

# In Your Midst

A JOURNAL FOR ST. JAMES CATHEDRAL PARISH



*December 2015*

# In Your Midst

Vol. 21 No. 2 | December 2015

*"I am in your midst as one who serves."  
From the great oculus high above the altar of  
St. James Cathedral, these words of Jesus  
communicate His abiding presence among  
us. This inscription gave us the name for our  
Journal and continues to be our guiding  
inspiration.*

## Contents

### 3 The Meaning of Mercy

*In preparation for the Year of Mercy,  
parishioners reflect on what mercy means for  
them*

### 8 Year of Mercy

*Pope Francis has announced a Year of Mercy  
beginning December 8, 2015 and concluding  
November 20, 2016*

### 10 Lighting Project Album

*Nelson Electric scales the heights to make the  
Cathedral's new exterior lighting a reality*

### 16 A Pequeños Lesson in Family

*St. James Youth Ministry travels to  
Nicaragua*

### 16 Giving Back

*Pagliacci Pizza shares in the mission of the  
Cathedral Kitchen*

### 18 Laudato Si'

*A letter from Pope Francis*

### 20 The Pew Next to You

*Meet Kevin and Charlotte Kelly, and Kim  
Doan Nguyen*

### 22 Cathedral Almanac

*Snapshots of life at St. James, May –  
November, 2015*

### 24 Christmas Mass Schedule

*Note the new time for the Midnight Mass!*

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**On the cover:** Construction workers from  
Nelson Electric rappel off the north tower  
during the installation of the new exterior  
lighting. See album on pages 10-11.

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# The Meaning of Mercy

*In preparation for the Year of Mercy,  
parishioners reflect on what mercy means for them*

Ever since Pope Francis proclaimed the coming Jubilee Year of Mercy, mercy has been much on my mind. This is especially so when I'm praying the Psalms of the Liturgy of the Hours each day. In the Psalms, "mercy" and "merciful" are impossible to escape. And these days, they almost leap off the page for me. But mercy doesn't stop with the Psalms. All the scriptures from Genesis to Revelation speak repeatedly about God's mercy and our call to be merciful. In the scriptures, mercy is really the name of God and the face of God. In light of this, aren't we blessed that the Church, here and around the world, is embarking on a whole year with mercy as its focus!

In preparing for it, I have been making my way through the book, *Mercy*, by the German Cardinal and theologian, Walter Kasper. I say "making my way" because it's not in any sense a quick read although it's certainly a worthwhile one.

Among other things, Cardinal Kasper traces the way recent Popes have spoken of mercy, beginning with Pope St. John XXIII, who, in his spiritual diary, reflects repeatedly on God's mercy. For him, mercy is the most beautiful name we have for God. In one place he goes so far as to say that "God took advantage of our human sinfulness to demonstrate his mercy"! Then in his speech at the opening of the Second Vatican Council, he spoke these remarkable words: "Nowadays...the Church prefers to make use of the medicine of mercy rather than that of severity." Those words of his were a game-changer.

More recently, Pope St. John Paul II made mercy one of the leading themes of his long pontificate, reminding us time and again that justice alone is never enough, and establishing the Sunday following Easter as "Divine Mercy Sunday." Pope Benedict XVI followed suit when he referred to Jesus Christ as "divine mercy in person," stating that "to encounter Christ is to encounter the mercy of God." And in his closing speech at the end of the recent Synod, Pope Francis boldly stated that "the Church's first duty is not to hand down condemnations or anathemas, but to proclaim mercy!"

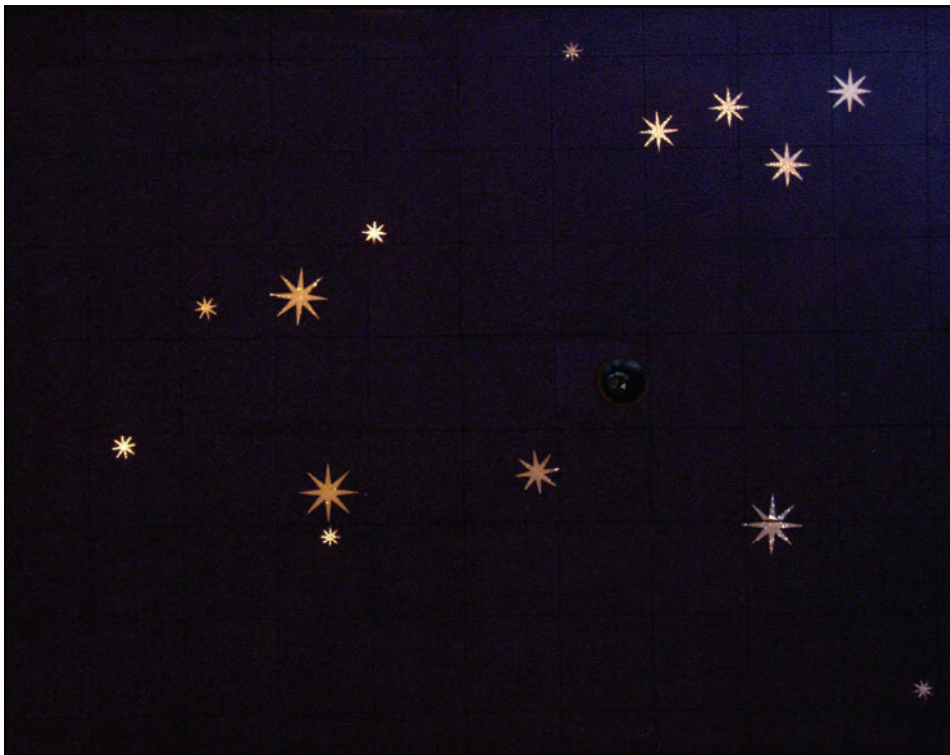
So, let me say it again: aren't we blessed that the Church is embarking on a whole year with mercy as its focus!



I'm sure you recall the words of Jesus from the Sermon on the Mount in the fifth chapter of Matthew's gospel: "Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect." Challenging words, for sure. Perhaps almost too challenging, because how is it possible for any of us ever to be that perfect? For that reason, I have always been more comfortable with Luke's version: "Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful" (Luke 6: 36). Somehow, imitating God's mercy has always seemed more achievable to me than imitating God's perfection. That's because I realize how much mercy God has shown me. I'm often overwhelmed by the thought, to be honest and, in my better moments, I see God's mercy for me as my call to be merciful toward others—especially toward those who may not always be very merciful towards me!

As we embark on this Year of Mercy, my hope is that we will take advantage of the many opportunities the parish will be providing us to grow in our understanding of mercy, and to walk in the ways of mercy. Come next November, when we arrive at the end of the year, I'm praying that we will all have a new awareness of just how boundless is God's mercy, and that, following the lead of Pope Francis, we will be eager to share that mercy, going out to the margins and the marginalized as messengers of mercy!

Father Michael G. Ryan



perpetually running late, it's easier for me to extend mercy to others. If I have the mental habit of focusing on where I'm falling short, I see the whole world that way.

Being merciful to myself doesn't mean I don't struggle to be good, but it does mean stepping back from my picture of what a good life looks like so that I can be open to God's bigger picture. My version mostly looks like ticking a lot of boxes (I must organize a nightly family advent ritual! I must not carry a brown purse with black shoes! I must order an organic farm produce box and plan all our meals around it, which we will eat with cloth napkins and candles while talking about our days in moderate voices with our bottoms on our chairs!), whereas I think God's version is

very often about plunging fully into just one thing at a time and giving my whole self to that – which can actually be more challenging but can bring a lot more joy.

Mary Kenagy Mitchell

**W**hat do Hubble Space Telescope pictures have to do with God's mercy? I sometimes think it's easier to believe in the Real Presence than it is to trust that God will continue to forgive my constant daily failures. It feels pointless to ask for mercy when I know I will commit those same, tiresome sins again and again. I come to think I know what God will and won't forgive because I can't bring myself to show mercy to others and, especially, to myself. Then I look at the telescope's breath-taking pictures of galaxies and stars whose light is reaching us after billions of years of travel. I remember that the expansive, timeless God that created this nearly incomprehensible universe has to be expansive in all things, including mercy. To believe otherwise is to believe in a human-like God of limitations who is just as arbitrary as I can be with mercy and forgiveness: for me, hardly a God worth believing in. God's mercy must be as infinite as the universe God created. Pope Francis is right: God never tires of forgiving us, God's mercy is endless. Those pictures are proof!

