

ISSUE NO. 88

28 APRIL 2019

Cathedral WEEKLY

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

CONTINUING OUR EASTER JOURNEY | FR. CHRISTOPHER HOUSE
CULTIVATING OUR "EULOGY SELF" | DR. TOD WORNER
HOW TO CARRY THE MEANING OF HOLY WEEK THROUGH THE REST OF THE YEAR | MARY ANN STEUTERMANN
SAVED BY A STICK | DR. TOM NEAL

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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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 29 April

7 AM - VERONICA PAPROCKI (CATHEDRAL USHERS) 5:15PM- RON & JEAN BORRE & FAMILY (KAY AND RICHARD KING) Tuesday 30 April

Tuesday 30 April

7 AM- HILDEGARD RADER (LARRY AND BEV HOFFMAN) 5:15PM- BETTY EDGAR (LARRY & DIANNE HOPKINS)

Wednesday 1 May

7AM- TOM THORNSBROUGH (DEBORAH WAITKUS) 5:15PM- MARY ANN MIDDEN (WILLIAM MIDDEN)

Thursday 2 May

7AM- DORIS DREA (RALPH AND LINDA ANTLE) 5:15 PM- GLORIA CASEY (SUE WARNER)

Friday 3 May

7AM- KATHLEEN DHABALT (BILL VOGT) 5:15PM- JACK STEWART (MARIAN CENTER)

Saturday 4 May

8 AM- DORIS DREA (LLOYD AND MARY BOES) 4 PM- JOHN VOGT JR (BILL VOGT)

Sunday 5 May

7 AM- MARIA MARTINEZ (JOHN BUSCIACCO) 10 AM- CHARLES & MERCEDES NESBITT (KATHY FRANK)
5 PM- FOR THE PEOPLE

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Continuing Our Easter Journey

This Sunday concludes the Octave of Easter. An octave is a celebration of eight days in the Church and each day is honored liturgically in the same way as the day in which the octave began, in this case Easter Sunday.

Following the reforms of Vatican II, only two octaves remain in the ordinary form of the Church's liturgical calendar: Easter and Christmas. While the octave may be finishing, the joy of the Easter Season continues on.

I want to offer a special welcome to those who joined the Church and our parish at the Easter Vigil: Jordan,

through Baptism, and Darren, Janet, & Katie through reception with the Profession of Faith. I wish to thank all those who helped to get that joy starts in our liturgical celebration of the Easter Triduum; thank you to our readers, extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion, ushers, and servers. Finally, a big thank you to our Cathedral choir and musicians for the tremendous work they put into our Triduum liturgies; the music was truly wonderful!



While the Church focuses on the faithful departed in a special way in November, I am also especially mindful of those from our parish community who have gone before us in faith as we celebrate this season of the Resurrection. I would ask you to please remember Kathy Dhabalt in your prayers. Kathy is the mother of Vicki Compton who serves on our parish staff. Kathy's funeral Mass was celebrated at Christ the King this past Tuesday. I would also ask you to please remember Jim Graham in your prayers. Jim's funeral Mass was celebrated at Blessed Sacrament this past Thursday. He was the principal architect during the Cathedral's restoration project back in 2008-2009 and his work here endures as a beautiful testament to the glory of God.

The Gospel for this weekend, the Second of Sunday of Easter, is popularly known as the Gospel of Doubting Thomas. Here our Lord appears to Thomas, and the other ten Apostles, and invites Thomas to see and probe his wounds so that Thomas might believe that the Lord is truly risen and that he is who he says he is. While the Lord's body has been changed and glorified, the wounds from his crucifixion remain. Theologians have marveled over this reality for 2,000 years and posed various reasons as to why. As in the case of St. Thomas the Apostle, the wounds identify the Lord for who is but they also tell us what death is no longer; death is no longer an eternal reality for those who live and die in God's friendship. The marks of the Lord's death remain but, but death has no power over him, and through him neither over us. St. Leo the great says it more eloquently in a homily on the Lord's Passion: He did away with the everlasting character of death so as to make death a thing of time, not of eternity.



As we continue our journey through this Easter Season, let us turn to the risen Lord to draw newness of life from him, remembering that the wounds and the scars of our present lives, painful as they may be, are only things of the here and now; in the Resurrection on the last day, when Christ makes us new, those things will be no more.

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

Divine Mercy Sunday

On Divine Mercy Sunday, April 28th, the Cathedral will host devotions in honor of the day. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will begin at Noon. Confessions will be available from Noon until 3PM with three confessors available during that time. At 3PM, the hour of Divine Mercy, Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will be celebrated as will the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. All are welcome!



