15th. Cathedral will notify you when the scholarship is being sent to the receiving school.



## Contacting Our Legislators

“Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live...”

As Catholic Christians we cannot remain silent in the face of grave evil. We must let our legislators know that we do not support the increased attacks on human life. Next weekend you are invited to the atrium after all Masses to write a letter to your legislator asking him or her to vote no on upcoming legislation that would undermine a culture of life in our state. Computers, paper and pens will be provided for electronic and paper communication.

## Cathedral Parish Pro-Life Committee

Our parish is looking for individuals who are interested in helping our community pray and advocate for life every day of the year. We need a chairperson or co-chairs who will work to inform and educate our parishioners on how to support a culture of life in our city, state and country. If you are passionate about respecting life, and have a little time to give, please consider stepping forward to serve as a pro-life chairperson. Contact the parish office for more information or to volunteer, 522-3342 or [vcampton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:vcampton@cathedral.dio.org)

## Crusaders for Life

Calling all junior high and high school students! Are you an advocate for life? Want to get involved in the joyful message of life and meet new people in the Springfield area? Crusaders for Life are coming to Springfield! Come check it out as this chapter is launching on Feb. 23, at 7:30 p.m. at the Sacred Heart Church Parish Center (730 S. 12th Street in Springfield).

The Crusaders for Life work to educate ourselves on the issue of abortion so that we are better prepared to advance the pro-life cause in our schools, workplaces, and families. By fully understanding what abortion does to the unborn and their mothers and fathers, we are less likely to become numb to the fact that it happens every day by the thousands. With this understanding we try to spread the truth everywhere we go by participating in rallies, marches, protests, and prayer vigils.

## Life Advocacy

Mark your calendar to join Bishop Thomas John Paprocki on Life Advocacy Day Wednesday, March 20th to share our concerns for respecting life at all stages. We will meet at 10AM at the Howlett Building, Hall of Flats (501 S. 2nd St. Springfield). You may join us for lunch at 12PM, after meeting with legislators, lunch reservations are required. Please contact Donna Moore for reservations or questions at (217) 698-8500, ext. 161.

## Rosary and Pro-Life Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 9, 2019 – Rosary and Pro-Life Stations of the Cross, St. Agnes Parish, Springfield, 9:00 am. Come and pray for an end to abortion. For flyer and further information go to the following website: <http://www.dio.org/plasm/events.html>

## Family Reflection

### Sharing the Gospel

Jesus wants you to look carefully at your own words and behavior. If you call your sister selfish, Jesus wants you to make sure you are not selfish. If you fuss at your brother because his room is messy, Jesus wants you to make sure your room is not messy. Do not judge others. Remember that everyone makes mistakes. God forgives you and wants you to forgive yourself and others.

Read the Gospel together: LK 6:39-45

### Prayer

Holy Spirit, help me get my mistakes straightened out.

Amen.

### Something to Draw

Draw yourself helping someone who cannot see.

### Mission for the Week

I will help and encourage, rather than judge others.