**ISSUE NO. 91** 

Gathedral
WEEKLY

19 MAY 2019

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

HOW TO SHARE YOUR FAITH WITH FRIENDS & FAMILY WHO LOST THEIRS | LISA HENDEY
MOVING FROM MAINTENANCE TO MISSION | RACHEL BULMAN
GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES ON FACEBOOK | SARAH GARONE



#### THE MOST REVEREND THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI

NINTH BISHOP
OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS

THE VERY REVEREND CHRISTOPHER A. HOUSE, V.J.

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

Rev. Christopher A. House

Rector

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week Monday 20 May

7 AM -MARY ANN MIDDEN (WILLIAM MIDDEN)

5:15 PM- BETTY EDGAR (ST. ELIZABETH SCHOOL)

Tuesday 21 May

7 AM-JAMES & PATRICIA GOLLON (FR. EDGAR) 5:15 PM- MR. & MRS. RATNA KUMARI PANDITY (SUSEELA PANDITY)

Wednesday 22 May

7 AM- KATHLEEN D. DHABALT (NANCY SHRENK) 5:15 PM- NORMA BILLINGTON GRISSOM (LEAH, SUE ELLEN & JACK BILLINGTON)

Thursday 23 May

7 AM- LEONARD CHITTLE (DAVID & MARY BEACH) 5:15 PM- PEGGY SIDENER (MARIAN CENTER)

Friday 24 May

7 AM- SPECIAL INTENTION FOR LOST SOULS (CCCW) 5:15 PM- DORIS DREA (KATHI GRIFFIN)

Saturday 25 May

8 AM- NO MASS 4 PM- SPECIAL INTENTION FOR TERRY MATTOX (ELLEN MATTOX)

Sunday 26 May

7 AM-JOHN CRAIG (FAMILY) 10 AM- FOR THE PEOPLE 5 PM- JOHN & EDITH BAKALAR (JOHN BUSCIACCO)

## DISCIPLESHIP





## How to Share Your Faith with Friends and Family Who Lost Theirs

"Jesus answered and said to her, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in

him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.' – John 4:13-15

Perhaps you have them in your life just as I do: loved ones who are good people, but who either by choice or by life circumstances don't share your Catholic faith. And perhaps like me, you've had interesting moments with these family members or friends when they asked about the Church or the Faith in general.

Whether because of mainstream media coverage, or simply to make conversation with me, many of my friends who have been away from the Church (or who never knew her to begin with) are suddenly asking questions. Over the past several months, I've had my spiritual antenna raised for such encounters where the movements of the Holy Spirit create a moment of opportunity to minister with love.

I sense in these fleeting conversations the opening of a

window through which great grace can pass. But I also often fear that something I wrongly say or do in these interactions will again slam shut that window and further distance my loved one from the power of Christ's embrace.

#### Look for Those "Well Moments"

There is not an easy "one size fits all" approach to these encounters. You probably know the pain of having someone you love reject the Creed with which they were raised. The accompanying pain tears at our hearts and causes us to second-guess ourselves, and to wonder what we might have done differently. We often wrongly judge—both our fallen away brothers and sisters, and ourselves.

Lately, I've been trying to train myself to recognize what I've started calling these "well moments". We know from reading John's fourth chapter that Jesus himself had an opportunity to meet a Samaritan woman who was not only popularly considered a sinner, but who also was clearly seeking some greater truth in her own life.

Jesus didn't choose to begin this encounter from a position of judgment or condemnation, but rather in a dialogue. He gently and lovingly led the woman to the truth she was so desperately seeking. John 4:5-42, gives us a model, an object lesson of sorts, for our own "well moments."

#### We Need to Walk

Pope Francis broke open the key component of Christ's encounter with the Samaritan Woman: "When a Samaritan woman came to draw water, Jesus said to her, 'Will you give me a drink?'

In this way, the pope explained, Jesus cut across the barriers of hostility that existed between Jews and Samaritans, crushing the prejudice that existed in relating to women.

The pope said that Jesus' simple request signals the beginning of an open dialogue, through which, with great delicacy, he entered the interior world of a person to whom, according to social

convention, he should not even have spoken to.

"But this is exactly what Jesus does! Jesus is not afraid. When Jesus sees a person He goes towards that person because He is filled with love. He loves all of us. He does not stop before anyone because of prejudice," Pope Francis said.

He went on to explain that Jesus does not judge, but acknowledges each person making him or her feel considered and recognized, and stimulating in that person the

wish to go beyond their daily "routine".



