

THE Cathedral Courier

Weekly Bulletin for the Cathedral of St. Joseph, Wheeling, West Virginia

9 May 2021

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Vol. 10, No. 23

"This is my commandment:

*Love one
another as
I love you.*"

JN 15:12

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Saint Joseph Cathedral Parish is called to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ as a community. We are committed: to our urban neighborhoods, to being the Cathedral of the Diocese, and to fellowship, formation, sacrament, and prayer.

This Week

May 9 - 16, 2021

**SUN
9**

Sixth Sunday of Easter

6:00 pm Mass for Wib Breiding
8:00 am Mass for Shirley Sheets
10:30 am Mass for the Parishioners

**MON
10**

Saint Damien de Veuster

12:05 pm Mass for Rose Marie Wilson

**TUE
11**

Easter Weekday

12:05 pm Mass for Ken Shoes

**WED
12**

Saints Nereus and Achilles; Saint Pancras

12:05 pm Mass for Zamboanguita Guevara

**THU
13**

Our Lady of Fatima

12:05 pm Mass for Dave Wiethe

**FRI
14**

Feast of Saint Matthias

11:15 am Confessions
12:05 pm Mass for Dr. Adiel Anghie

**SAT
15**

Saint Isidore

9:00 am Mass for Ron Radcliffe
5:00 pm Confessions
6:00 pm Mass for the Parishioners

**SUN
16**

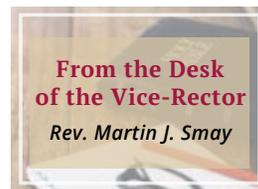
Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord

8:00 am Mass for Nicholas & Nimnoom Ghaphery
10:30 am Mass for Katie Fahey
Confirmation during Mass



Dear Parishioners of the Cathedral Parish,

This past week was a bit different for me as we had convocation – a calling together of all the priests of the Diocese – in Charleston which meant that I was away from the Parish for most of three days. In the hours that I spent driving to and from Charleston, there were a number of things which came to me that I omitted from last week's column, piece of evidence that support a non-reductionist view of the human person. Usually when these sorts of things come to me, I just ignore them, but they are interesting phenomena so I mention them here.



There is a considerable amount of evidence in favor of the (strictly) materialist conception of the human person. For example, brain studies have shown that learning how to read changes the way a person's brain is structured. So do addictions to various substances (drugs) and behaviors (gambling). We also know that if a person gets damaged in a certain part of the brain, the result is the loss of certain abilities. Dementia is caused by a buildup of harmful plaque in the brain. So, clearly the brain has a lot to do with cognitive abilities.

Yet, there are also other phenomena which have defied explanation on any physical level. For example there is something called "terminal lucidity" where a person who has suffered deadly amounts of cognitive impairment from severe psychiatric or neurologic disorders, including dementia, near the end of his or her life, suddenly has normal mental clarity and is able to carry on normal conversations for anywhere from a few minutes to a few days. Certainly there are theories about some physical cause for terminal lucidity and we can't rule a physical cause out, but it is inexplicable by today's scientific knowledge. There have also been some fascinating scientific studies conducted about near death/out of body experiences, none of which are completely conclusive, yet people who are dead and subsequently brought back to life report details about what was said by the medical staff and the kinds of tools and instruments they were using when there was seemingly no bodily way of them knowing these things. There are also very many near death experiences of people going to heaven and, more rarely, hell (if you want to watch a very interesting account from a priest who was judged and it wasn't positive, google "Father Steven Scheier's Judgment Experience" and watch the 40 minute video of him telling his story to Mother Angelica – regardless if one believes his story or not, the fruit in his life has been tremendous).

There is also the "problem" of free will, i.e. why is it that we humans are free and animals are not? Animals simply follow their natural instincts, we do not. If you want proof of this, take a look at animals in the wild: you will not find an overweight animal. As one author once put it "only humans and any animal unlucky enough to be fed by us are overweight" (sorry I can't cite my source, nor do I claim that it's an exact quote, but you get the idea). Some scientists, being unable to pinpoint our free will in our brains, simply say that our free will is an illusion; yet, claim as they might, they are unable to nullify our experience of being free. The reason for our free will is located not in our body but in our (immaterial) souls, hence not scientist examining physical evidence will ever find where it is located.

