

ISSUE NO. 89

5 MAY 2019

Cathedral

WEEKLY

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

THE NOT-SO-FINE PRINT | FR. CHRISTOPHER HOUSE
BRING FLOWERS TO THE FAIREST | ELLYN VON HUBEN
WET CLOTHES, DON'T CARE | KATIE PRICE

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 6 May

7 AM - BARB MCGRATH (MARK & MARY PETRILLI) 5:15PM- BART ROTHERHAM (ROTHERHAM FAMILY)

Tuesday 7 May

7 AM- SHIRLEY LOGAN (LISA LOGAN & FAMILY) 5:15PM- NO MASS

Wednesday 8 May

7AM- SPECIAL INTENTION FOR LOST SOULS (CCCW) 5:15PM- MARY ANN MIDDEN (WILLIAM MIDDEN)

Thursday 9 May

7AM- TOM THORNSBROUGH (DEBORAH WAITKUS) 5:15 PM- NORMAN & EILEEN ROVEY (FAMILY)

Friday 10 May

7AM- DORIS DREA (KATHI GRIFFIN) 5:15PM- BARBARA MCGEE (TOM MCGEE)

Saturday 11 May

8 AM- BETTY EDGAR (CHERYL GALE) 4 PM- FOR THE PEOPLE

Sunday 12 May

7 AM-MARY ANN MIDDEN (WILLIAM MIDDEN) 10 AM- KARA LEIGH SMITH (FRIENDS FROM ISBE) 5 PM- ROBERT W. COLLIN (FAMILY)

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The Not-So-Fine Print

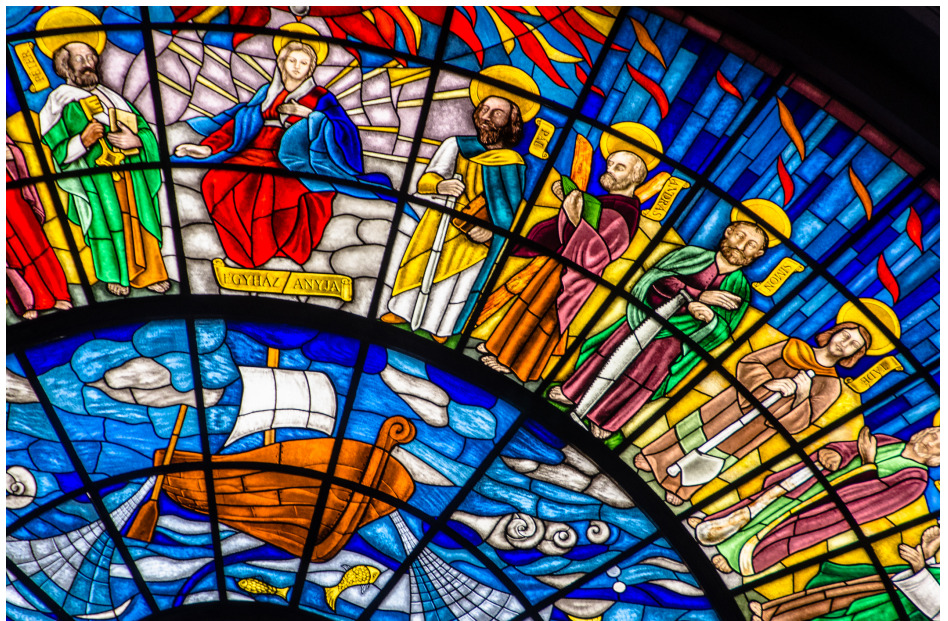
This weekend as we celebrate the third Sunday of Easter, we continue with the appearances of the risen Lord as recounted in John's Gospel. This Sunday's Gospel selection is packed with details, beginning by taking us to the shore of the Sea of Galilee where the disciples, who are out on the sea fishing, encounter once again the risen Jesus who is waiting for them on land. The Gospel implies that they do not recognize Jesus physically as his appearance has been glorified in the resurrection, but they do recognize him in faith due to their catch of fish having followed Jesus's command to lower their nets.

This is Peter's first personal encounter with Jesus since denying knowing him while in the court yard of the high priest during Jesus's trial. What a change we see in Peter.

Most of us would be reluctant from guilt to come face to face with the Lord, but Peter, who ran from him, now cannot wait to get to him; he doesn't wait for the boat to get to shore but jumps over the side in a hurry to greet Jesus.

While Peter sinned against the Lord, it is apparent here that Peter trusts in the Lord's love, mercy, and forgiveness.