Cultivating Our 'Eulogy Self'

Recently, a death arose that brought me back to Brian Doyle's bittersweet essay, *Notes from a Wake*. An Irish priest had passed. Amid photographs and a chalice, whiskey and a few fine cigars smoked "on a side porch under a cedar tree [by] a dozen men and two women," family, friends and the

faithful gathered. An old friend told stories of his youth. Younger folks sang – and debated the lyrics – of an old Irish song, St. Brendan's Fair Isle. A tally was made of family baptisms, marriages and funerals performed by the deceased. Jokes were told. A slow jig was danced. Infants were up too late. Food was packaged up. And then it was done. It was perfect. That's how I want to be remembered.

A few years ago, David Brooks wrote *The Road to Character*. With more heartache than anguish, he mourns what we have become in our modern, efficient, unreflective world. The two sides of our nature (described by Rabbi Soloveitchik as Adam I and Adam II) are forever in tension with one another. Adam I is our exterior self, driven by achievement and honors. It is our "resume self". Adam II is our interior self, moved by eternal verities and ineffable moments (falling in love, doing the right thing, honoring our God and our family). It is our "eulogy self". Brooks observes, with no small amount of regret, that we have lost Adam II because of the oversized drive and social celebration of Adam I. We give lip service to what we would like people to say of us after we have passed, but our daily lives betray that we are in fact obsessed with our growing list of shiny, new achievements. While I wouldn't call Soloveitchik's construct or Brooks' expansion upon it the definitive or last word on the complexity of man and his soul, their point is worthy of consideration.

What have we become? And what have we lost?

In a wonderful little essay, *Morning Report* (which I have written about in these pages before), a harried first year internal medicine resident races through the morning examining fourteen patients, reviewing labs, writing notes, speaking with nurses and families in the desperate effort to finish and make it to her residents' conference at 10 a.m. What foils her efforts (interesting that, in the race for efficiency, it is the work of the soul that is always blamed for foiling the effort), is an emotional moment with a patient who has just come to the fuller realization that she will die from pancreatic cancer. What upsets this resident's efficient plan is that she sits down, holds a hand, and feels her own eyes well up with tears. It is a fleeting, but real, transcendent moment of fellowship. It only lasts a moment, but Adam II just told Adam I to wait.

Daily, in my medical practice, I see this struggle. And in my life, I experience it. Reasonably, we are all simply trying to survive. We go to school and get our degrees. Along the way, we compete in

sports or sing in choirs or join the robotics team or work toward our Eagle Scout. Surely, we take on new experiences to grow as individuals, but we also strive to make ourselves more attractive and more marketable for bigger and better opportunities. We are using our gifts. We are trying to do well. And as we do well, we get stroked. We are told how good we are, how much we have helped, how far we will go. And Adam I, smiles and grows bigger and bigger. But then something happens: an illness, a death, a divorce, a job loss, a house fire, a betrayal. It is something that reminds us that, while our resume is awesome, it won't make a damn bit of difference in this moment. Adam I shrinks; Adam II, in his wobbly, underfed state, begins to rise.

It is Easter Sunday morning as I write this. Everyone is asleep. In a few hours, the house will be bustling with preparation for Mass, disputes about who is in which bathroom for how long, followed by an eager search for all twenty Easter eggs stuffed with Starbursts and Twix bars (several of which, I will help in eating). THIS is my life. The worship of a God who not only made me, but went through (and to) Hell to rescue me in my brokenness. The warm fellowship with my lovely wife and my beautiful and delightfully squirrely daughters. Good food. Fatherly tomfoolery. Crushing hugs from little ones that still believe in me. Moments. Transcendent moments. Moments that would never make it on a resume because they are too precious for that scrap of paper.

In 1906, as G.K. Chesterton concluded his book about Charles Dickens, he made this wonderful and indispensable observation. *Comradeship and serious joy are not interludes in our travel; but... rather our travels are interludes in comradeship and joy, which through God shall endure for ever. The inn does not point to the road; the road points to the inn. And all roads point at last to an ultimate inn, where we shall meet Dickens and all his characters; and when we drink again it shall be from the great flagons in the tavern at the end of the world.*

It is an observation celebrated by those at the Irish priest's wake. It is an ethic aspired to by the Adam II in each of us. It is my Easter Sunday morning. It reminds us that our love of family, fellowship of friends and worship of a crucified (now, risen) God are not interludes – pit stops or way-stations – on our road to success, our journey to resume building, or our cultivation of Adam I. They are the central act, the reason for being, the essence of life. They. Are. Everything.

Surely, we should achieve, strive and be excellent. Our "resume self" is a fine self worthy of regard.

But our "eulogy self"? Now, that's who God has truly called us to be. Worthy of a fondly recalled memory, a slowly danced jig or a wistful, warm puff on a fine cigar.

