



Cathedral WEEKLY

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WITH AN EYE TOWARDS HEAVEN | FR. CHRISTOPHER HOUSE

THE MOST REVEREND THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
NINTH BISHOP
OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS

THE VERY REVEREND CHRISTOPHER A. HOUSE, V.J.
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THE REVEREND DOMINIC RANKIN
PAROCHIAL VICAR

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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!



Very Reverend Christopher A. House
Rector

Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week

Monday – August 5

7 AM SPECIAL INTENTION FOR LOST SOULS (CCCW)

5:15PM KARA LEIGH SMITH
(FRIENDS FROM ISBE)

Tuesday – August 6

7 AM JULIE KEMP (FAMILY)
5:15PM SHIRLEY LOGAN
(LISA LOGAN & FAMILY)

Wednesday – August 7

7AM JULIE KEMP (FAMILY)
5:15PM RALPH WALTER, SR.
(JEAN MOSS & RALPH WALTER)

Thursday – August 8

7AM BARBARA J. MCGRATH
(FAMILY & FRIENDS)
5:15 PM BETTY EDGAR
(MARGARET BARTH)

Friday – August 9

7AM MARY PRIESTER (PATRICIA WALKER)
5:15PM CAROLE OLDANI
(CARL & LOU ANN CORRIGAN)

Saturday – August 10

8 AM NO MASS
4 PM JON MORGAN (CAROL MORGAN)

Sunday – August 11

7 AM FOR THE PEOPLE
10 AM MATHIA BATES (BATES FAMILY)
5 PM SPECIAL INTENTION FOR LOST SOULS (CCCW)

Stewardship Activity

Pray

Please keep students and administrators in your prayers as they head back to school soon!

Serve

Are you looking for resources to discern your talents and gifts? Contact the Stewardship office by emailing Katie at kprice@cathedral.dio.org

Give- Stewardship of Treasure: July 27th & 28th

Envelopes: \$4,652.70
Loose: \$2,513.68
Maintenance: \$50.00

Total: \$7,216.38
June EFT \$16, 976.60

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With an Eye Towards Heaven

This Sunday's first reading offers us a passage from the Book of Ecclesiastes. The book tells us that its author is named Qoheleth. We do not know anything about this Qoheleth except one thing: he is not happy. While Ecclesiastes offers us many beautiful passages, its overall tone is

one of gloom, skepticism, and frustration. That is not necessarily a bad thing because, if we read Ecclesiastes in light of the world's fixation on materialism, especially in conjunction with today's Gospel reading, then it makes perfect sense for any true disciple that Jesus Christ makes all the difference.

Ecclesiastes gives us the famous phrase *"there is nothing new under the sun."* This is proven true in that the root of Qoheleth's frustration over some twenty-three hundred years ago is the same for many people today: every thing, every person, every labor and its fruit, all of these things are finite and will pass away. This doesn't mean that we just shrug our shoulders and give up, but this reality invites the disciple to ask his or herself a vital question:

"why do I do what I do" or, put another way, "what motivates me in life?"

In the end, what do you want? Do you want to be like the man in this Sunday's Gospel who labored for the things of this world but who did not live long to enjoy them or do you want labor for the things of heaven, the things that "matter to God" as Jesus says in today's Gospel passage?

Everything that a disciple does, be it word or deed, is to be done with an eye towards heaven or, more aptly, with an eye towards God.

God alone is eternal and the good news for us is that he wants us to share eternity with him in heaven. This does not mean that we cannot enjoy the fruits of our labors or the "good things" of this life, but if our ultimate desires are for comfort and wealth or the things of this world then we will be sorely disappointed in the end.

The tragedy for Qoheleth is that he did not know Jesus Christ, being that he lived in a time before the Lord's coming. This is not the case for us. We are invited to grow deeper each day in our knowledge of and relationship with Jesus and to derive our hope and comfort from his true promise of everlasting life with him in heaven.

The more we come to know the Lord and value the life he freely offers, the easier it is to live our lives each day with an eye towards heaven.

Look at what the world will ultimately offers us. Look at what Jesus Christ will ultimately offer us. The choice should be obvious.

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