Mark Schoen

**F**or me as a working mom of small kids, "mercy" mostly means letting go of unrealistic expectations for what my life is supposed to look like. I think when I'm gentler with myself about things like dust bunnies, store-bought valentines, serving the occasional processed convenience food, and

**D**awn of morning after a fitful night,  
 Warmth of fire chasing the cold,  
 Water sprinkling arid earth.  
 Unexpected gift of a smile,  
 A door opened, a package carried,  
 A bill found paid by a benevolent stranger.  
 All salves, all reflections of His salvific Grace.  
 A thousand mercies our God showers upon His  
 loved ones, pouring out from His Biggest Mercy:  
 The shedding of His blood for our eternal life.  
 Made in His image, we are compelled to be a  
 reflection of Him,  
 Spreading acts of mercy like needed drops of rain,  
 Life-giving love and peace.  
 Jesus, Our Source of Continual Mercy  
 Gives us a sacramental life-raft  
 Outpouring of sins and failings – blots and blights  
 against Love  
 Priest's consecrated hands raised in absolution,  
 A necessary instrument to unleash His mercy  
 Restoring our souls to fullness of love,  
 Scouring them clean, then sealed with repentance  
 Be still, for we have His mercy.  
 Be still, and live in His mercy.

Michelle Bruno

**A**nxiety filled my mind as I walked toward the entrance of the university admissions office. A year since my mother's death, I planned to write a memoir about the years I cared for her after a crippling stroke, but first decided to take a writing class to learn more about the craft. At home the idea seemed reasonable, but now as I stepped through the doorway, I halted, paralyzed in self-doubt: I'm a musician, not a writer. Is this a crazy idea, an illusion of talent, another dead end? Overwhelmed, I left.

Once home, I entered the room where I cared for Mom and lay down on the bed, and prayed, "What should I do?" Then, like the "whispering sound" heard by the prophet Elijah during a thunderstorm, Mom's quiet words to me shortly before she died suddenly returned to my memory: "You can do anything you want. You just have to believe in yourself." My answer had come. Strengthened in confidence, the next day I enrolled in class, thrilled when my book was published a few years later.

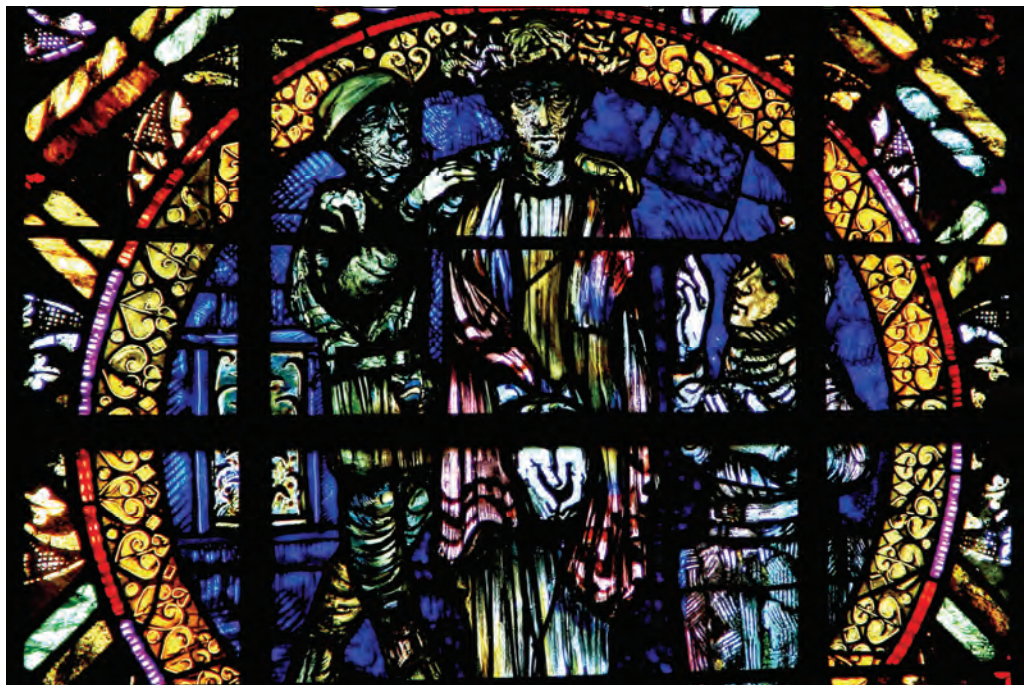
In mercy, God answers every prayer. But this time he did so for me through a lovely memory of my mother.

Jennifer Sokol

**"W**e are put on earth for a little space that we might learn to bear the beams of love." (William Blake)  
We have just finished our latest read-aloud book, *Tattoos on the Heart* by Greg Boyle, SJ. I believe it is the finest portrayal of mercy that I have ever read.

Father Boyle is the founder of Homeboy Industries and has worked with L.A. gangs for several years. He writes stories of redemption and mercy with such humility and love that I would like to turn around and re-read it, if I could keep from crying long enough to do it!

Throughout the book Father Boyle encounters courage in the face of extreme poverty, abandonment and many times death and never waivers in his unconditional love for the "homies." They in turn love him.



He says, "I have come to see with greater clarity that the day simply won't come when I am more noble, have more courage, or am closer to God that the folks whose lives I will tell you about. In Africa they say, 'a person becomes a person through other people.' There is not doubt that the homies have returned me to myself. I've learned, with their patient guidance, to worship Christ as He lives in them."

There isn't room in this little essay to tell one of these stories. I just offer this remarkable gift you can give yourself and be inspired as I am, to try to show mercy to others.

Kathy Lewis

**"T**hrough the word of God the Christian receives light to recognize his sins and is called to conversion and to confidence in God's mercy." (Rite of Penance, 17, as quoted in *Verbum Domini*, Benedict XVI)  
Lord, I have tired of the stink of sin.

My ears were shut to your servant Jeremiah: Long ago you broke your yoke, you tore off your bonds. You said, "*Non serviam*." (Jeremiah 2:20)

Through my most grievous fault, I am exhausted; I am nothing.

Help me to serve. Groan for me, Lord, "Ephphatha!" (cf. Mark 7:34)

For the lowly may be pardoned out of mercy... (Wisdom 6:6)

Yes, my sin is always before me. (Psalm 51:5) But your mercy endures forever. (Psalm 136:1)

Sin is not eternal, but only the Cross, and the merciful bath of your blood. *Asperges me* then! And



with St. Peter, my hands and head as well! (John 13:9) Conquer me again and again by the blood of the Lamb! (cf. Revelation 12:11)

V. Keep us today Lord from all sin.

R. Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

V. Lord, show us your love and mercy;

R. For we put our trust in you. (*Te Deum*)

Matthew Bruno

One of our best friends is a woman we'll call Sue. Sue routinely informs us that, though she dearly loves us, she will never darken the door of a church. Sue and I used to work together in a low-paid job. We had a co-worker we'll call Janet, whom we both found exceedingly difficult to like. Janet was laid off, despite having lots of medical problems. Sue made no secret of her dislike for Janet. What she did try to keep secret was that she paid Janet's COBRA insurance premiums after she was laid off. When I said to Sue, "But you so dislike her!" Sue simply replied, "But she needed it!"

This has to remain between us. Sue would kill us if we told you!

Max Lewis

"God's mercy is bigger than any mistake." Wow! What a gift to me! Being a 59 year old flawed human (oxymoron), I have made some big, small, and giant mistakes in my life. I have two options, let my mistakes build up as guilt and self-disgust or take God at His word and know he understands my flawed nature. For a number of years I chose the first option and found myself drowning under the burden of my mistakes. As my Catholic education/knowledge grew, I came to realize that in

fact, Jesus showed the ultimate mercy by dying for us on the cross. Mercy in Latin can mean "price paid" and Jesus paid the ultimate price for my sins. I now can face the day unburdened to a large degree through prayers and a request for forgiveness of my daily sins. It is obvious to me that when I am shown such absolute mercy from God, I must attempt to be "Christ like" and show mercy to my fellow flawed humans. My favorite beatitude is "Blessed are the merciful for they shall

obtain mercy." God knows I need mercy! My wife Elaine and I are currently working for the Peace Corps in Morocco. Flawed as I am, the words of mercy given to us keeps me stumbling along.