As we prepare for such encounters in our own lives—those times when we have the opportunity to simply and lovingly journey alongside someone as they move towards Jesus Christ—we need to remember to attend to our own spiritual thirst as well. A life lived immersed in Scripture and the sacraments helps prepare our hearts and minds for "well moments."

Together let's meet these opportunities fully prepared to let God work through us. Let's open a dialogue, set judgment aside and "be not afraid" the next time we find ourselves at the well.

Lisa M. Hendey is the Founder of CatholicMom.comand the author of The Grace of Yes and A Book of Saints for Catholic Moms. Lisa writes in multiple Catholic venues and maintains an active speaking calendar, presenting on faith, family, technology and evangelization topics. Visit her at <a href="www.LisaHendey.com">www.LisaHendey.com</a>. This article was first published on The Great Adventure Blog June 26, 2014.

## FAITH FORMATION



#### Moving from Maintenance to Mission

In Evangelii Gaudium, Pope Francis exclaims: "In our day Jesus' command to 'go and make disciples' echoes in the changing scenarios and ever new challenges to the Church's mission of evangelization, and all of us are called to take part in this new missionary 'going forth'. Each Christian and every community must discern the path that the Lord points out, but all of us are asked to obey his call to go forth from our own comfort zone in order to reach all the 'peripheries' in need of the light of the Gospel."

How will we respond at Cathedral? How about being part of the Alpha ministry? Alpha is a perfect place to get acquainted with others in and outside of the parish around a shared meal and discussion. The ministry is one tool we are using to move our parish from maintenance to Mission. Alpha transmits the faith through initial proclamation, in language any person, even unchurched, can understand and encourages us to go off the church campus to invite others to consider Christianity.

Think about the many ways you can participate in the life of the parish-serving at Mass, joining a Bible Study or Book Club, joining the Knights of Columbus or helping the Cathedral Council of Catholic Women (CCCW). Increased opportunities both during the day and in the evenings for adult faith formation is helping parishioners and guests to continue to be formed in the faith. All of this missionary movement is to help people become intentional disciples of Jesus Christ. And we will continue to seek ways to form and accompany parishioners as they discern their unique way to make Christ known in the world.



The list below outlines the differences between a parish in maintenance mode and one that is in mission mode. Bobby Vidal, who is the Director of Evangelization and Lay Formation at St. Kateri Tekakwitha Church in Santa Clarita, California wrote the first seven and the eighth was provided by Sherry Weddell, author of the book "Becoming a Parish of Intentional Disciples."

Reflect on these differences with us. When ready, think about your answer to this question: How will you continue to help the Cathedral move from maintenance to mission?

If you are interested in any of our ministries at the Cathedral or for more information about the next session of Alpha starting on June 10th, please reach out to Vicki Compton at <a href="mailto:vcompton@cathedral.dio.org">vcompton@cathedral.dio.org</a> or 522-3342.

	Maintenance Oriented Parish	Mission Oriented Parish
Activity	Getting people involved in events and activities in the parish.	Helping all people encounter Jesus and experience conversion through their involvement at the parish and outside.
Leadership	Forming individuals to take on parish leadership roles.	Forming individuals to discern their charisms and God-given vocations.
Commitment	Getting parishioners to give more time, talent, and treasure to the parish.	Helping individuals commit their entire life to Jesus and live out that commitment daily.
Sustaining	Sustaining the current parish structures and number of people.	Sustaining a culture of discipleship, nurturing and sustaining the work of conversion in individuals.
Passing along the Faith	Relying solely on catechesis as the means of transmitting the faith.	Transmitting the faith through pre-evangelization, initial proclamation, and then catechesis in a systematic way.
Formation Processes	Providing formation for ministries exercised only for the parish.	Answering the outward call of the parish by providing formation for individuals to both take part in parish ministries and transform the secular world.
Communication	Communicating in "insider" language.	Communicating in language both "insiders and outsiders" can understand.
Missionary Spirit	Presuming that the goal is to get people to come to the parish "plant."	Leaving the parish plant to go out into the neighborhoods of the parish.

## EVANGELIZATION





# Go and Make Disciples on Facebook: A Guide to Sharing Your Faith on Social Media

The quote famously attributed to Saint Francis goes, "Preach the Gospel at all times. Use words if necessary."

These days, when so much of our

communication takes place on keyboards and screens, words truly are necessary for sharing our faith online. In my own social media presence, I've struggled to strike the right balance of piety and down-to-earth humor, inner peace and occasional doubt that will make my Catholic faith relatable to my friends and followers who aren't believers. So, how do we choose what to say in our posts, comments, and updates that attracts others to the Gospel? Here are a few do's and don'ts I've learned along the way.

