

ISSUE NO. 92

26 MAY 2019

Cathedral WEEKLY



SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

AROUND THE PARISH | FR. CHRISTOPHER HOUSE
"AT THE OFFERTORY...THEREFORE" | DR. TOM NEAL
EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP | TRACY EARL WELLIVER

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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SPICATHEDRAL.ORG

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 27 May

7 AM- BILL CRUMLY (MICHAEL & MARY BELFORD)

5:15 PM- NO MASS

Tuesday 28 May

7 AM- MARY ANN MIDDEN (WILLIAM MIDDEN)

5:15 PM- AGNES GALLIGAN (SUE ELLEN, LEAH & JACK BILLINGTON)

Wednesday 29 May

7 AM- KATHLEEN D. DHABALT (NANCY SHRENK)

5:15 PM- ED HEFFERNAN (PRITCHETTI & NICHOLSON)

Thursday 30 May

7 AM- DONALD CHRISTY (PJ & RUTH STAAB)

5:15 PM- DOROTHY CARSTENS (JUDITH & JOHN CARSTENS)

Friday 31 May

7 AM- MARIE VOIT RODEN (ANGELA & ROBERT WILLIAMS)

5 PM- BETTY EDGAR (CHERYL GALE)

Saturday 1 June

8 AM- SHIRLEY LOGAN (LISA LOGAN & FAMILY)

4 PM- LEMUEL MOSS (JEAN MOSS & RALPH WALTER)

Sunday 2 June

7 AM- PAT & JOHN (FAMILY)

10 AM- CHARLES & MERCEDES NESBITT (KATHY FRANK)

5 PM- FOR THE PEOPLE

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



Around the Parish

Congratulations to our students in our PSR program who are receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend! I wish to thank our teachers in the our PSR program for their dedication in teaching our young people the Faith. This is our last group of students to be fully initiated before the Cathedral Parish implements the restored order of the sacraments that you have read about in the Catholic Times and that was promulgated as a result of our Fourth Diocesan Synod. Our children will now be making their first celebration of Reconciliation in second grade and receiving Confirmation and their first Holy Communion in third grade.

As you have read in previous letters, our own Father Stock will be leaving us at the end of June to become pastor of the parishes in Bearsdtown, Arenzville, and Virginia and Father Friedel will become the new chaplain at Sacred Heart-Griffin High School in addition to being parochial vicar here at the Cathedral. As Father Stock leaves us, we will welcome Father Dominic Rankin as our newest parochial vicar here at the Cathedral. Father

Rankin will be coming to us from finishing advanced studies in marriage and family life in Rome. Father Rankin was ordained for our diocese in 2018. In addition to welcoming Father Rankin, we will also welcome another seminarian for the summer: Grant Wilson, who is a native of Jacksonville and finishing his second year of theological studies in Rome, will be with us for about six weeks from the beginning of July until mid-August. Grant will be present through the parish in various activities.



Other assignments to mention: Father Marty Smith, who served here from 2015-2017, has been appointed pastor of St. Francis Xavier Parish in Jerseyville and St. Patrick Parish in Grafton. Father Braden Maher, who served here from 2016-2018, has been appointed pastor of St. Charles Parish in Charleston and chaplain of the Newman Center at Eastern Illinois University. Last, but not least, our own Deacon David Beagles has been assigned to serve the parishes of St. Anthony in Effingham and Annunciation Parish in Shumway for the summer. Please pray for them and for all of our priests, deacons, and parishes who are in transition this summer.



Finally, with all of these changes, I wish to offer my thanks to you, the parishioners and friends of the Cathedral, for the love and support that you give to the men who come to train and serve here. Maybe we don't get to hold on to them as long as we would like, but you make it so that, when they leave here, they are ready for the challenges ahead. All of the assignments that I have mentioned are good for us, our diocese, and the greater Church. Let us give thanks to God for these blessings.

I find it hard to believe that Memorial Day weekend is here, that next weekend marks the beginning of June, and 2019 will soon be half over! In the midst of the flying-by of time, please take a moment this weekend to offer a prayer for those who have given their lives in the service of our nation. May the Lord give us the grace to be the people that we aspire to be: one nation, under God. May God bless you and yours!

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





“At the Offertory... Therefore”

On Friday, a seminarian I know texted me a photo of a page from Ven. Archbishop Fulton Sheen’s *A Priest Is Not His Own*, and said beneath it, “I thought you’d like that.”

My God yes.

Sheen was describing to priests, as celebrants of the Mass, the meaning of the Offertory. The offering of gifts of bread, wine, and alms—“my sacrifice and yours.” How eloquently he expressed the mystery of a ritual action that is reduced, in most people’s minds, to fishing for money or dropping envelopes in the basket. Or maybe checking the watch to where we stand at halftime.