Okay, moving on from my additions to last week's column, as I mentioned we had convocation in Charleston this week. Being with a large group of priests is always a joy and an all too rare occasion in this Diocese (we're a little too big and sparsely populated). One

of the things that we did at convocation was to honor those priests who were celebrating 25 or 50 year anniversaries. I was particularly struck by one priest who was celebrating his Golden Jubilee. He asked if he could say a few words and, well honestly, how does anyone tell a man who has been a priest for 50 years no? He kept it short (a bit surprising) but in a nutshell he said that he has spent 50 joyful years serving God and His people. This was very uplifting for me as there are few things that I find more encouraging than seeing happy, joyful old priests. That was one great grace for me this past week.

Then I had a second grace in an unexpected way. Confession for a priest is a bit of a different experience for a number of reasons but one of them is that these aren't just priests, these are also co-workers (imagine going to confession to one of your co-workers!). There is also the added oddity of the fact that, someday, I could be their boss or they mine, although that's less of a concern (as a priest once told me, "I don't remember anything from the confessions, some people call it a bad memory, I call it grace"). When there is a large gathering of priests, there is bound to be a number of them that I would be comfortable going to confession to. So, Wednesday morning I was doing an examination of conscience and by God's grace my mind was illumined so that I could see what my sins were and, in many cases, the roots of my sins. So I made my list (as I like to do - I always write my sins down for confession) and was thinking that there was a specific priest whom I wanted to confess to. As we were walking to lunch I greeted this particular man and asked him if I could join him for lunch. He said "yes" and then said to me in the kindest voice "do you want to go to confession?" I was greatly amused by this and told him that, actually, I was going to ask him. It ended up being a really good confession (not just in the technical sense, but in the sense that I encountered the love of God through that priest). In the midst of that confession, the priest said something to me that I want to share with you: "We are on different sides of this thing [he meant, the confessional] but all we see is grace."

I think this is one of the meanings of what Saint Paul wrote in his letter to the Romans "where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more" (5:20). God is always so good to us, even in our sin, He offers us the grace that we need to turn to Him over and over again and say "be merciful Lord to me, the sinner" and to show us that mercy in the sacrament of confession.

God love you and keep the Faith!

Fr. Martin J. Smay

GUIDELINES FOR ATTENDING MASS During the COVID-19 Pandemic

We ask that you please review and adhere to these guidelines while attending Mass in the Cathedral:

Wear Face Masks

The faithful are required to bring their own facemasks and to wear them during Mass.

Keep Your Distance

Social distancing is necessary at Mass while seated in the pew and during the Communion procession. Families living in the same household may sit together. We are only able to accommodate 92 people per Mass at the Cathedral.

Some common, though optional practices of the Mass, will be omitted such as the use of hymnals, holding of hands during the Our Father, the Sign of Peace, and the offering of the Precious Blood of Christ to the faithful. The complete list of guidelines are available for your review on the diocesan website: www.dwc.org.

Please keep in mind that Bishop Brennan has given the faithful of the Diocese the dispensation from the obligation to attend Mass. Therefore, sick persons and those more susceptible to infection - the elderly, those already in frail health - are urged to remain at home and participate in televised or online Masses.



**Offertory
Collection**

May 2, 2021

Envelopes: \$2287
Loose: \$481
Online: \$588

*Thank you for
your support!*



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N ovena to the H oly Spirit



IN PREPARATION FOR THE
SOLEMNITY OF PENTECOST

The Pentecost Novena is the first of all novenas, nine days of prayer. After Jesus' Ascension into heaven, He commanded His disciples to come together in the upper room to devote themselves to constant prayer. They prayed for nine days before receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. While this Novena to the Holy Spirit can be prayed anytime, it is recommended that it start on the Friday before Ascension Sunday - this Friday, May 14.

Come, Spirit of Wisdom,

dispose our hearts to know and value the things of heaven above the things of earth and show us the way to salvation.

Come, Spirit of Understanding, enlighten our minds to the mysteries of salvation and grant that we may come to a fuller knowledge of you.