Mal Moran

Pope Francis has declared the upcoming year to be a Jubilee Year of Mercy. What a great challenge and reminder to us all of our pivotal role in God's work! God is love, and mercy is his medium for the work of love in the world. Mercy is an incredibly human virtue. Those who receive or give mercy almost always do so in connection with another. Being vessels of mercy is one of the clearest ways that we, as Christians, act out our place as members of the body of Christ. Mercy comes from God, but through one human to another. In God's work of mercy, we are his "boots on the ground."

The exchange of mercy is what is so great about a community such as St. James. It underscores how vital community is to Christian life. Every day, countless acts of mercy occur here at our church, from organized ministries to quiet acts of love. With mercy we show our city what God's love is all about. With this upcoming Year of Mercy, the entire church has been tasked with bringing God's love actively into every human encounter of our lives.

Gregory Phillips

"God, please have mercy on me." I've said this in my prayers many times in my life, from the time I have consciously understood the meaning of pain, despair, hopelessness and shame. I've said it in my head, to the air and in my prayers; in public and in private places where my tears can flow freely. As a young girl, I would ask for mercy when my peers

would shun me or when I didn't think I was worthy of living another day. In my young adulthood, I would pray for mercy when I felt alone and lost. I prayed for mercy in my early years of marriage, when my husband and I couldn't agree, and I felt the pain of distance from him.

As a young parent, I asked for mercy when I went into early labor with my second child. And I begged for mercy when she was in the intensive care unit for months and I witnessed her struggle for life. I pray for mercy now, as I walk with my children in their teenage years and the tumult these years bring to our family. In each turn of my own life journey, mercy has been a companion in my darkest days and in my darkest moments. As many times I have asked for mercy, it's been hard to understand it over the years. I guess that's because mercy always accompanied me in painful days, when I didn't think hope existed. But over time, as I prayed to my merciful God, I've seen the many facets of mercy and through each side, I've seen my own face reflected back to me. As I look even closer, beyond my own tear-filled reflection, is God's grace. His presence and grace layered over my reflection, is what has accompanied my old friend, mercy. This image has helped me understand that in addition to God's mercy, I have mercy from me to give. Mercy is a constant companion because it has always resided in me.

Alice Ryan

I'm sure I have experienced a ton of mercy in my lifetime so far. I'm positive everyone has at one point. The funny thing that strikes me about the word mercy is that I immediately think of someone begging for it. Old cliché movies with villains and castles and large, swooshing capes where the victim is on their knees praying for it. Does it relate to any of you in the same way? That it's a special thing only handed out to the lucky few? I know I think of mercy that way, or, at least I did before I realized the true meaning of mercy this past year.

This last August I was lucky to be a part of the Youth Group that traveled to Nicaragua and stayed at the NPH home there. We spent time with the kids, volunteers, teachers, and mentors who lived at that NPH home and I can say that it definitely opened my eyes and my heart. It wasn't until I read the prompt for this month's column that I realized this trip had opened up to me the idea of mercy. The kids at NPH, Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos, had taught me that forgiveness towards someone is something that is done without thought. It is not a rare gift, from one to another, but something as simple as a thank you and ten times more meaningful. The literal definition of

mercy is, 'compassion or forgiveness shown towards someone whom it is within one's power to punish or harm.' These kids handed out that same forgiveness everyday as they struggled with the challenges in their lives. Here, in Nicaragua, mercy was not rare and it certainly wasn't a fictional notion. I was even shocked to learn some of the horrible moments in the lives of these kids before they were sent to the NPH home because these children, who bounced around through the fields around the school and laughed at our group's horrible attempts to speak the language, who seemed weightless, weighed down by nothing, and yet had shown great acts of mercy in the very beginning years of their life. Shocked as I was why they were so forgiving, especially from things I could only imagine, they answered me simply and said that, that is what God would do. No other reason was granted from the many I asked and it solidified my change.

Mercy is not a rarity to me anymore. It is a strong word and hard to wield at times but it's simply a synonym for forgiveness, and what forgiveness entails, and love. So, now I love, all the time, with everyone, and even when it's hard, because that's what mercy means to me and what I want it to mean to others as well.

Sydney Gilbert

I'm comforted by the idea of John, at the foot of the Cross, "the disciple whom Jesus loved," symbolizing each of us. We are each dearly loved. I recently pondered the idea if "the woman caught in adultery" could represent each of us, as well.

The Pharisees were ready to stone the woman for her sin; Jesus was ready to forgive her. After the Pharisees left, Jesus asked, "Has no one condemned you?" "No one," replied the woman. Jesus said, "Neither have I condemned you." She was shown the mystery of God's mercy. We are each dearly forgiven.

It took a long time for me to forgive the boy who threw the stick at recess, which left me mostly blind in one eye. I saw him, many years later, at a school reunion. And without either of us speaking, seeing his expression of utter regret and pain, I became aware that Brian had carried the burden of his action ever since.

Suddenly, I can't define it, but something happened. And compassion, forgiveness, and mutual tears washed the burden from Brian, and from me.

Scott Webster

# Year of Mercy

December 8, 2015 – November 20, 2016

**P**ope Francis has announced a special Year of Mercy beginning December 8, 2015, and continuing through November 20, 2016. The Year of Mercy is a special time for prayer, pilgrimage, and works of mercy, a graced opportunity to encounter the mercy of God.

## WHY A YEAR OF MERCY?

“At times we are called to gaze even more attentively on mercy so that we may become a more effective sign of the Father’s action in our lives. For this reason I have proclaimed an Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy as a special time for the Church, a time when the witness of believers might grow stronger and more effective.” (Pope Francis)

**WHAT IS A JUBILEE?** For centuries, the Church has observed Jubilees – times of special grace and forgiveness of sins – at significant anniversaries, as in the Great Jubilee Year 2000, which marked the 2000th anniversary of Christ’s birth. The Year of Mercy is an “Extraordinary Jubilee” because it does not mark a particular anniversary. As in other Jubilee Years, the Jubilee Doors at the Major Basilicas in Rome will be opened and the faithful will have the opportunity to obtain a plenary indulgence for themselves and for their deceased loved ones.

**WHERE ARE THE DOORS OF MERCY?** This Jubilee observance is unique in that Pope Francis has instructed that Doors of Mercy be designated not only in the Major Basilicas in Rome, but in every diocese around the world, in all cathedral churches and major shrines. Pope Francis will open the first Doors of Mercy on November 29, when he visits the Cathedral of Bangui in the Central African Republic. Archbishop Sartain will open the Doors of Mercy at St. James Cathedral on Sunday, December 13. They will open for pilgrims throughout the Year of Mercy, until

**Corinna Laughlin** is Director of Liturgy at St. James Cathedral.



November 13, 2016.

## HOW SHOULD WE MARK THE YEAR OF MERCY?

Pope Francis has written: “It is my burning desire that, during this Jubilee, the Christian people may reflect on the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. It will be a way to reawaken our conscience, too often grown dull in the face of poverty.... Let us rediscover these corporal works of mercy: to feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, welcome the stranger, heal the sick, visit the imprisoned, and bury the dead. And let us not forget the spiritual works of mercy: to counsel the doubtful, instruct the ignorant, admonish sinners, comfort the afflicted, forgive offences, bear patiently those who do us ill, and pray for the living and the dead.” In addition, the Year of Mercy is an opportune time to celebrate the sacraments,

especially the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Eucharist, to pray, to reflect on the Scriptures (particularly the Gospel of Luke, which we will read throughout the year at Sunday Mass), and to make a pilgrimage and pass through the Doors of Mercy in Rome or closer to home at St. James Cathedral.