Do the faithful have any idea what they are really transacting in? Are saying “Amen” to? Giving over? Such ignorance profoundly weakens the Offering’s potential effect to change lives and transform the world. Literally. Annie Dillard captured my sentiments in a passage I seem to quote every other week:

Does any-one have the foggiest idea what sort of power we so blithely invoke? Or, as I suspect, does no one believe a word of it? The churches are children playing on the floor with their chemistry sets, mixing up a batch of TNT to kill a Sunday morning. It is madness to wear ladies’ straw hats and velvet hats to church; we should all be wearing crash helmets. Ushers should issue life preservers and signal flares; they should lash us to our pews. For the sleeping god may wake some day and take offense, or the waking god may draw us out to where we can never return.

It’s why I get concerned when I see programs or schemes that over-focus on what people should “get out of Mass” by reducing Mass-consumption to emotional satisfaction or learning outcomes. By doing this, we strip liturgy of its vast, mysterious, transcendent, and terrifying power. The late Fr. Aidan Kavanagh makes this point: “Although the liturgy does indeed ‘teach,’ it teaches as any other ritual does—experientially, non-discursively, richly, ambiguously, and elementally. Liturgy, like the feast, exists not to educate but to seduce people into participating in common activity of the highest order, where one is freed to learn things which cannot be taught.”

Okay, so here’s a nutty stream-of-consciousness scenario that runs through my head as I write:

Jerry: “Hey, what did you get out of Mass today, Tom?”

Tom: “Oh, well, hmm, let me think. Well, you know when they pass the collection plate around and then bring the gifts up?”

Jerry: “Sure, what about it? Did you realize you had an empty wallet when the basket came by?”

Tom: “Ha! No, well, it was a little different. I found myself handing over to God’s uncreated Fire my body and soul; all of my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings; my livelihood; my sins and failings; my marriage and family and friends, even strangers and enemies; the living and the dead; angels and demons; all of time and space. I mean, the whole freakin’ universe! But that was a little scary, because I realized I was giving absolutely everything back, handing it all over completely to God’s control and will. It was like saying, ‘Okay, it’s all yours now. All of it. Dispose of it wholly according to your will.’ I was unsettled at what I was agreeing to.

Jerry: “Yikes.”



Tom: “Yeah, well, and after I did all of that . . . oh, wait, I forgot. As I handed all this over, it all somehow got tangled up with everyone-from-everywhere else’s ‘stuff.’ I was like, ‘Wait, that’s my stuff, not theirs!’ But he wouldn’t listen.”

“Okay, so then all that stuff got loaded onto the altar, and then got totally wrecked into the bread and wine we’d brought up, by those words, ‘This is my . . . given up.’ Those are hard words to hear, but it was too late. Then the eternal Spirit fell down on all of it, like free-falling Fire, and burned it up into the Heart of the risen Body of Jesus. It was all like a raging furnace coming out of the now-ruined Bread and Wine. I could hardly breathe.

Continued from p. 4

"Then Jesus, Master Craftsman that he is, started building, out of all of our tangled-up burning stuff, a whole new section of the new creation. Which, I heard said, never ever passes away. And it was amazing; he built it up in a way I never would have imagined doing. Incredibly beautiful, but very strangely new. Everything.

"Okay, then Jesus, after building all this at his altar on high, carried this whole new world he'd made back down toward us, borne on the music of the fiery Spirit. Then he, somehow in that ruined Bread and Wine, came wildly running over toward us out of the sanctuary. But here's the wildest thing of all. He totally ruined me by commanding me: 'Eat, drink.' Eat, drink fire? Unworthy me? Terrifying! But he gave me courage. And now, my God . . . I have eternal life.

"I was undone. Speechless. Unable to move. It was all super-intense, more Real than reality. And then I was totally overwhelmed with a gratitude I've never felt before. Ever before.

Jerry: "That's all?"

Tom: "Oh no! There's so much more. But that's what comes to mind. Oh no, wait, I forgot! The priest said something at the end, like 'Go! Be sent!' But when I looked up at him, he wasn't there,

only Christ, but terrifying in Majesty. He was commanding me: 'Go! But this time, to ruin our ruined world,' just like I'd seen done at Mass. And then he said, 'Bring those ruined ruins back to me, to do this all again next week.'

"I mean, what?"

Oh man, I ran! I've been running ever since. I just can't stop. It's why I'm totally out of breath now and stammering . . ."

Jerry: "Whoa."

Tom: "Yeah, I know. Who knew? . . ."

Dr. Tom Neal presently serves as Academic Dean and Professor of Spiritual Theology at Notre Dame Seminary in New Orleans, Louisiana. He has worked for twenty years in adult catechesis, retreat ministry and teaching theology in various contexts trying to make present for others the "Word made fresh." Tom received a Masters in Systematic Theology from Mount St. Mary's University and a PhD in Religion at Florida State University.