Come, Spirit of Counsel, guide us in the way of your commandments. Incline us to do good. Keep us from evil and bring us to everlasting life.

Come, Spirit of Fortitude, strengthen us in every trial and help us in our struggle against evil. Never let us be parted from you.

Come, Spirit of Knowledge, help us to see beyond the passing joys of this world to the glories you have prepared for us.

Come, Spirit of Piety, stir up our hearts to true holiness and love of you. May we always seek you in spirit and in truth.

Come, Spirit of the Fear of the Lord, teach us ever to set the Lord before us and to avoid whatever is displeasing to you. Bring us all one day to the fullness of your love.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning,
is now and will be forever. Amen.

"Remain in my love," and, "I call you friends," are powerful words that are found in John's Gospel. Most of us probably have them committed to memory or have at least heard them proclaimed dozens of times. They are words that can easily become trite and quickly glossed over without fully pondering and digesting their profound beauty. When we take the time to immerse ourselves in them, they can radically change our lives and our relationships. They can open up new doors of adventure and hold countless possibilities for meaning. The essence of love and friendship are things that can easily be taken for granted. They have always been there and are a significant part of our lives. Many would say that they could not live without love and friendship, and they put a great deal of care into preserving, deepening and sustaining them. Love and friendship share a mutual relationship with each other that deserves more reflection.

Where does love come from? We can consider relationships that have not succeeded and conclude that they were somehow due to our "failures in love." In doing so, we assume that human beings are the ones responsible for love, its success and also its failure. While our weakness, emotional composition and sinfulness can easily impact our ability to love, its origin is not human. God is love. God is love's author and origin. When we love, it is God who loves in and through us. It is because of this divine closeness that Jesus is able to call us friends! It is not

because of anything we have done but simply because of who we are. Realizing and contemplating this awesome reality becomes a game changer across the board. It gives us reason to clear the table of anything that can adversely affect the way we love so that we can open the door for its author to shine forth.

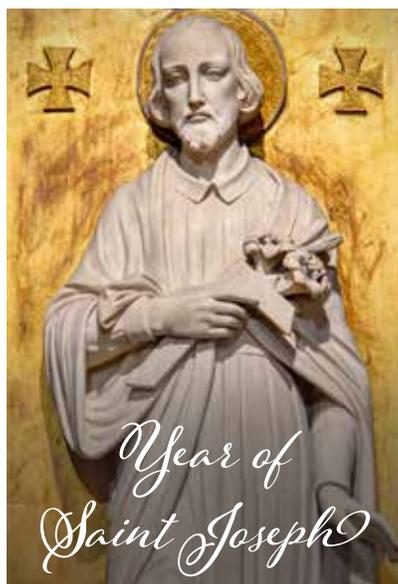


Coming upon this truth is what leads folks like St. Francis of Assisi to leave that which is comfortable and worldly and live a radical life. They relate with the love of God that radiates in and through all living things and appreciate their sacredness. It was having an intimate

experience of God's love and friendship that propelled St. Francis and others to embrace simplicity, act nonviolently, pursue humility, love enemies, care for the earth and open up avenues for true justice. Understanding this profound truth will also help us find peaceful solutions to world's problems, restore relationships with our sisters and brothers, bring the grace of loving stewardship to creation and heal many wounds. Once we begin to see how wonderfully holy all of life really is, we discover joy. We lose our need for fear, develop a fierce fortitude, act prudently and seek justice. There is great power in love because it comes from God. It will never fail. It also enjoys the company of two other friends who are eager to become our friends as well: faith and hope. These are just as important to have and to share.

©LPi





When Pope Francis decided to dedicate this liturgical year to St. Joseph and write his apostolic letter, *Patris Corde*, announcing it, he was making his major contribution to the long and storied history of the Church's devotion to Saint Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary and foster father of Jesus. The prominent place that Saint Joseph holds in our Church Tradition can be seen in his patronage, his liturgical feasts, the religious communities that have taken his name, his apparitions with the Blessed Mother, the major shrines and basilicas dedicated to him, the Church documents written about him, the prayers said to him, his place in the liturgy, as well as the studies devoted to him.