#### Do: Make it personal

I love to share what God is doing in my life. When I do so on Facebook or Twitter, I have the freedom to speak from personal experience without feeling preachy—since, after all, I'm simply relating my own stories. I've posted many times about how God is leading me, like when I started volunteering at a crisis pregnancy center, or the many things I'm thankful for, like my recent 10-year anniversary of becoming Catholic. Personal testimony is compelling. Both in my "real" life and in my relationships on social media, I've had friends reach out with questions about Christianity after I've shared openly about my spirituality. When others hear stories about your walk with God, it may intrigue them enough to turn to you when they're seeking answers.

#### Do: Make it real

On social media, we often try to present an image of perfection in order to show we're "good" Christians. I'd be embarrassed to admit to hundreds of people that my marriage has hit a rough patch or that it's a weekly struggle to get my kids to go to Mass without a meltdown. (In fact, it's during these times that I often post a cheery status update to garner likes that will make me feel better.) But to make our faith appealing, we don't have to post the status updates of a saint. Your friends know you're human. Let's try to keep it real by mentioning authentic struggles alongside the highlight reel. I recently shared a podcast episode that featured a painful story from my past, and it actually felt really good to get so honest. Jesus himself said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners" (Mark 2:17).

#### Do: Make it an invitation

It's the final, critical step of evangelism: Making a concrete offer for others to take a step toward Christ. Could you tell your Facebook friends about a service opportunity they could join at your church, or extend an open invitation to Mass to your Instagram followers? (Since it's all online, at least you won't experience the awkwardness of rejection in person.) When my

husband and I lead music for the Stations of the Cross at our church, I like to put the word out on social media. Not surprisingly, we've had far more friends show up to this particular church event than get in touch out of the blue.

#### Do: Speak with charity and kindness

It stings when people say hurtful or uninformed things about our religion on social media. But while it's important to stand up for our convictions, we're far more likely to win over online friends to Christ with gentle words than with a battering ram of righteous anger. My hot-button issue online? The right to life. The minute I see Facebook friends on a tirade against the pro-life movement, I want to rip their arguments to shreds in ALL CAPS. But when I can stay a bit more mindful, I try instead to lead with open-ended questions that get to the bottom of the other person's feelings or beliefs. (Or, when possible, offer an invitation to discuss in person.) A show of compassion and open-mindedness may go further than you expect. I recently had an agnostic pro-choice friend share a Catholic article I had written on her own Facebook page—an action I believe was fueled by the mutual respect we'd shown each other online.

#### Don't: Get too academic

As much as we Catholics may love to dig into the finer points of transubstantiation or the difference between venial and mortal sin, most people are not won over to the Gospel by theological treatises. If your social media posts delve too often into a religious academic discussion, your unchurched (and possibly even your churched) friends' eyes will glaze over. I know I tend to skip over lengthy back-and-forth theological discussions when I see them online. The comments so often seem self-important, and the highbrow religious terminology is a turn-off. The unfortunate reality is that many people already have a preconceived notion of the Catholic Church as an esoteric institution. Instead of feeding that stereotype online, maybe it's time to present our faith on a more relatable level—and keep the discussions of dogma to a minimum.

#### Don't: Be (only) religious

My relationship with Jesus is the bedrock of my life, but it's not the only subject I find interesting. And, quite honestly, when religious friends of mine post nothing but saint pictures and Bible verses, even I tend to tune them out. People want to see you're a real, approachable person who does more than pray 24/7. Showing you have a sense of humor and a life outside of church might convince others that they, too, could embrace faith as a part of their journey. On social media, I especially love pointing out things that strike me as hilarious, like weird things my kids say, or the time my church's song sheet made a super funny typo. After all, social media presents an opportunity to share all of our lives with others, including—but not limited to—our faith.

Sarah Garone is a Catholic wife, mom, nutritionist, food blogger, and freelance writer in Mesa, Arizona. When she's not cooking up something healthy and delicious in the kitchen (or cooking up ideas for writing), you can find her sharing recipes and reflections at "A Love Letter to Food."

### STEWARDSHIP



#### Stewardship Activity

Stewardship of Time

Increase your time with God in prayer 1 % this week!

Stewardship of Talents

How have you grown over the past year? Have your abilities or talents changed?