Everyday Stewardship

I often lead group prayer with similar words: "Give us the wisdom to know Your will for our lives and the courage to follow it as we seek to make our community a clearer reflection of the Kingdom of God." The words acknowledge that we need to be about God's will, not our own, and in that journey, we will bear greater witness to the transforming power of Jesus Christ.

We talk about how we are called to live a stewardship way of life and that we have been given many good gifts, but it is never truly about us. We are never the main thing. In the same manner, it is never really about our parish. Our combined stewardship may lead to many fruits, like an increased offertory or more vibrancy in parish life. However, it is always about the Kingdom of God and the King, Jesus Christ.

Through our stewardship, we allow our parish community to shine like a city on a hill for others to see and then be drawn toward Jesus Christ. It is about leading people to heaven. Our actions of stewardship do not point toward us but instead to the one who calls us to this life. Our constant prayer needs to be that we always seek to discern God's will and follow it instead of our own. By doing that, we can transform our own lives, our parish communities, and then the world around us.

-Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS
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STEWARDSHIP



Stewardship Activity

Stewardship of Time

Please keep in your prayers all graduates during this month of May.

Stewardship of Talents

Know a graduate? Share with them the invitation to use their unique talents with their local church.

Stewardship of Treasure May 18th & 19th

Envelopes: \$ 5,836.42

Loose: \$ 2,365.00

Maintenance: \$ 110.00

Total: \$ 8,311.42

April EFT (\$18, 475.00)

Sacraments

Please contact the Cathedral Parish Offices at 522-3342 for more information on sacramental preparation.

Scripture Questions

First Reading: ACTS 15:1-2, 22-29

What are some pressing issues you think our religious leaders should address today?

Second Reading: REV 21:10-14, 22-23

One of John's final visions sees the twelve tribes of Israel and the twelve Apostles united in God's earthly kingdom. What does this teach us about contemporary Jewish-Christian relations?

Gospel Reading: JN 14:23-29

In his farewell discourse, Jesus taught the disciples that the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, would be sent to teach us and remind us of his teachings. How do you see the Holy Spirit alive and active in your faith community?

The Angelus

V. The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

R. And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.

Hail Mary, full of grace,

The Lord is with Thee;

Blessed art thou among women,

And blessed is the fruit of thy womb,

Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God,

Pray for us sinners,

Now and at the hour of our death. Amen

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

R. Be it done unto me according to thy word.

Hail Mary, etc.

V. And the Word was made Flesh.

R. And dwelt among us.

Hail Mary, etc.

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

R. That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.

LET US PRAY

Pour forth, we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.

This wonderful prayer evolved from a recitation of three Hail Mary's following an evening bell around the 12th century to its present form (with morning and midday recitations) in the 16th century.



When prayed in a group setting a leader recites the verses and everyone recites both the responses and the Hail Mary's in between each verse, as shown above.

Although the Angelus has been traditionally said three times daily, at 6 am, noon and 6 pm, you can pray it at anytime! It is still accompanied by the ringing of a bell (the Angelus bell) in some places such as Vatican City and parts of Germany and Ireland. The Regina Coeli prayer (which may also be sung as a hymn) replaces the Angelus during the Easter season.

This text is an excerpt from the original article appearing on the website: <https://www.ourcatholicprayers.com/the-angelus.html>.

During the month of May, we have been sharing Marian prayers to honor Mary. We hope you will consider praying with us for the intentions of our Parish family.

Sharing the Gospel

Jesus wants you to love him so much that you will always do what he asks. Jesus knows that if you put God first, you will have peace. Instead of wanting more toys, you will be happy to share them. Instead of wanting to get your own way, you will enjoy taking turns. You will feel good helping other people.

Prayer

Dear God,

Change my heart so that I want to put you and other people first.

Amen.

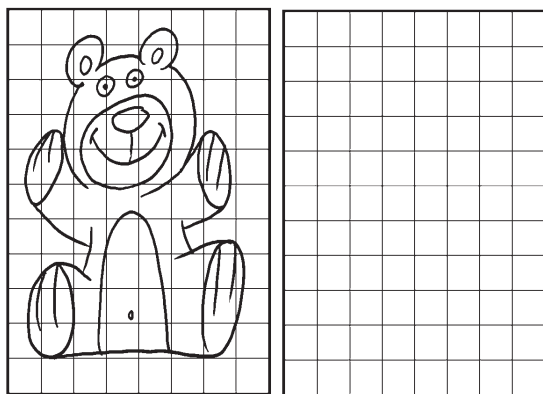
Mission for the Week

Draw a picture of yourself giving one of your own toys to a child who has none.



Puzzle

Copy the picture square by square.



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Mission for the Week

I will invite a friend over to play. I will share and take turns.

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Growing with the GOSPEL



John 14:23-29 ■ 6th Sunday of Easter

CYCLE C



Read the Gospel and Color



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