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy,
and courage,
and defend us from every evil.
Amen.*

Lebanese Bake Sale

Wednesday, May 19
Our Lady of Lebanon Church
Wheeling, WV

Menu: Meat Pies (\$6), Spinach Pies (\$5), Zatar Bread (\$3) and Sesame Bread (\$2). Orders, payments are due on May 10. Pick-up orders Wednesday, May 19 (2216 Eoff St). Information 304-233-1688

Traditional Latin Mass

Thursday, May 13, 2021 at Noon
St. Alphonsus Church, Wheeling

There will be an Extraordinary Form Mass (aka the traditional Latin Mass) at St. Alphonsus Parish in downtown Wheeling on Thursday, May 13th, at Noon. Fr. Tim Davison from St. Sylvester Parish in the Diocese of Steubenville will be the celebrant.

Memorial Mass

Friday, June 18 at 7:00 p.m.
Sacred Heart of Mary Church,
Weirton, WV

The FertilityCare™ Center of the Upper Ohio Valley, Inc. & the Weirton Catholic Pro-Life Group will be sponsoring a Memorial Mass for Babies Who Died Before Birth whether by miscarriage, abortion, ectopic (tubal) pregnancy (no distinction will be made) & whether occurring recently or years ago.

The Mass will be celebrated on Friday, June 18, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church, 200 Preston Avenue, Weirton, WV. Confession will be available at 5:30 p.m. So that we may best honor your child please call 304-723-0478 or 304-748-0688 to RSVP (all family members and friends are welcome).



Month of the Blessed Virgin Mary

The month of May is the "month which the piety of the faithful has especially dedicated to Our Blessed Lady," and it is the occasion for a "moving tribute of faith and love which Catholics in every part of the world pay to the Queen of Heaven. During this month Christians, both in church and in the privacy of the home, offer up to Mary from their hearts an especially fervent and loving homage of prayer and veneration. In this month, too, the benefits of God's mercy come down to us from her throne in greater abundance" (Paul VI: Encyclical on the Month of May, no. 1).

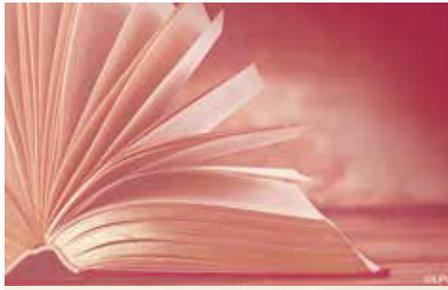
This Christian custom of dedicating the month of May to the Blessed Virgin arose at the end of the 13th century. In this way, the Church was able to Christianize the secular feasts which were wont to take place at that time. In the 16th century, books appeared and fostered this devotion.

The practice became especially popular among the members of the Jesuit Order — by 1700 it took hold among their students at the Roman College and a bit later it was publicly practiced in the Gesu Church in Rome. From there it spread to the whole Church.

Ways to Honor Our Lady

- Pray the Holy Rosary and spread it's devotion
- Place flowers around a statue or image of Our Lady
- Entrust your family and friends to Mary's maternal intercession
- Pray a novena to Mary or the Litany of Loreto

SAINTS OF THE WEEK



SCRIPTURE READINGS

Week of May 9

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Acts 10:25-26, 34, 35, 44-48

Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4

1 John 7:1-10

John 15:9-17

MONDAY

Acts 16:1-15

Ps 149:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 9

John 15:26—16:4

TUESDAY

Acts 16:22-34

Ps 138:1-2, 2-3, 7-8

John 16:5-11

WEDNESDAY

Acts 17:15, 22—18:1

Ps 148:1-2, 11-12, 13, 14

John 16:12-15

THURSDAY

Acts 18:1-8

Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4

John 16:16-20

FRIDAY

Acts 1:15-17, 20-26

Ps 113:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8

John 15:9-17

SATURDAY

Acts 18:23-28

Ps 47:2-3, 8-9, 10

John 16:23-28

NEXT SUNDAY

Acts 1:1-11

Ps 47:2-3, 6-7, 8-9

Ephesians 1:17-23

Mark 16:15-20

The readings are included each week so that those who are unable to join us for daily Mass will be able to consider and pray them in union with the whole Church.

