

ISSUE No. 98

7 JULY 2019

# *Cathedral* WEEKLY

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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PIER GIORGIO FRASSATI AS A MODEL OF FREEDOM | JARED ZIMMERER

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

VICKI DHABALT COMPTON  
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OFFICE AND PLANT MANAGER  
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DEACON IRVIN LAWRENCE SMITH

MARK GIFFORD  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC  
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SR. FRANCELLE VYVERMAN, O.P.  
MINISTRY TO THE SICK  
SFRANCELLE@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

DEACON T. SCOTT KEEN

### Mass Times

Sat. 4:00PM; Sun. 7 AM, 10 AM & 5 PM  
Weekdays: Mon. thru Fri. 7 AM & 5:15PM and Sat. 8 AM

### Reconciliation (Confession)

Mon. thru Fri. – 4:15PM to 5:00PM, Sat. – 9:00AM to 10:00AM and 2:30PM to 3:30PM, Sun. – 4:00PM to 4:45PM

### Adoration

Tues. & Thurs. 4PM- 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!

## Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week

### Monday – July 8

7 AM MITCH MONEYHUN  
(BRIDGET GOETT)  
5:15PM VERONICA PAPROCKI  
(CARL & LOU ANN CORRIGAN)

### Tuesday – July 9

7 AM DORIS DREA (LLOYD & MARY BOES)  
5:15PM SHIRLEY LOGAN (LISA LOGAN & FAMILY)

### Wednesday – July 10

7AM BARB MCGRATH  
(MARK & MARY PETRILLI)  
5:15PM PATRIA & RUFINO GOTANCO  
(JOE & HATI UY)

### Thursday – July 11

7AM ISABELLE CHAPPUS  
(DAVID & MARY BEACH)  
5:15 PM RALPH WALTER, SR.  
(JEAN MOSS & RALPH WALTER)

### Friday – July 12

7AM BETTY & GENE BARISH (FAMILY)  
5:15PM ERIC NELSON (FAMILY)

### Saturday – July 13

8 AM FERDINAND CHAPPUS  
(DAVID & MARY BEACH)  
4 PM JANE BURMEISTER (FRIEND)

### Sunday – July 14

7 AM FOR THE PEOPLE  
10 AM JOHN MONTGOMERY  
(JOHN BUSCIACCO)  
5 PM CHARLES KAUFMANN (Ellen Mattox)



Very Reverend Christopher A. House  
Rector

## Stewardship Activity

### Stewardship of Time & Talent

Take some time this week and pray for the individuals on our Mass Intentions list as a family. It is a blessing to have your loved one prayed for by the community!

### Stewardship of Treasure- June 29th & 30th

Envelopes: \$5,705.50  
Loose: \$3,188.08  
Maintenance: \$110.00

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Total: \$9,003.58  
May EFT \$17,685.60





## Pier Giorgio Frassati as a Model of Freedom

July 4th is for many a day of fire-works, cold beer, and barbeque. As a national holiday, we remember the founding of our nation in a revolution against tyranny. Most often we impose a surface level meaning of authentic independence. Just because we are allowed to vote and our

voice still matters in the voice of this country does not mean that we are free. True, authentic freedom is a matter of heart and soul. Physical sovereignty can always be taken away; however, the conscience is governed by a higher power and thus, even though the body be chained, the interiority of a person can still remain free.

As the Reverend Jacques Philippe wrote in his phenomenal work Interior Freedom, "To achieve true interior freedom we must train ourselves to accept, peacefully and willingly, plenty of things that seem to contradict our freedom. This means consenting to our personal limitations, our weaknesses, our powerlessness, this or that situation that life imposes on us, and so on...the

situations that really make us grow are precisely those that we do not control." While many might pledge that freedom is the absence of external coercion, proper independence is a matter of the soul. No matter who or what entity might try to enforce its own beliefs and principles, the soul cannot be forced to do something it doesn't want to do, unless the individual consents.

This is the real axiom as to why the Church upholds its tradition of honoring the saints: men and women who had so much gall that, no matter the overwhelming falsehoods, they stayed strong in the face of hardship. This is why I find it very interesting that July 4th is shared with one of the most influential young men of the twentieth century. Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati, the man of the beatitudes, was a model of interior freedom and the power of grace in the life of a man willing to surrender what was God's.

Pier Giorgio lived his life by a code, an interior decision that in all matters of life, his soul belongs to his Creator. He joined many political causes as he was vehemently anti-fascist and did not fear the backlash of standing strong in his views. There are many stories which prove this man's lionhearted struggle to do what must be done, and see that the Church's morality not only survive, but thrive within a culture. One such tale occurred while Pier Giorgio was partaking in a protest in Rome; Frassati weath-

ered police violence and rallied the other young people by grabbing the banner, which the police had knocked out of someone else's hands. He waved the flag with pride and an interior anger of what humanity was resolving to do to one another. During the protest, he even used the pole to defend himself against the blows of the police officers. When several of his fellow activists were arrested by the police, he refused special treatment that he might have received because of his father's political position, preferring to stay with his friends.

Another story revolves around a personal attack from the fascist regime. One night, a group of fascist soldiers broke into his family's home, throwing valuables on the floor and ransacking the place. As the soldiers began to try physically assaulting Pier Giorgio and his father, Pier Giorgio rose to his father's defense and chased their attackers down the street. Even though he could very well have lost his life, Pier Giorgio understood that Truth was more important than himself.

Pier Giorgio lived out Philippe's philosophy that "we must be ready to do in an instant just what we hadn't expected, to live in

total self-abandonment, with no other concern than to do God's will and being fully available to people and events." Habitually, we fall into a sore concept of self-abandonment. It seems opposite to human reason to believe that freedom is less about what we can do as opposed to what we ought to do. However, when we acknowledge a higher power, a loving and all-knowing God who only wants what's best for us, the

relinquishing of our wills to the will of God is not an enemy of freedom; it is instead a shield of sovereignty.

There are two types of interior slavery: the chains and pains of sin or the will of God. One is a slavery in which your will is in danger of being circumscribed; the other is where your will is given the necessary grace to act in accord with what is good and believe what is true. Pier Giorgio's witness testifies that while the world might smack you around, your soul is a living dynamism that, when infused with the freedom of the love of God in Christ, no one can hold back. I believe Pier Giorgio sums up the feeling of true freedom when he said, "Our life, in order to be Christian, has to be a continual renunciation, a continual sacrifice. But this is not difficult, if one thinks what these few years passed in suffering are, compared with eternal happiness where joy will have no measure or end, and where we shall have unimaginable peace."

*Jared is a Catholic author, speaker, blogger, husband and father of 6 and the Director of the Word on Fire Institute. He also holds a Master's Degree in Theology from Holy Apostles College and Seminary.*