Dr. Tod Worner is a husband, father, Catholic convert & practicing internal medicine physician. His blog, "Catholic Thinking", is found at Aletheia.com. He also writes for Patheos ("A Catholic Thinker") and the National Catholic Register.



How to Carry the Meaning of Holy Week Through the Rest of the Year

I remember the first time I attended services at my church for the entire Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. I was 10 years old, and

my mother insisted that I go with her. I wasn't happy with Mom at first, but I was asked to be part of the washing of feet at Mass on Thursday, and the experience blew me away. It seemed like such a beautiful, concrete, intimate act that Jesus shared with his disciples, and I felt so lucky that I got to be part of its depiction.

Then the next night, I was asked to be in a special procession on Good Friday. I carried a crown of thorns as the organ swelled and the choir sang, "Were You There When They Crucified My Lord?" Easter Mass on Sunday morning was the culmination of all of this for me. While singing along with "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today," I felt that I had actually walked along with Jesus from the last moments with his friends on Thursday through the agony of his death on Friday back to the joy of new life on Sunday. In his book, "I Know This Much Is True," Wally Lamb writes, "The evidence of God exists in the roundness of things." I couldn't agree more.

The cycle of seasons that moves from the lushness of spring and summer into the shriveled barrenness of fall and winter before erupting in the fresh, new buds of spring once again is another example. The roundness of our planet's journey around the sun points to the divine origin of all life. In my own life, I've seen the same divine pattern at work.

When I finally landed on a major in college, I decided that I wanted to be a high school religion teacher. I became certified to teach English and got a minor in theology, which helped me get a job in a Catholic school. But I soon fell in love with teaching English and kept with that path. After several years of teaching, I became an assistant principal, and then a principal. Not enamored with the stress that went along with the principal role, I stepped down, left the school I had loved for 20 years and worked in different capacities for awhile.

Until I got a phone call. A friend from my school told me that the current campus minister was going to retire, and she thought I should apply. I had never considered the position before, so I thanked her for her kind words but said, "No, thanks." However, the idea of it stuck with me. Several months and lots of prayerful reflection later, I became the campus minister at my school, a position I currently hold and find very fulfilling. I feel like I have come full circle. I'm not a religion teacher in the way I had originally intended, but I definitely teach religion in my current role.

As Catholics, we celebrate a "roundness" that we call the Paschal Mystery during Holy Week each year. Jesus' life, death, and resurrection demonstrate for us that death is not an ending; it's not the last stop on a linear journey. Instead, Jesus shows us that with God, we can move from birth through death into new life. We call the week in which we celebrate the Triduum of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter a "holy" week. And rightly so. The word holy means sacred or blessed in our current usage, but it comes from a Germanic root that means something a little different – whole. In other words, the very roundness of the journey from life through death and back to life again is what makes it sacred.

Perhaps the biggest mistake we sometimes make with Holy Week is when we think of it as just one week out of the year. Certainly, there is just one week in which we celebrate the Triduum as a community in ritual and sacrament. But every week can be a holy week. Every week should be whole.

For that to happen, we simply need Easter eyes – eyes that see and honor the roundness in all of life as experiences of God. Every time we love, get hurt, but then forgive, we become whole. Every time we succeed, then fail, but then gain the courage and wisdom to start again, we understand that life is sacred. Every time we are home, then move away, then return home – literally or figuratively – we are blessed.

I see this at work in my own life. Both of my parents passed away over the last two years, each suffering from a lengthy battle with dementia. As hard as it was for me to care for them while working and caring for my own family, as hard as it was to visit them in a nursing home and watch them decline, something felt right about the process. I had come full circle. The people who had helped bring me into the world and cared for me as a child were the same people I cared for and comforted as they slipped back into God's divine embrace.

Holy Week celebrates more than a historical event from more than 2,000 years ago. It's also a powerful invitation for us to make every week of our lives a holy one. I truly believe that "the evidence of God exists in the roundness of things." Going forward after Easter, we're called to embrace this wholeness in all parts of our lives. May we be watchful and hopeful with Easter eyes.

Mary Ann Steutermann is currently the director of campus ministry at Assumption High School, an all-girls Catholic high school in Louisville, Kentucky. She holds a bachelor's degree in English and two master's degrees in education. Mary Ann lives in Louisville with her husband and son.

Stewardship Activity

Stewardship of Time & Talents

Take some time reflecting on what Easter means to you this week. Does it mean saying, "Yes" to that ministry you have considered joining? Does it mean spending more time in prayer? What does the Easter message mean to your call to discipleship?