Stewardship of Treasure May 11th & 12th

Envelopes: \$ 7,785.09 Loose: \$ 3,569.00 Maintenance: \$ 305.00

Total: \$ 11,659.09 April EFT (\$18, 475.00)

#### Sacraments

Congratulations and many prayers of blessing for Leilani Anahi Papille, whose family recently celebrated her Baptism at Cathedral! Welcome!

#### **Scripture Questions**

First Reading: ACTS 14:21-27

As their first missionary journey came to an end, Luke tells us that Paul and Barnabas "opened the door of faith to the Gentiles." Who in your life most needs an invitation to the faith?

Second Reading: REV 21:1-5A

Today's reading is the beginning of John's final vision of the end times. Heaven and earth are united by God's full presence, and all human suffering ends. How does one hold fast to this beautiful vision?

Gospel Reading: JN 13:31-33A, 34-35

During his farewell discourse with the disciples, Jesus issues "a new commandment: love one another." Why is this divine command so difficult to fulfill for many believers?

#### **Everyday Stewardship**

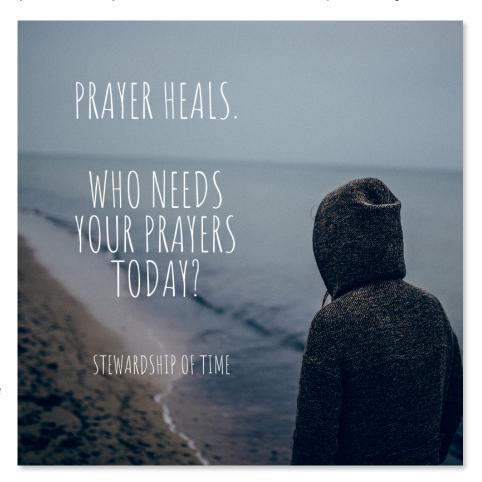
I was recently reading an article about the real aspects of true love. The psychologist writing the piece said that many people hide behind the words "I love you." They can start believing that if they say it enough times, it simply becomes true.

Jesus claimed that the world would know his disciples by the fact that they loved one another. In the Church, we speak of loving one

another quite frequently. I hope that someone can tell that I am a disciple of Jesus by the way I love others. However, that hope is something I have to keep in the center of my mind because I fear too often that I speak more of love than act out of love.

As Christians, we can find ourselves hiding behind our words. History, unfortunately, has shown us that our witness of action has not always been profound enough. The world will surely know whom it is we serve if we love like Jesus, we act like Jesus, and we serve others like Jesus. Our stewardship will bear witness to the transforming power of Jesus Christ, and we will bring others to him. Our love will be an instrument of our evangelization. Our words will become true, not because we said them enough, but because they are true.

Tracy Earl Welliver is a Catholic author, speaker, consultant, and Gallup-certified Strengths coach with over 25 years experience in parish ministry. He is currently the Director of Parish Community and Engagement for LPI, having previously served for 22 years as Pastoral Associate at Saint Pius X Catholic Church in Greensboro, NC. Tracy also currently sits on the ICSC Board of Directors. He has a BA in theology from DeSales University and a MTS from Duke Divinity School. Tracy has been married to his wife, Mariann, for 27 years and they have 3 children.



## FAMILY CORNER



#### Sharing the Gospel

Jesus gave his disciples a new rule. He told them they had to love each other, just like he loved them. What did Jesus mean? Jesus was very patient with his friends. He forgave his friends when they let him down. Jesus comforted his friends when they were afraid. Most of all he helped them grow closer to God.

#### Prayer

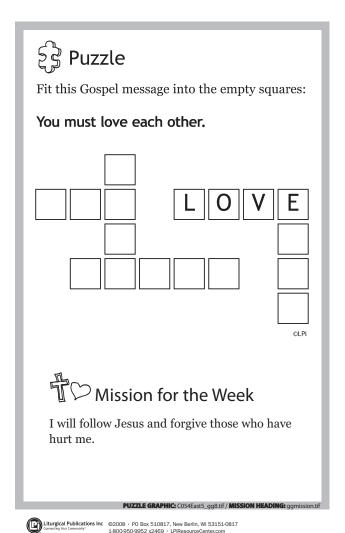
Dear God,

Help me to love my friends like Jesus did. Help me to be kind, caring, sharing, and a good listener to my friends.

Amen.

#### Mission for the Week

Draw a picture of yourself talking to a friend who is afraid.





John 13:31-33a, 34-35 ■ 5th Sunday of Easter



Name \_\_\_\_\_