May 10 - Saint Damien de Veuster, priest (1840-1889)

After years of missionary work in the Hawaiian Islands, Saint Damien de Veuster, a young priest from Belgium, sought to align himself even more with the “crucified” in society. He requested to be stationed on the island of Molokai where the lepers and diseased were sent to die. Outraged by the deplorable conditions of the island, he sought to restore a sense of dignity. Within a short period of time, the sick were living in clean houses instead of caves, and upon death they were given a proper burial rather than being dumped into mass graves. Even though leprosy was highly contagious, he chose to remain in close contact with the people. Damien eventually contracted the disease and died from it. He was canonized by Pope Benedict XVI on October 11, 2009.

May 12 - Saints Nereus and Achilleus, martyrs (d. end of 1st century)

The information we have regarding the lives of Saints Nereus and Achilleus comes from an ancient inscription written in their honor by Pope Damasus I. While serving as second-century praetorian soldiers, they had a conversion experience resulting in the choice to relinquish their weapons for the Gospel of peace. Because they refused to succumb to idol worship, they were beheaded during the reign of Trajan (98-117).

Saint Pancras, martyr (d. 304)

Also on May 12, we celebrate Saint Pancras, a Roman martyr, who was a casualty of the Diocletian persecutions. After moving to Rome he converted to Christianity, thus making him a target of the anti-Christian ideology of the reigning emperor. He was beheaded at the age of fourteen, giving rise to a strong cult of followers. Stemming from St. Pancras' popularity among the faithful, a monastery in Rome and a church in Canterbury were dedicated to him.

May 14 - Saint Matthias, apostle (1st century)

Saint Matthias was one of the first to follow our Savior; and he was an eye-witness of all His divine actions up to the very day of the Ascension. He was one of the seventy-two disciples; but our Lord had not conferred upon him the dignity of an apostle. And yet, he was to have this great glory, for Matthias was chosen by the apostles through the Holy Spirit to replace Judas. Matthias shared with his brother-apostles the persecution in Jerusalem, and, when the time came for the ambassadors of Christ to separate, he set out for the countries allotted to him. Tradition tells us that these were Cappadocia, Egypt and Ethiopia.

May 15 - Saint Isidore the Farmer (c.1070-1130)

Saint Isidore the Farmer was born in Madrid to poor parents who sent him to work for a landowner. He was very devout and married a like-minded woman, Maria de la Cabeza (Torribia), who also became a saint. Isidore attended daily Mass and was often late arriving at the fields, but he managed to get his work done nonetheless. He shared the little he had with the poor. It is fitting to remember him in the northern hemisphere's agricultural season. *Patronage:* Madrid; farmers; rural communities

Saints of God, pray for us!

Rest in Peace

Please remember in your prayers:

Conchita Jimenez
(d. May 1, 2021)

Marilou Witt
(d. May 3, 2021)



The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for May

The World of Finance

Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.



WHY DO WE DO THAT? Catholic Life Explained:

Lectio Divina

Question:

What is Lectio Divina, and how is it associated with the Benedictine Monastic tradition?

Answer:

Saint Benedict of Nursia (July 11) desired his monks to live in community, praying the Liturgy of the Hours together, contemplating sacred texts, and doing manual labor. The monks developed a technique to facilitate a spiritual and devotional reading of the Bible known as Lectio Divina, the holy reading of a text. This method encourages the reader to hear the biblical text with an open heart and focus on whatever God wants to highlight and then apply it to daily life.

There are variations on Lectio Divina, but essentially, the technique consists of a three-step process of reflection. When the reflection is done with a group, the responses are shared by all the participants. Once the text is selected, it is read meditatively, and the following are then explored: a word or phrase that attracts you; how and where the content of this reading touches your life today; what you believe that God wants you to do during this coming week (month, year, lifetime).

Thanks to Benedict, the Christian community has been gifted with this special way of entering into the biblical text. This week, use the Lectio Divina process on one of the readings for the coming Sunday and make a note of the life connections you are making. How is this reflection on the biblical text drawing you closer to God and others?