## WHAT SPECIAL EVENTS ARE HAPPENING DURING THE YEAR OF MERCY?

St. James Cathedral will welcome pilgrims throughout the year, from December 13, 2015 through November 13, 2016. In addition, a series of Jubilee events will take place in the Cathedral for various groups – religious and clergy, young people, people with special needs, and many more. Visit [www.stjames-cathedral.org/mercy](http://www.stjames-cathedral.org/mercy) for the full schedule of events.

## Tuesday, December 8, 2015 | Mass at 5:30pm

Beginning of the Year of Mercy on the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

Father Michael G. Ryan, Presider

*The Year of Mercy begins on the Solemnity of Mary’s*

*Immaculate Conception. Pope Francis chose this date because it also marks the 50th anniversary of the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council. Thus the Year of Mercy in light of the Council, when "the walls which for too long had made the Church a kind of fortress were torn down and the time had come to proclaim the Gospel in a new way... The Church sensed a responsibility to be a living sign of the Father's love in the world" (Pope Francis).*

**Sunday, December 13, 2015 | Mass at 12 Noon**

Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent with the Solemn Opening of the Holy Doors of Mercy  
Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, Presider

*This solemn liturgy will begin with an outdoor procession, as the Archbishop leads us from Cathedral Place Hall to the Cathedral for the opening of the Doors of Mercy. "This is the Lord's gate: let us enter through it and obtain mercy and forgiveness" (from the Rite of Opening the Holy Doors of Mercy).*

**Sunday, February 14, 2016 | Vespers at 4:00pm**

Jubilee for Those in the Consecrated Life  
Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, Presider

*This is a special opportunity to gather with those in the consecrated life, particularly the women religious who continue to serve in parishes, schools, hospitals, and countless other ministries in the Archdiocese of Seattle.*

**Saturday, March 5, 2016 | Confessions**

Day of Mercy

*One of the high points of the Year of Mercy is the Day of Mercy, when Archbishop Sartain, Bishop Elizondo, and priests from across the Archdiocese hear confessions throughout the day at St. James Cathedral. All are encouraged to participate in this celebration of the Sacrament of Mercy in the Year of Mercy.*

**Saturday, March 12, 2016 | Mass at 11:00am**

Jubilee for People with Special Needs  
Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, Presider

*This Jubilee is especially for Catholics, old and young, with special needs, and their families. All are welcome to join them in prayer and to celebrate the special witness people with special needs give to the Gospel in our faith communities.*

**Thursday, March 17, 2016 | Mass at 7:00pm**

Chrism Mass

Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, Presider

*The Chrism Mass is one of the most important celebrations of the liturgical year, as the Archbishop, with the priests of the Archdiocese, blesses and consecrates the sacred oils to be used in the celebrations of the sacraments at Easter and throughout the year. It is a time when all the baptized can come together and remember that, like Christ, we have been*

*anointed to be prophets, priests, and kings, living and sharing our faith.*

**Sunday, April 3, 2016 | Mass at 12 Noon**

Divine Mercy Sunday

*On the Second Sunday of Easter, the Church throughout the world celebrates the Divine Mercy of God in Jesus Christ. Mass will conclude with the praying of the Divine Mercy chaplet.*

**Saturday, June 4, 2016 | Mass at 5:30pm**

Jubilee for Young People

Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, Presider

*All children and youth are invited to a special Jubilee celebration for them at the Cathedral. The Mass will include the procession through the Doors of Mercy as well as the blessing of pilgrims headed to World Youth Day.*

**Saturday, June 25, 2016 | Mass at 10:00am**

Ordinations to the Priesthood

Jubilee of Priests

Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, Presider

*The ordination of priests is a joyful moment not only for the new priests and their families, but for the entire local Church. All are welcome to participate in the solemn Mass of Ordination.*

**Sunday, August 14, 2016 | Vespers at 4:00pm**

Jubilee for Deacons

Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, Presider

*All are welcome at this celebration of Vespers (Evening Prayer) with the deacons of the Archdiocese and their families.*

**Saturday, September 24, 2016 | Mass at 5:30pm**

Jubilee for Young Adults

Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, Presider

*Catholic young adults are invited to process through the Doors of Mercy at this special Mass with the Archbishop. After Mass, an outdoor fair will highlight opportunities for young adults to help build up the Church in Western Washington.*

**Saturday, October 1, 2016 | Rosary at 11:00am**

Jubilee of Mary, Mother of Mercy with Rosary for Vocations

Archbishop J. Peter Sartain, Presider

*All are invited to gather in the Cathedral and offer a solemn rosary for vocations as we honor Mary, Mother of Mercy.*

**Sunday, November 13, 2016 | Mass at 10:00am**

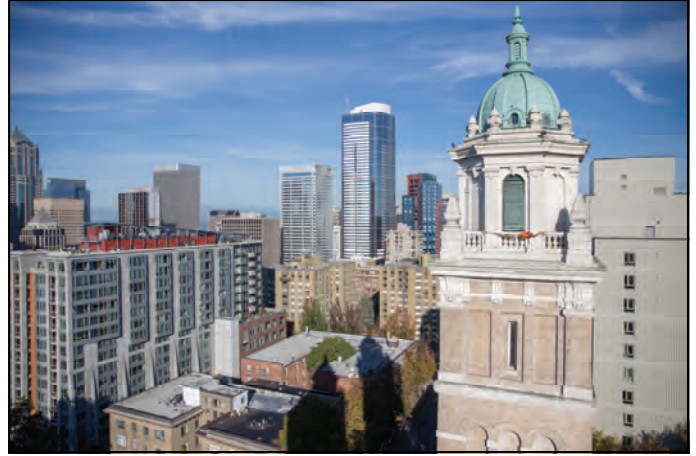
Closing of the Cathedral's Holy Doors

Father Michael G. Ryan, Presider

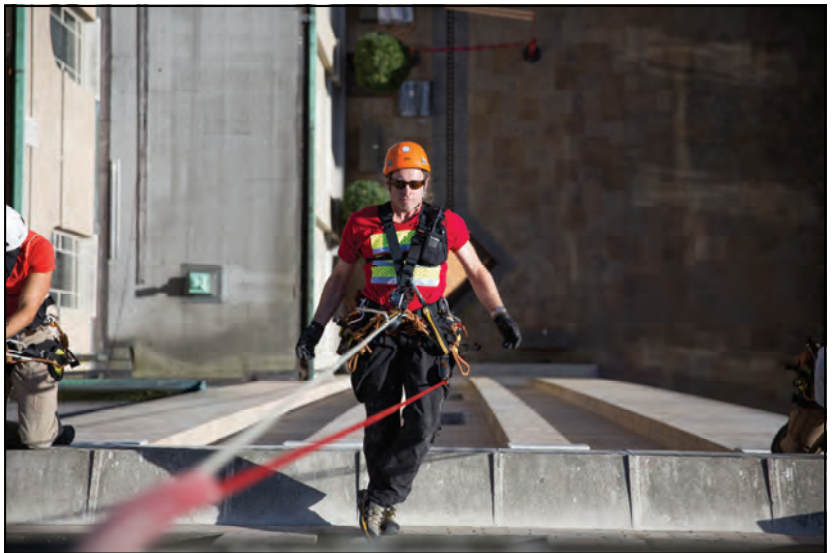
*As the Year of Mercy draws to a close, Father Ryan will close the Cathedral's Doors of Mercy.*

# Lighting Project Album

*Electricians scale the heights to make the Cathedral's new exterior lighting project a reality*



Work has been underway for several weeks on the installation of the new exterior lighting on the Cathedral. Lights on the towers necessitated the use of rigging as electricians rappelled up and down the Cathedral towers to install light fixtures on the roof and towers. They loved every minute of it! The lighting will be completed for the beginning of the Year of Mercy, and will be on after nightfall beginning December 8. Special thanks to the many donors who made this unique project possible. *Photos on this page, and photos on the top right of page 11, are by Alex Garland, Capitol Hill Blog (used with his kind permission).*



# A Pequeños Lesson in Family

*St. James Youth Ministry travels to Nicaragua*

**P**lans, prayers and even passports are all part of the Sunday Night Youth Ministry meetings at the Pastoral Outreach Center led by Joe Cotton, Youth Minister. Over the summer, Father Ryan reminded the youths, "You are going to be traveling to an orphanage in Nicaragua where you will make new friends with people who have so much less than you, but have much to teach you." He echoed the sentiments of Pope Francis who emphasizes, "we have much to learn from the poor."