While at breakfast, Jesus asks Peter "do you love me more than these?" This could mean one of two things. One interpretation is that Jesus is not comparing Peter's love for him with Peter's love for his brothers, but rather that Jesus knows that they all love him but he asks Peter if Peter's love for him surpasses the others' love for Jesus. Another interpretation is that Jesus is asking this in reference to the boat and the nets, symbolic of Peter's former life; Jesus could be asking if Peter is truly willing to leave it all behind for love of him. What is agreed upon by scholars and theologians is that this is the moment of Peter's rehabilitation. It was next to a fire that Peter denied that Lord three times; here, again by a fire, Jesus affirms his love for Jesus three times, not with great remonstrations as he had done at the Last Supper but simply but saying with emotion "Lord, you know that I love you."



Assured of his love, Jesus now tells Peter, rather plainly and not hidden in fine print, what the reality of that love will mean, that days will come when Peter will suffer for that love, and in the same breath Jesus once again makes the great invitation to Peter: "follow me."

As disciples, the same question is asked of us: "do you love me more than these?"

Are we striving to perfect our love for the Lord? Are we willing to place love of him before everything and everyone else? Are we willing to accept the crosses that come from loving him? While loving him will certainly bring crosses, his love will bring us beyond those crosses to greater life, both here and in the life to come. Jesus lays everything out before us concerning discipleship, the good and the unpleasant. He also gives us the same invitation: "follow me."

What's our answer?

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

****Please note there is NO 5:15 PM Mass Tuesday, May 7th.****



Bring Flowers to the Fairest

[This article was originally published May 2, 2017, link below]

"If there's a bustle in your hedgerow, don't be alarmed now. It's just a spring clean for the May Queen."

Those of us living in the Midwestern United States have had a springtime in which it really feels that we *"know that all creation is groaning in labor pains..."* (Romans 8:22) After a disappointingly mild winter – the disappointment being the lack of a picture book "White Christmas"- which ended in several weeks of multiple snowstorms, the wintery gloom and chill have dragged on. The groundhog who predicted an early spring should look into a new career. The labor of the earth bringing forth new life has been painfully stalled. At last, there have been some blessedly warm days, finally bringing the beauty of buds on the trees and the first flowers of spring. On the sixth Sunday of Easter, I can look out my window and safely say that spring has sprung. Though I wouldn't say I'm packing away my winter coat just yet.

Each spring I enjoy one of the happiest perks of my job as a church secretary: a good perch for viewing the procession of school children to the annual May Crowning. There are the eighth graders, trying to look casually grown-up as they wait for one of their own to crown the statue of the Blessed Mother. We are always especially touched by the gravity of the second graders, wearing their First Communion clothes for a second time. They are so pious and serious as they walk past in single file. I think of the impression this is making on their young hearts, helping form a lifetime of devotion to the mother of Our Lord.

The popular Marian hymns sung at May Crownings tend to be treacly in their sentimentality. But I'll give these sweet tunes a pass here, as they help ingrain an unforgettable devotion. A friend of mine brings Holy Communion to an elderly shut-in who just celebrated her 100th birthday. Many conversations in these calls are one sided; but a visit last week, on the first of May, had more animation. My friend began with a mention of the date and started to sing "Bring Flowers of the Rarest." And she was joined by her usually quiet companion as the tune brought back memories of May devotions in years gone by: *O Mary! We crown thee with blossoms today, Queen of the Angels, Queen of the May.*

May Day and other May festivities provide a prime example of a pagan holiday sanctified rather than suppressed by our Church. In agrarian societies, the life-giving rebirth and blossoming of nature was something to be heartily celebrated. In



"The Bad Catholics Guide to Good Living," author John Zmirak elaborates on how *"the Church never tried to quash these festivities, only to steer them gently in a more Christian direction."* It follows naturally that the celebration of spring be given over to a celebration of Mary. As Gerard Manley Hopkins wrote in The May Magnificat: *Ask of her, the mighty mother: Her reply puts this other Question: What is Spring?— Growth in every thing—*

The primal concerns celebrated in spring are now steered towards honoring the ultimate act of new life for humanity, in a woman whose cooperation with God allowed the Word to become flesh and dwell among us. Some say that pagan celebrations have been 'tamed' or 'laundered' into Christian celebrations, but there is nothing bland nor safe in what we celebrate. We celebrate God's Love. Love that was willing to become one of us, grow like one of us, and finally suffer the agony of the Cross for our redemption.

Since I became a Catholic over twenty years ago, I have had a special affection for May's Marian devotions. I always felt a little 'robbed' of the beautiful May Crowning, as my children had been in our parish's religious education program, which wrapped up at the end of April. The May Crowning has been strictly an event for the children of the parish school.

When we began homeschooling our children, I wanted to have our own May Crowning and to begin a special tradition of honoring Mary in a special place in our home during Mary's month. Our "school sized" forty-four inch statue of the Blessed Mother was a gift that my husband and I gave to each other. I had found it on eBay, looking to find a substantial statue of Our Lady with a bit of money that I had put aside. When the bidding got frantic at the end of the auction, my husband offered to double the amount as an early anniversary present.