Stewardship of Treasure April 20th & 21st

Envelopes: \$ 8,509.59
Loose: \$ 3,917.22
Maintenance: \$ 46.00

Total: \$ 12,472.81
March EFT (\$18,550.00)

Sacraments

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

Scripture Questions

First Reading: Acts 5:12-16

In Acts, Luke records many of the "signs and wonders" performed by the Apostles in Jerusalem in the aftermath of Jesus' resurrection. Where do you see miraculous events occurring today in your faith community?

Second Reading: Rev 1:9-11A, 12-13, 17-19

Today, we hear of one of the early visions of the resurrected Jesus that John received while exiled on the island of Patmos. What do you see as the main message Jesus was communicating to John in this initial vision?

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

The "doubting Thomas" resurrection narrative is one of the best-known Gospel stories surrounding Jesus' resurrection appearances. What role does doubt play in your spiritual journey?



Saved by a Stick

Some people are called to be a good sailor. Some people have a calling to be a good tiller of the land. Some people are called to be a good friend. You have to be the best at whatever you are called at. Whatever you do. It's about confidence, not

arrogance. — Bob Dylan

My grandfather wrote me in a letter, "It's not what you do, it's how you do it. It's not what you make, it's who you become in the making. It's not about getting recognized for what you've done, it's recognizing what you've done you did for the right reason. And the right reason is always the Almighty and your fellow man. The rest is incidental."

"Being best at it" is to strive to do each thing you do with full intention, as if each action were the first, last and only thing you will ever do. Living as if now was all your legacy would be in time, all your name would signify in eternity. To treat each encounter as defining, each next as a new beginning, as the whole present in the part. For God does not treat any moment as insignificant, since He is wholly present to each moment, loving with equally infinite intensity.

Back when my daughter Catherine was 4 years old, I came home from work one day feeling defeated and tired, and not prepared to patiently interact with my children. I wanted to stare at a blank wall that did not talk back, and sip a Blue Moon.



As I got out of my car and started toward the front door, I noticed Catherine was playing over by the tree line. When she caught sight of me, she ran excitedly toward me with a stick in hand and shouted, "Daddy look! A stick! A stick!" I mumbled something and hoped she'd go back to her solitary play. But she persisted, "No! No! Look at the stick!" As I looked, she pointed to little red mites running in and out of the cracks in the stick. She pulled me with her to the ground, and we blanked the whole world out to examine this microcosm together.

In a matter of seconds my whole disposition changed, the present presided over both past and future, and my regrets and worries were forgotten amid the lilies of her field.

*The wolf shall live with the lamb,
the leopard shall lie down with the kid,
the calf and the lion and the fatling
together,
and a little child shall lead them.
— Isaiah 11:6*

In that moment, Catherine's love seized me, and I was prepared to worthily receive the sacrament of the present moment. It is in such moments that the Kingdom Come, comes. More than anyone in the world, my children have taught me how to discover my vocation in the moment. "See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation" (2 Cor. 6:2).

Dr. Tom Neal presently serves as Academic Dean and Professor of Spiritual Theology at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, Louisiana. Tom received a Masters in Systematic Theology from Mount St. Mary's University and a PhD in Religion at Florida State University.

Sharing the Gospel

After Jesus died on the cross, the disciples were afraid people would want to hurt them, too. They stayed together in a room and locked the door. Then Jesus came to his friends, to show them he was really alive again. Jesus changed their fear into gladness. Have you ever been so afraid that you just wanted to hide? Remember that Jesus is with you when you are afraid, too.

Prayer

Dear God,

Thank you for being with me when I am afraid.

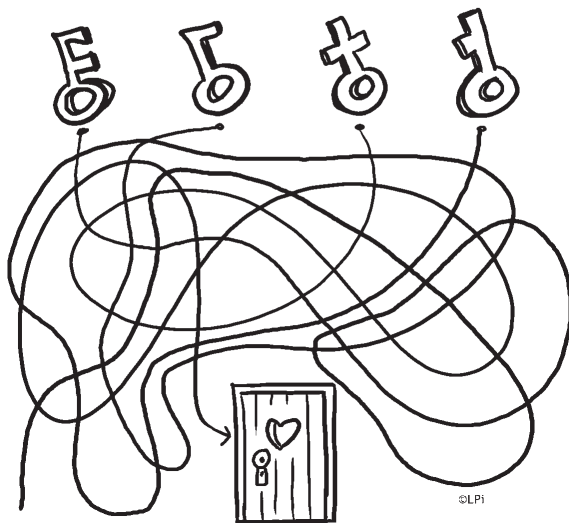
Amen.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus next to you when you are afraid.



Which key can unlock the Door?



I will talk to God whenever I am afraid.

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Growing with the GOSPEL

My Church
My Family and Me

John 20:19-31 ■ 2nd Sunday of Easter

CYCLE C



Read the Gospel and Color



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