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| Andrew Helfer | Eli Musser | Kermit Klosterman | Rachel Wade |
| Archer Hatch | Eric South | Liam Barns | R. J. Stocke |
| Arthur Danehart | Eva Wood | Liam Manning | Richard Simon |
| Austin Cook | Fr. Joseph Wilhelm | Lucille Renowicz | Rick Burgy |
| Ashton Southerly | Frank Davis | Lukie Brown | Ron Hickman |
| Barb Mazzocca | Fred Herink | Margaret Stocke | Rosanne Gaughan |
| Beth Jochum | Frederick C. Schweizer | Marie Farnsworth | Rosalie Davis |
| Betty Teater | Gail Koch | Marie & Conner | Rose Otey |
| Bill Wilson | George Kirchner | Workman | Sarah Hanasky |
| Bob Armstrong | Geri Adams Nagy | Mark Davis | Sarah Sargent |
| Bob Jones | Hines Rotriga | Marshall South | Shirley DeBenedictis |
| Billy Hanasky | Janet Cupp | Martha Yocum | Shirley DeCaria |
| Brian Hanasky | Janie | Mary Ann Fowler | Stanley Kyrk |
| Brogan Gallentine | Jean & Chuck Schultz | Mary K. Schlosser | Stephanie Bugaj |
| Caleb Hlebiczk | Jim Antill | Mary Walicki | Susan Graff |
| Carolyn Lash | Jim and Dee | Michael DeBlasis | Susan Mize |
| Carolyn Wiethe | Jimmy Hocking | Milissa Rose | Susan Schulte |
| Charles Heizer | Joe Bechtel | Nadine Greenwood | Tammy |
| Charles DeBenedictis | John Petrella | Nicholas Barns | Teresa Helfer |
| Children of the | Jon-Michael Lasher | Norma Bosold | Thelma Pearson |
| Youth Services System | Judy Pack | Patricia Kalisz | Trystan Timmons |
| Christina Helfer | Julia Sheets | Pete Cuffaro | Victoria Jeskey |
| Chuck Fair | Kathy Cooley | Pete Mack | |
| David A. Kress, Jr. | Kaitlyn Hanasky | Philippa Shores | |

From the Diocesan Office of Safe Environment

The Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston is committed to the protection of its children and young people. The Diocese complies with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People by maintaining an Office of Safe Environment. To report an incidence of suspected child sexual abuse, please contact your local law enforcement agency, or you may confidentially contact WV Child Protective Services at 800.352.6513. In addition to civil authorities, to report suspected cases of sexual abuse by personnel of the Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston to the Diocese, please contact one of the Bishop's designees at 888.434.6237 or 304.233.0880: Mr. Bryan Minor, ext. 263; Mr. Tim Bishop, ext. 353; Fr. Dennis Schuelkens, ext. 270 or call the Office of Safe Environment at 304.230.1504. Please visit www.dwc.org under "Accountability" for additional information and reporting methods.

The Cathedral of Saint Joseph



MASS TIMES

- SUNDAYS** 6:00 pm (Saturday)
8:00 am
10:30 am
- WEEKDAYS** 12:05 pm (Monday thru Friday)
9:00 am (Saturday)
- HOLY DAYS** Please consult the bulletin

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CONFESSIONS

- FRIDAY** 11:15 - 11:45 am
- SATURDAY** 5:00 - 5:45 pm
or by appointment

SACRAMENTS

BAPTISMS
By appointment. Please contact the parish office.

**ANOINTING OF THE SICK /
MINISTRY TO THE HOMEBOUND**
Please call the parish office to arrange for anointing for someone who is seriously ill or preparing for surgery. If ill, homebound or hospitalized, a visit can be scheduled upon request.

MARRIAGE
Engaged couples who are members of the Cathedral parish should contact the parish office.

PARISH REGISTRATION
Registration forms can be obtained through the parish office.
Please notify the parish of address changes through contacting the parish office or by visiting the website.

Bulletin Articles due by 9am on Monday (5 days prior to publication). Submitted bulletin content is subject to approval.