Armed with insect repellent, walking shoes, and antibiotics, sixteen youths along with nine chaperones travelled to Jinotepe, Nicaragua in August. It was here that the parish group spent nine days at an orphanage named Casa Padre Wasson, part of Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH), Spanish for "Our Little Brothers and Sisters." NPH is part of a network of homes founded in 1954 by American Priest, Father William Wasson.

Casa Padre Wasson is a 45-minute drive from the capital, Managua, and is located on picturesque farmland with rolling hills in the background. Over 200 children call Casa Padre Wasson their home. They live in 16 family-style houses complete with porches, courtyards and cement pathways. A greenhouse, workshop, school, clinic, visitors' house and dining hall are all a part of the complex.

NPH operates homes, hospitals and outreach centers throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. Currently, NPH is committed to educating over 3,400 orphaned and abandoned children in nine different countries. The children are raised to self-sustainable adulthood in lieu of being adopted out. They are given a secure home, an education up through college and learn a trade such as carpentry, sewing, cooking, and shoemaking. These children also learn responsibility. They have chores after school and on weekends. Two

**Lisa Casterella** is a freelance writer and a parishioner at St. James Cathedral.



years of service at NPH after 9th and 11th grade is also required. For the Pequeños, family becomes the other NPH children and the adults (often orphans that grew up at NPH) who care for them. "I found that pequeños means everyone is family. Everyone should be accepted," said Bennett, a high school freshman.

Since his return, youth group member, Jack, a high school senior, candidly states, "Actual problems have become redefined. My trip to Nicaragua has changed me, changed my perspective. I'm grateful to have two tests to study for. Studying for a test is not a real problem." He continues, "I met little Oscar on the second day. I'd see him every day, during free time and during meals. The entire trip I hung out with Oscar. It's hard to describe how close we became. I picked up from him how to be loving, because he was so loving with me."

Earlier in his career, Joe Cotton spent 13 months as a volunteer with NPH in Nicaragua where he served as a school counselor and retreat director. Since his return to the states, he visits NPH several times a year to continue his humanitarian efforts.

High school junior Zaccarra explains, "When Joe first popped the question about going to a different country, we couldn't believe it. Us? A year later, we



were sitting on an airplane flying to Nicaragua. Honestly, agreeing to go was the most helpful thing, the most life-changing experience I've ever had."

Prior to the youth group's trip, Joe often emphasized at meetings the importance of immersion into the NPH community. He encouraged the youth "to live the *pequeños'* daily reality and 'be with' and 'learn from' the people of Nicaragua. Joe stressed "becoming uncomfortable so that such discomfort will move you to action."

Nicaragua is the second poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, after Haiti. Years of civil unrest, violence, and environmental disasters such as earthquakes, hurricanes and flooding (to name a few) have had a dire impact on its most vulnerable populations — its youth. Each NPH child has experienced personal tragedy. Some have witnessed the death of a parent; others have been abandoned or sexually abused. Nearly one-half of the population lives below the poverty level. Payton, a college student says, "I'm still trying to reconcile everything I experienced. Some of the things these kids have

experienced are so far outside my scope that I can't imagine it."

The youth group spent the majority of their days at Casa Padre Wasson. The weather was hot and sunny with occasional torrential downpours to cool things off (at least temporarily). Unexpected visitors like stray dogs and cats looking for scraps of food as well as tarantulas and scorpions were all a part of the experience. Power outages occurred on a regular basis leaving the group to use candlelight the majority of evenings. The skies were clear at night. Stargazing became a favorite activity especially when punctuated by lightning storms.

A typical day for the youth group began with a breakfast of rice and beans. Prayers were said every morning for the *pequeños* and the parish shareholders who helped to make the trip possible through their donations. Part of the official NPH prayer states, "God please help the large forces that fight against these children. May war pass over them, art not forget them, history remember them."

Noah, a high school junior, has not forgotten them.



He plans to go back to volunteer. Noah states, "I saw a wonderful community dynamic; there are deep connections with people. I feel more faith-filled."

After morning prayers, the St James youth group spent time with the *pequeños* after their own school day and chores had finished. Soccer, basketball, hair braiding and jumping rope are just some of the activities that the youth engaged in with the *pequeños*. Fifteen year-old Andrew states, "The soccer players are fearless and very physical. They do bicycle kicks on the concrete! They make me want to be a better soccer player!" At NPH, hugs are given freely, cheerful smiles abound and everything is shared without hesitation. In a place where children have few possessions, material items mean very little.

Dave, a chaperone says, "I'm 49 years old and when I look back on this trip, I can honestly say that it has changed my heart. I'm so happy that the youth group had this experience at their age. At one point, Joe gave one of the *pequeños* two Starburst candies, and the kid wanted to give me one, half of what he had! There are so many more important things than what we own."

Celina, a senior, agrees. She states, "I hung out with a little four year old. I pushed her on the swing. We bonded. She kept saying, "Hola, hola!" She jumped up, hugged me, knocked my glasses off and pretended to put makeup on me with a flower. It doesn't matter what they don't have: they make do. Another time, a little boy with a disability came up and laid his head on my knee. I fell in love with that little boy!"

The trip has now come full circle. Recently, ten young adult members of a musical troupe from NPH Nicaragua visited Seattle. They stayed with host families from St. James and St. Anne's parish. They came to perform traditional dances and play folkloric music. The group was introduced to local churches, schools and businesses to raise funds for NPH.

After a final dance performance in Bellevue, one member of the troupe urged the audience, "Please come to visit us in Nicaragua. Bring Starbucks coffee with you!" For members of the St James youth group, that day is on the horizon. They are planning a trip in 2017 where they can continue to learn from the *pequeños*. ♦



Above left: the Youth Ministry Team shared their dormitory with a very large tarantula. Above right: a one-day trip to Granada to pray at the Cathedral and learn about the history of this beautiful country. Middle, left: sharing a lunch of rice and beans with the pequenos. Bottom, left: games of Uno are a great way to form friendships in spite of the language barrier! Bottom right, bonding with the pequenos over a mutual admiration of "One Direction"! *Special thanks to David Buchholz and Pete Ryan for the wonderful photos of the trip included in this article.*

# Giving Back

*Pagliacci Pizza shares in the mission of the Cathedral Kitchen*

Seattle company **Pagliacci Pizza** has partnered with St. James Cathedral for several years on the Hunthausen Golf Tournament, and is a key part of the success of that event. Did you know that staff of Pagliacci Pizza also prepare a meal for the Cathedral Kitchen once a month? Recently, Pagliacci Pizza published an article about the work of the Cathedral Kitchen in their newsletter, *I Pagliacci*. The article is reprinted here. A huge thank you to parishioner Matt Galvin and to Pagliacci Pizza for all the ways you share in the mission of the Cathedral Kitchen!



By 3:30 every weekday afternoon the long tables that fill the St. James' dining hall, located in Cathedral Hall, are beautifully set for up to 180 people. Outside, a long line of people needing a hot meal wait. The kitchen hums with activity as the day's chef works with the kitchen manager, Carol DeMatteis and many volunteers to put the finishing touches on a five-course meal. At a quarter of four the doors open and David Grech, the greeter, and Teddi Callahan, the program's director, let people into the hall. All are welcome. The only stipulations are no drinking, no drugs, and no rude or disrespectful behavior. If the hall fills up the kitchen tries to provide sack lunches for those it must turn away, as well as instructions on other hot meal programs in the area.

"The people we serve have compromised immune systems, they suffer from many things," Teddi says. "The best we can do is give them a dignified, healthy, and complete meal. There is a healing that happens with that. We have a main dish, a side dish, green salad, fruit salad, bread, dessert, coffee, and milk."

The food comes from many sources. Every day two

"gleaners" drive around Seattle collecting produce, deli, dairy, and meat from various grocery stores, including PCC, Madison Market, and QFC. St Mary's Food Bank and Northwest Harvest also help. Sometimes Cathedral Kitchen makes direct purchases. During the summer months, they harvest much of their produce from their own organic gardens. "People sometimes ask me why we serve organic food to homeless people," Teddi says. "They're the ones who need it most, I tell them."