The statue took over six weeks to arrive; the delay so long that a friend of mine was sure that I had been scammed. But arrive it did, looking worse for the wear, with its hands fractured off. It was obvious that the hands been bumped, jostled, and glue back together over the years. I set about to reverse the affects of a bad repainting. Someone with an intent to modernize the statue had painted the face, hair, and hands white, leaving only the blue cloak for contrast. I was grateful that whoever did the job ran out of paint and/or ambition before getting to the base of the statue, leaving the original paint on the cherubs, globe, and evil serpent (complete with juicy apple!) being crushed under Our Lady's heel. It was the stunning base of the statue that caught my eye when I was cyber-shopping, crying out for someone to give it a little help.

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The project took all that I knew about painting plus years of knowledge acquired flipping through fashion magazines and hanging around the Clinique counter. It was more of a cosmetic makeover than paint job – and I wanted it to be dignified, subtle, and worthy of the subject. And after painting, repainting, retouching and regluing one hand that was broken off – again! – in the process, Our Lady was ready to take her place at our first May Altar.

These things never go quite as I imagine they should. Not having years of large-scale Marian devotions behind them, my older daughters were mortified by the large statue moved into a prominent place in the living room. That first year the May altar was quite visible through the living room window. I didn't mind. In fact, if you have a forty-four inch statue, why not share it with the world! But for image conscious teenagers, it took a bit of getting used to. They said it looked 'ethnic,' though no one was sure what ethnicity to pin it on. (May Altars first became popular throughout the countries in the southern part of Europe, i.e., the Catholic countries. They are also known to pop up in Ireland.) Perhaps the ethnicity they were thinking of is "Catholic" – as in, unapologetically Catholic with the appropriate devotion to Mary, the Mother of God.

That is the kind of grousing one gets from teenagers who want so much to be like the rest of the crowd. If everyone else had May Altars, ours might not have been big enough or prominent enough. It's all a matter of contrast. Now the family is used to it. Maybe still not 100% on board. It is not easy to be present at the beginning of a family tradition; it is so much easier to grow up remembering that something has "always been done that way."

Out in the yard, many flowers have names of Marian significance (marigolds, anyone?) and most others have alternate names honoring the Blessed Virgin. The Mary Garden is another springtime exercise in honoring Mary that has found a resurgence in popularity. Plantings in a Mary Garden create an earthy shrine for meditation on the lives of Mary and Jesus. I have clipped articles, read websites, and planted a Mary Garden in my mind. My tangible experience is pretty much limited to marigolds, but just knowing the symbolism behind the random flora of our garden is another way of appreciating the beauty of the created world in which God was made flesh.

Long before the child Jesus picked his first dandelion for Mary (or whatever was the Holy Land equivalent of the iconic American child's love offering), people had been celebrating the rebirth of life each spring. Our Church has made this time of celebration its own and made this a blessed time to honor the woman full of Grace. May Crownings, May Altars, and Mary Gardens are a deliberately "ethnic" and proud way of celebrating our faith. At my house, Catholic is what we are now – and we set aside the month of May for remembering Our Lady in this lovely, verdant way.

*Bring flow'rs of the fairest, bring flow'rs of the rarest,
From garden and woodland and hillside and vale.*

*Our full hearts are swelling, our glad voices telling
The praise of the loveliest, Rose of the vale.*

Ellyn von Huben is a native of Wisconsin. Never one to keep her opinions to herself, her interests in the Church, family issues, and an eclectic array of topics led to her branching out into blogging, writing, and speaking. Ellyn lives in the suburbs of Chicago, and still has her 'day job' as an administrative assistant in a large Catholic parish on Chicago's North Shore.

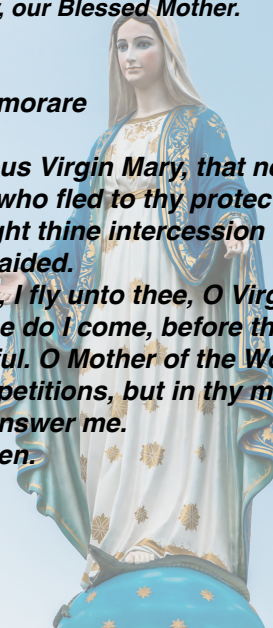
Article link: <https://www.wordonfire.org/resources/blog/bring-flowers-to-the-fairest/18616/>

During the month of May, we will be sharing Catholic Marian prayers with you in the Weekly. We hope this will enhance your devotion to Mary, our Blessed Mother.

The Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided.

Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me.
Amen.



The prayer, traditionally attributed to St. Bernard of Clairvaux, gets its name from the first word of the original Latin prayer. However, the prayer as we know it today is actually found within a much larger prayer to the Virgin Mary entitled *Ad sanctitatis tuae pedes, dulcissima Virgo Maria* ("At your holy feet, most sweet Virgin Mary").

The Memorare was popularized by another Bernard, Fr. Claude Bernard, in the 17th century. Fr. Claude believed that the recitation of the prayer was the cause of his miraculous healing. He printed over 200,000 leaflets with the prayer on it in different languages to distribute wherever he could.

St. Francis de Sales said the prayer daily and St. Teresa of Calcutta taught others to pray it when they most needed help. Mother Teresa would pray it whenever she was faced with an emergency situation and most needed a miracle. It never failed her and has proven its miraculous character over the years through thousands of testimonials.

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 27th & 28th

Envelopes:	\$ 4,818.00
Loose:	\$ 3,824.55
Maintenance:	\$ 165.00

Total: \$ 8,807.55
April EFT (\$18,475.00)

Sacraments

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

Scripture Questions

First Reading: ACTS 5:27-32, 40B-41

In the immediate weeks and months following Jesus' resurrection, the Apostles performed many miracles, but they also suffered for their faith and for preaching about Jesus. Why do you think non-believers even today are threatened by Jesus' resurrection from the dead?

Second Reading: REV 5:11-14

What does John's vision reveal to us about the unseen order?

Gospel Reading: JN 21:1-19

Three times the resurrected Lord asks Peter, "Do you love me?" And three times Jesus tells Peter to "feed/tend my sheep/lambs." Jesus then foreshadowed Peter's martyrdom. What do you make of this exchange between Jesus and Peter?

Wet Clothes, Don't Care

I hate wet clothes. Maybe I should say I highly dislike, because hate is such a strong word, right? I detest wet clothes even on a hot summer day. I am not sure why it is, but ever since I was a kid, something about a "water ride" at an amusement park never scared me, just annoyed me. You would set out on this fun roller coaster, just to come off it soaking wet for the remainder of the afternoon...your next ride would be wet, the bench at lunch would be wet, your tennis shoes, socks, oh the list of terror continues. I know this sounds silly, but I would prefer to do anything over jumping in the water fully clothed.

Reading the Gospel this Sunday made me think of getting uncomfortable for Jesus. Peter upon seeing Jesus was so excited that he didn't have the patience for the boat to come ashore. He jumped right in the water, fully clothed, no hesitation. With joy and zeal, the last thing on his mind were wet clothes. That would be the one instance I would jump freely out of the boat, fully clothed, to get to Jesus. It would require discomfort, annoyance, and general displeasure to do so, but it would be worth it to see Him on the shore.

Friends, this is what discipleship and stewardship are all about. How many of you are comfortable witnessing the Good News on Facebook? When we see a post about a pro-life issue, do we share it, even if we may have "friends" who would be offended? How many of us are willing to sit next to the stranger in the pews

and shake their hand, offering welcome? How many of us are willing to say yes to tithing, even though we fear we may run out of money for weekend activities? How many of us are willing to bring the kids or grandkids to Mass on Sunday or daily Mass, even though we know it is sometimes a challenge and we face kicking and screaming? What is normally an inconvenience or uncomfortable experience, often produces the best fruit for the soul.



- Maybe your "shared" Facebook post reaches someone considering an abortion.
- Maybe that stranger was considering joining the parish and becoming Catholic and you were the one that introduced them to Jesus and our Parish.
- Maybe the re-prioritization of our finances leads our family into a deeper prayer life, in which we eat at home on Friday night and pray before the meal, instead of rushing through a drive-thru window.
- Maybe the grandkids won't kick and scream, and next time invite

their parents to Mass with you.

The willingness to jump in, to "let go, and let God," is hard. However, in my life during the hardest times, I found my vocation, my spiritual home, and great joy. Let go and let God be the driver. He would jump in, fully clothed, to get to you. What would it look like if we were willing to jump in first toward Him?

Katie Price is the Coordinator for Stewardship at the Cathedral and works for the Diocese of Springfield, IL by helping parishes grow in discipleship and stewardship efforts.

Sharing the Gospel

After Jesus rose from the dead, he must have looked very different. Jesus helped his apostles catch a lot of fish, just as he had done before. Jesus invited his friends to eat with him, and he still broke his bread to share it in the same way he always had. The disciples still recognized Jesus by the things he did.

Prayer

Dear God,

Help me to recognize Jesus. Help me to see him in myself, my family, and my friends.

Amen.

Something to Draw

Draw a picture of Jesus cooking fish for his friends.

Puzzle

Find and circle these words from today's Gospel:

FISHING	JUMPED	CHARCOAL
CATCH	DROGGED	APPEARED
BOAT	BREAD	RAISED

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

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Mission for the Week

Invite a friend over to eat dinner with your family, so you can share food just like Jesus did.

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Growing with the
GOSPEL



John 21:1-19 ■ 3rd Sunday of Easter

CYCLE C



Read the Gospel and Color



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