Over the course of a year, they serve nearly 50,000 meals. This high level of production takes over 110 volunteers a week. Volunteers range from high-school students to an 85-year-old woman. Anyone can volunteer. Some are part of the St. James congregation, others have no religious affiliation or come from a different faith. Volunteers come from many cultural and class backgrounds. What unites them is the desire to help stop hunger by providing a dignified and nutritious meal to those in need.

For the last five years, Pagliacci has provided the meal on the third Thursday of every month. Jeff Maneval, a field manager for Pagliacci who's been with the company for over 16 years, seized the opportunity to help when it was offered to him. A passionate cook, he started out fixing elaborate meals. "The first few times I did it I would bring in four or five general

This article was written by Louis Whitford and was originally published in the Fall 2015 issue of the *I Pagliacci* newsletter for Pagliacci staff and customers. Photos by Sam Kosola. Special thanks to Matt Galvin and Pagliacci Pizza for permission to reprint the article and the photos.



Jeff Maneval of Pagliacci Pizza is pictured with Carol DeMatteis, Assistant Director of the Cathedral Kitchen.

managers and a bunch of groceries and we'd do it up. I'd get the vendors involved, they'd donate product. I'd put 10 hours into making a meal for these guys, fantastic food. What I didn't realize is that those guys get a meal like that every day. It's not like they show up and get a bowl of chicken broth with a few noodles in it. They are getting a five-course meal. There is a chef for every day of the week who leads the volunteers. I was doing the same thing, showing my passion and skill cooking. It was fun. But one day I was slammed so I sent pizzas, and they were way more excited about it than my cooking. I was thinking about it, and I realized they get a great meal every day. But you know what they don't get? They never get Pagliacci pizza. I realized I've got to quit being selfish and trying to impress them with my skills and give them what they want."

When Teddi's children were in college, or when they were traveling, there were always families and friends that invited them in for meals. It warmed her heart to know they were being cared for and getting nourishment and companionship from others. She

finds a parallel in her work helping to feed Seattle's needy. "Homelessness can be a very dehumanizing factor in the way we see people on the streets," she says. "But each of them is somebody's son or daughter. You never know what they've been through."

While food donations and volunteers are the lifelines of the Cathedral Kitchen, it also takes a lot of money to keep such a busy kitchen running. Once when the hot water tank broke the plumber reported that it would take a week to repair. "Would you tell that to a hospital?" Teddi said. The plumber made some more calls and got it fixed before dinner service the next day. They hold one major annual fundraiser, but they also rely upon monetary gifts from supporters to maintain equipment and buy needed supplies.

"Working with so many volunteers from so many backgrounds, from stockbrokers and executives to those who are needy themselves, has been a humbling experience," Jeff says. "It feels really good when you are done." ♦

# Laudato Si'

*A letter from Pope Francis*

**D**id you know you received a letter from Pope Francis? You did, and I did, and so did every person living on earth. The letter was Pope Francis' environmental encyclical *Laudato Si': On Care for our Common Home*. The word "encyclical" comes from the Greek word for "circulate." An encyclical is usually a letter "circulated" to bishops and archbishops on important matters of church doctrine. With *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis expanded the circulation list—he addressed this letter not just to bishops and archbishops, not just to Catholics, not just to Christians, and not just to people of faith. He addressed the encyclical "to every person living on the planet" with the hope of entering into dialogue about our common home, the earth itself. The title of the encyclical, *Laudato Si'*, comes from the famous canticle of St. Francis of Assisi—"Laudato Si', mi Signore," or "Praise be to you, my Lord"—in which St. Francis gives praise to God for the great gift of creation.

Catholic social analysis always involves three parts: *see, judge, and act*. We first look at a situation, then analyze it through the lens of Scripture and tradition, and then are called to take action indicated by that analysis. In *Laudato Si'*, Francis follows that pattern. He first looks at the state of the environment, and is quite alarmed: "the earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth." He sees climate change as a "global problem with grave implications" and says it "represents one of the principal challenges facing humanity in our day." He's also concerned about the shortage of clean water, and the increasing loss of biodiversity through climate change and other environmental degradation. It's not just environmental quality that Francis sees declining; he also sees a decline in the quality of human life.

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**Patty Bowman** is Director of Outreach at St. James Cathedral. For further information on *Laudato Si'*, or on environmental efforts here at St. James Cathedral, please contact Patty Bowman at [pbowman@stjames-cathedral.org](mailto:pbowman@stjames-cathedral.org).



Francis ties in the great economic inequality in the world to the destruction of the environment. He looks at global inequality, at how the global north, with more developed economies and higher standards of living, is responsible for more of the environmental destruction—while the less developed countries in the global south, who have contributed less to environmental problems, are bearing more of the harm from climate change and other kinds of environmental destruction. Pope Francis even says that the global north owes an "ecological debt" to the global south, to correct that kind of imbalance. For Francis, it's not surprising that all these things are happening simultaneously: "The human environment and the natural environment deteriorate together; we cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation."

Both Scripture and our Catholic tradition call us to recognize that creation is a gift from God, and that we are called to be stewards of it. "The earth is the Lord's and everything in it," the psalmist says. We do not own the earth, it belongs to God, and we do not have the right to destroy it. Because it was created by God, the rest of the natural order has inherent value apart from its usefulness to human desires. Nature is not just the background against which we live our lives; we are

intimately connected to nature and are ultimately dependent on nature for our lives. Just as we are called to care for creation, we are also called to care for one another, particularly the poorest and most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters. Since the poor are always hurt the first and the worst by environmental destruction, Francis says “we need to we need to hear both the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor.”

The root cause of both environmental and human deterioration, for Francis, is what he calls our “throwaway culture.” Technological advances give rise to new possibilities, which are often very positive, but always come at a price. Something that was previously impossible becomes possible, a luxury can become a want, and a want can become a need, and then the new and improved version becomes the new need. Our economic system, to a large extent, depends on our ever increasing consumption, but Francis warns that we have reached the point where the earth simply cannot support such a throwaway culture: The paradigm of unlimited development “is based on the lie that there is an infinite supply of the earth’s goods, and this leads to the planet being squeezed dry beyond every limit.” But Francis is not calling for a stop to all development. Instead, he calls for an “integral ecology,” in which we look for ways to promote fair and sustainable development for poor nations, and environmental solutions that find ways to help both the planet and the poor.

Having looked at our current ecological crisis and analyzed it in light of Catholic teaching, Francis then calls us to take action. We can all do something—even small actions like recycling or taking the bus are things Francis calls noble and creative acts. We can use our power as consumers to purchase green products and use our power as citizens to advocate for governmental actions to reduce climate change and to support the poor. But Francis is also calling for us to go deeper spiritually, to make care for creation and care for the poor a central part of our spirituality: “The ecological crisis is also a summons to profound inner conversion. Living our vocation to be protectors of God’s handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience.”

Last June, Pope Francis sent you a letter, a letter about our common home. Have you opened the letter? Have you read it? Are you responding to it? If you haven’t read it yet, you can find copies at the Cathedral Bookstore, or online at the Vatican website. Let us all commit to read the letter and to work together to build a common home in which all can live and flourish. ♦

## SIMPLE WAYS TO REDUCE YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

**Programmable thermostat** Costs about \$50 or less and will save you that much or more in the first year.

**Weatherstripping and Caulking** Costs almost nothing while reducing your energy use, reducing drafts and improving comfort.

**Insulation** Weatherstripping, caulking and insulation work together to save you energy, improve the comfort of your home, make it quieter and help you save money.

**Lighting** Compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs) save more than 2/3rds of the energy of a regular incandescent. Each bulb can save \$40 or more over its lifetime. Read the box or instructions for safe disposal.

**Heating and Cooling** Keep your heating and cooling system(s) tuned. When it’s time to replace, do your research and ask for EnergyStar.

**Water** Conserving Showerheads & Toilets can reduce water and heating costs, even in your bathroom. To save even more water, turn the faucet off when brushing or shaving. These simple changes can save many thousands of gallons of water annually.

**Appliances** Always pay attention to the total lifetime cost, including energy—not just the price tag. Look for the EnergyStar label.

**Electronics** Do like your Mom said—turn things off. If you’re going away or not using an item for awhile, unplug it to prevent “vampire” energy loss from electricity usage on standby.

**Windows** These can be expensive, but when it’s time to replace them, make sure they are EnergyStar rated.

**Stop your junk mail** with the help of [www.41pounds.org](http://www.41pounds.org), a nonprofit service that contacts dozens of direct mailers to remove your name from their lists.

**Buy locally if possible** Shipping burns fuel. A 5-pound package shipped by air across the country creates 12 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> (3 ½ pounds if shipped by truck).

**Eat less meat** If you’re already a vegetarian, you save at least 3,000 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> per year compared to meat eaters. If you’re not a vegetarian, just increase the number of vegetarian meals you eat each week by one or two. Also, poultry is less greenhouse gas intensive than beef.

*These ideas are adapted from [carbonfund.org](http://carbonfund.org)*

# The Pew Next to You

*Meet Kevin & Charlotte Kelly, and Kim Doan Nguyen*

**D**riving from Chancery Place to Gaffney House, Charlotte tells the story of meeting Kevin in 1958 at the Wollaston Golf Club in Quincy, Massachusetts close to where they grew up. She was 29 and he was 34. They were married two years later at St. Agatha's in her hometown, Milton.

A World War II veteran, Kevin followed his three older brothers into the armed forces just after high school. About 3 months after joining the navy, Kevin got word that his older brother, Paul was killed flying over the English Channel. "He lived a lot in a pretty short period of time," says daughter, Jennifer, "and I think that really affected him as it did a lot of people of his generation."

Kevin and Charlotte were destined to move many times, first along the East Coast, and then out west following Kevin's work as an electrical engineer. In 1979, now parents of Michelle, Jennifer, and Paul, they moved to Seattle, where Kevin took a job at Boeing. Later the family moved to California, then back to various areas of Washington State, and finally back to Seattle for good.

Today, Michelle teaches art at North Seattle College, where she has won an Exemplary Teacher Award. In all the family photos, she looks like a younger version of Charlotte.

Jennifer is married to Dubliner, Gerry Scully, whom she met at Seattle U. Their son Tadhg (a Gaelic boy's name meaning poet or philosopher) is now a sophomore at Marquette. When Tadhg was born, Jennifer left her job as director of Seattle L'Arche (an international ministry to people with developmental disabilities), and Gerry took over. Jennifer continues at L'Arche half-time as spiritual director.

Charlotte and Kevin's youngest, Paul, lives in Victor, Idaho and does real estate work in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. He just recently got engaged.

Eleven years ago, after they lost most of their



investments in the tech company crash, Kevin and Charlotte moved to Chancery Place "When we went down," Charlotte says, "we never cried about it; we never moaned about it. We said we have our faith; that's all that's important."

Kevin and Charlotte were coming to St. James long before they moved to Chancery Place, but living just across the street made it possible for them to attend daily Mass. Kevin liked to come at 8:15am; but

Charlotte is not a morning person, so she favors Mass in the evening.

Fourteen months ago, while they were walking home after the Sunday evening Mass, Kevin lost his balance, fell, and broke his hip. Fellow parishioner, Jerry Cronkite, came right away with a couple of doctors who happened to be there, and they made sure Kevin was taken to the hospital. Despite surgery and rehab, Kevin has never walked again. And he has never gone back to Chancery Place.

Fortunately, the Kellys found Gaffney House, the assisted living home run by Full Life Care on Capitol Hill in what used to be called the Madison Mansion. Jennifer says, "Gaffney House is amazing!" She observes that because the staff addresses the needs of people with dementia—their need for identity, autonomy, security, and joy—they don't need any medication.

Charlotte chose for Kevin a cozy room upstairs with a view to the west. It's now filled with family pictures taken from the walls of their Chancery Place apartment. There's an old photo of Kevin sitting on his mother's lap surrounded by his father and siblings. There are pictures from Charlotte and Kevin's early years together. And there are many photos of Tadhg, the only grandchild. In a particularly sweet picture, Kevin, Charlotte, and Tadhg, all in their pajamas, are kneeling by the bed saying nighttime prayers.

Just getting back on her feet after having knee replacements this past year, Charlotte gets over to Gaffney house three or four times a week. Kevin likes

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**Suzanne Lee** interviewed the Kelly family;  
**Brother John Dornbos** interviewed Kim Doan Nguyen.

to say, "I couldn't live without Kell (his nickname for Charlotte) because she has a good memory."

Rooted in faith and love, Charlotte and Kevin's marriage has engendered many fruits. "Everybody says how did you do it? Well," Charlotte laughs, "we had our moments, believe me! But my husband taught me to be more forgiving. And we never went to bed angry."

That same spirit inspires the ministry of their daughter Jennifer. While she's still involved in the spiritual formation of L'Arche staff and volunteers, Jennifer recently became involved in the Jesuit Restorative Justice Initiative (JRJI) founded in California prisons by Father Mike Kennedy, SJ.

Father Kennedy's ministry to the incarcerated uses the model of monastic life to transform the prison experience into a means of growth and self-discovery. Jennifer explains, "The only other group on the planet that lives a life like the incarcerated are monastic communities. Monks live in cells, in very small quarters, and very simply; they give up their worldly possessions, do menial labor all day, and have a life of prayer."

Jennifer says the basic components of an RJI retreat are meditation, journaling, anointing, group sharing, and prayer. Jennifer has committed to helping with the monthly retreats at Calipatria and is in conversation with the Jesuits about expanding the ministry to Washington's Monroe Correctional Complex. She's particularly interested in bringing Ignatian retreats to the prisoners.

"I feel led. I am grateful. My son left for college last year, two weeks before my dad fell. God's timing is miraculous. All of a sudden Dad is quite settled at Gaffney House, my mom had her knee replacements, and I had foot surgery. So I have the freedom to go down to California. I'm glad it feels like a new time."

Back at Gaffney House, Jennifer often leads the residents in a sing-a-long. With his beautiful tenor voice, Kevin willingly participates. It's clear that he is dearly loved by the staff and residents, who threw a big party for his 90th birthday last year.

In a video recently made of Gaffney House, Kevin talks about his new life with quiet acceptance. "I am losing my memory and I cry over it. But it's good to cry." He knows his faith will carry him through. "If you just say a word with a little smile, then you know the Lord is there." ♦

**S**t. James is blessed with many worshipers from Vietnam, providing lively faith, deep devotion and long traditions and customs. They are proud of their heritage and this is a great gift. They have unique and beautiful stories.

Kim Loan Nguyen was born in Vietnam in the early 1960s to a large, rural family, with many siblings. The family was devoutly Catholic and this has stayed with Kim. Eventually Kim was married to her husband



Dung, but by the 1990's the communist regime was getting more and more oppressive and freedoms were disappearing. Jail time and inquisitions came for every infraction, including the practice of religion.

One night, Kim, her husband and some others set sail from the southern tip of Vietnam and the South China Sea, drifting for days with little food and water, and sea sick, heading northwest. Kim lay in the bottom of the boat, figuring she was going to die. About a week later they came to land in Thailand where they were taken to a refugee camp. They stayed there for a year.

For two years Kim and Dung were living in the Philippines where their daughter My Linh was born. (My Linh has graduated from UW with a degree in biochemistry.) Then they moved to Texas and finally ended up with Kim's brother and his family in the Pacific Northwest.

For years Kim went to the Vietnamese parish just off south Boren Street, now relocated to Tukwila. It is a dynamic and growing parish, bursting at the seams. Kim's husband now works part time and Kim is a hospice worker in the Vietnamese community, working with two patients per day.

She is most often at the 8:15am Mass and treasures the Blessed Sacrament. In her happy way, she enjoys saying hello to people and sharing what faith brings to all of us. In these days when we see other sea-borne refugees in the Mediterranean, we can perhaps appreciate more what Kim and so many other refugees have been through.

Thank God for Kim! ♦

# Cathedral Almanac

*Snapshots of life at St. James Cathedral, May-November, 2015*

## May

**3.** We celebrated First Holy Communion with 19 beautiful children.

**17.** On this Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, we marked Father David Brant's 50th Anniversary of Ordination. Congratulations, Father Brant. Ad multos annos!

**21.** We celebrated the Holy Names Baccalaureate Mass with the class of 2015. Congratulations, Skippers!

**24.** We celebrated the great feast of Pentecost. In his homily for today, Father Ryan said: "The Spirit within us needs to be liberated. That's why we celebrate Pentecost, why we need Pentecost. But liberation can be a frightening thing. Liberation means freedom but it also means change. It means leaving our comfort zones, letting go the tried and true. It means standing up, and speaking out. It means surrendering control and allowing God to take us in new directions."

## June

**5.** We celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation with twenty-four young people and adults.

**7.** We celebrated the great feast of Corpus Christi with the traditional procession with the Blessed Sacrament.

**13.** We celebrated the Seattle University Baccalaureate with the Class of 2015. Congratulations, Redhawks!

**18.** At the conclusion of our annual Ministries Dinner, we paused for a prayer and candle lighting in memory of those killed at Mother Emanuel AME in Charleston, South Carolina.



From top to bottom: Father Brant's Golden Jubilee, May 17; Celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation, June 5; enjoying one another's company at the Ministries Dinner, June 18; blessing of the Kitchen Garden, June 21.

**19.** In celebration of Pope Francis' new encyclical, *Laudato Si*, we gathered for an ecumenical prayer in the Cathedral, reflecting on our call to care for the earth, our common home.

**20.** We celebrated the commissioning of new lay ministers in the Christifideles and Spanish-speaking catechetical certification programs with a special Mass in the Cathedral.

**26.** On the 18th Anniversary of the death of Archbishop Thomas J. Murphy, Bishop Elizondo celebrated a special Mass in memory of all the deceased bishops of the Archdiocese of Seattle.

**28.** Camino Seattle, our 3rd annual pilgrimage of walking and prayer leading up to the Feast of St. James, began.

About 200 participated in this year's program, walking on their own or joining walks with fellow parishioners around the region.

## July

**5.** In his homily for today, Father Ryan said: "This talk of prophets and their problems seems quite timely to me. Two weeks ago, a modern prophet by the name of Pope Francis stood before the world with a prophetic message, the encyclical on care for creation, *Laudato Si'*. It has gotten the same mixed reviews prophetic messages always get. You've heard them - heard the encyclical praised and ridiculed, analyzed and sanitized, dissected and scrutinized by the commentators, the politicians, the pundits - not to mention the scientists and the theologians. Refreshing, isn't

it, that the whole world is taking note of a Papal pronouncement? Maybe not all positively, but taking note of it they certainly are!"

**26.** We celebrated the Feast of St. James--but not the picnic! It was postponed until August 2 due to inclement weather.

## August

**2.** At the end of the 10:00am Mass, Father Ryan blessed the young people who are headed to Nicaragua this week. Read more about the mission trip on pages 12-15 of this journal.

**2.** We celebrated our annual Parish Picnic on Terry Avenue—postponed by a week due to inclement weather! Special thanks to Stephen Pace for coordinating this year's picnic.

**15.** We celebrated the wedding of Cathedral choristers David Hoffman and Amy Kilian.

**16.** Choir Camp concluded with the 10:00am Mass.

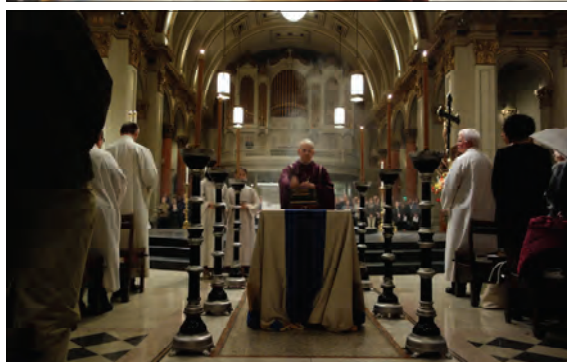
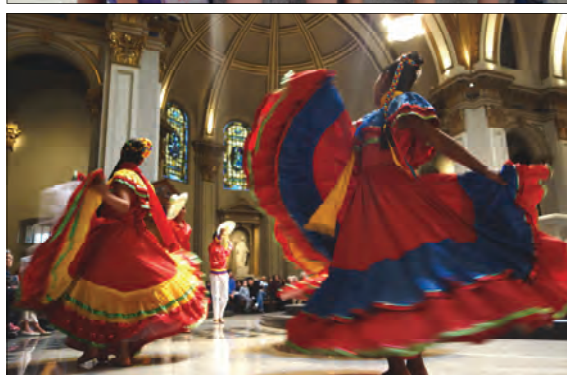
## September

**5.** Archbishop Sartain presided at a joyful celebration with the Special Needs Community of the Archdiocese of Seattle. Congratulations to Phil, Stephanie, and Matt,

confirmed during the Mass! **6.** Archbishop Sartain offered a special blessing for Catholic teachers in public and private schools at the Noon Mass.

**13.** The Cathedral Choir of St. James returned in all their glory, now under the direction of Dr. Paul Thornock.

**14.** The 19th Annual Hunthausen Charity Golf Tournament was held at the Golf Club at Newcastle. This year's event, co-sponsored by Pagliacci Pizza and an anonymous friend of the Cathedral Kitchen, raised over \$135,000 to support the Cathedral Kitchen and other



**From top to bottom:** Corpus Christi, June 7; a wedding in the Cathedral, August 15; Choir Camp, August 16; dancers from NPH Nicaragua, October 25; Solemn Mass of All Souls, November 2.

Cathedral outreach ministries. **20.** Our annual Ministries Fair provided a showcase for dozens of ministries in liturgy, outreach, faith formation, and pastoral care; and an invitation to get involved!

**27.** We celebrated the Rite of Reception into Full Communion at the 10:00am Mass.

## October

**5.** We began a four-week intensive study of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*, under the direction of Patty Bowman.

**25.** We were privileged to welcome youth from the Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos Orphanage, Nicaragua. They shared the gift of folkloric dance and music with the parish community.

## November

**2.** At the solemn Mass of All Souls, we remembered all our beloved dead. In his homily, Father Ryan said: "Durufflé's music is a bold statement of faith. It is a homily on death. The haunting but comforting cadences of the plainsong, the sometimes uncertain, other times exultant harmonies, soaring melodies, insistent rhythms – all these resonate with our own struggles and longings to affirm our faith in the victory of life even when death seems to have the last word."

**8.** Parishioner David Unger spoke at all Masses this weekend about Sacrificial Giving: "I invite you to reflect on your giving, and if the parish has not been at the center of your charitable giving, I challenge you to prayerfully reflect on why."

**12.** Archbishop Sartain presided at a special Mass in memory of the Deceased Homeless of Seattle. During this solemn liturgy, we remember and honor those who died on the streets in the past year. The service includes a reading of the names of the deceased. ♦



## Christmas Mass Schedule

### Thursday, December 24, 2015

**5:30 pm**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD —  
VIGIL MASS WITH CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

*Entrance Procession of the Children and Crib Figures;  
blessing of the Christmas Crib*

The Very Reverend Michael G. Ryan,  
Presider & Homilist

*with youth readers, musicians, and servers*

**9:00 pm CAROL SERVICE**

**10:00pm NOTE TIME CHANGE!**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD — MASS DURING THE  
NIGHT (FORMERLY MIDNIGHT MASS)**

The Most Reverend J. Peter Sartain, Archbishop of  
Seattle, Presider & Homilist

*This Mass, celebrated at 10:00pm, will be broadcast at  
Midnight on KING-TV*

### Friday, December 25, 2015

**8:00 am**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD —  
MASS AT DAWN**

The Reverend David A. Brant, Presider

The Very Reverend Michael G. Ryan, Homilist

**10:00 am and 12 Noon**

**THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD —  
MASS DURING THE DAY**

The Very Reverend Michael G. Ryan,  
Presider & Homilist (10:00am)

The Most Reverend J. Peter Sartain,  
Presider & Homilist (12:00 Noon)

**4:00 pm**

**SOLEMN VESPERS OF CHRISTMAS**

The Very Reverend Michael G. Ryan, Presider