

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

MARCH 20, 2022 | 3RD SUNDAY OF LENT



524 EAST LAWRENCE AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFICE: 217-522-3342
WWW.SPICATHEDRAL.ORG

FOUNDED IN 1839 | DEDICATED IN 1928 | BUILT ON FAITH, RENEWED IN HOPE IN 2009

Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 12

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

THE VERY REVEREND BRIAN C. ALFORD, V.E.
RECTOR

THE REVEREND PETER CHINEKE
PAROCHIAL VICAR

THE REVEREND DOMINIC RANKIN
IN RESIDENCE

THE REVEREND DOMINIC VAHLING
PAROCHIAL VICAR

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Sunday Masses

Saturday - 4:00pm

Sunday - 7:00am, 10:00am, & 5:00pm

Weekday Masses

Monday through Friday - 7:00am & 5:15pm

Saturday - 8:00am

Reconciliation

Monday through Friday - 4:15pm-5:00pm

Saturday - 9:00am-10:00am & 2:30pm-3:30pm

Sunday - 4:00pm-4:45pm

Adoration

Tuesday & Thursday - 4:00pm to 5:00pm

Welcome to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception!

On behalf of our bishop, the Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki, our parishioners, deacons, and priests, we welcome you to the mother church of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.

The seat of the diocese was moved to Springfield from Alton in 1923. In the same year, "Old St. Mary's" church of Immaculate Conception Parish was named as the pro-cathedral of the new diocese until this cathedral church was built and dedicated in 1928. Currently, our diocese comprises twenty-eight counties in central Illinois, serving over 140,000 members of the Catholic faithful.

We hope that your visit to our Cathedral is one of grace and beauty and that you feel at home in the mother church. We also hope that you will find this edition of the Cathedral Weekly to be both informative and spiritually enriching. May God bless you and yours!

Diocesan Victim Assistance is available. For the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, please call 217-321-1155.
Please remember that if you or a loved one is in the hospital, a nursing home or homebound, to contact the Parish Office at 217-522-3342.



Almsgiving

Our first two Lenten challenges have addressed prayer (praying for our enemies) and fasting (fasting from our Snooze button). Let us now turn to the third Lenten discipline of almsgiving. All of our Lenten practices have as their goal making us less focused on ourselves so that we can focus more on loving God and our neighbor. But our prayer and fasting can sometimes be done with somewhat selfish motives, seeing how they can help us personally in our lives. I am not saying that it is bad for us to grow personally – Jesus commands us to become holy, as He is holy. But our holiness will never be complete until it bears the fruit of

extending loving mercy to others. In the judgement scene from St. Matthew's Gospel (Mt. 25:31-46), Jesus makes it quite clear that our salvation depends in large part on our willingness to serve Him in our brothers and sisters, especially the least among us. It is from this passage that we get the Corporal Works of Mercy. The practice of almsgiving that the Church invites us to engage in can be understood in a broad sense as undertaking these Corporal Works of Mercy, not simply giving alms to the poor, though that is in fact important.

This week's challenge is going to be a little more abstract, but nevertheless fruitful if you choose to accept it:

Challenge: Learn about the Corporal Works of Mercy then make a specific resolution to perform one of these works during Lent
Fruit: Continuing to grow more merciful

A simple Google search will bring up many resources on the Corporal Works of Mercy. You can also open the Catechism to paragraphs 2544-2547 on Love for the Poor. The USCCB has a webpage with the works listed along with some suggestions on how to practice those works (just search "USCCB Corporal Works of Mercy" and it should be at the top of the list).

Getting back to the point I was making at the beginning of this article, the Lenten discipline of almsgiving really moves us in the direction of turning away from selfish motives to motives of mercy toward others. However, even almsgiving can be done for self-centered reasons. Some people practice generosity for the tax advantages. Some people practice generosity to feel better about themselves. Some (sadly) practice generosity so that they can be seen by others as being generous. All of those things may be true, but they cannot be our primary motive when performing works of mercy. Jesus's strong words on Ash Wednesday speak to that:

When you give alms, do not blow a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets to win the praise of others. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right is doing, so that your almsgiving may be secret. And your Father who sees in secret will repay you." (Mt 6:2-4)

With that in mind, as you form your resolution to practice some work of mercy, it can be helpful to ask yourself this question: "Am I doing this for me? Or am I doing it for my neighbor?"

Father Alford is the Rector of the Cathedral and serves in the diocesan curia as the Vicar for Clergy, Consecrated Life, and Vocations.

Mass Intentions

Monday, March 21

7am - Special Intention for Michael Kelly (Chris Sommer)
 12:05pm - Erma Bartoletti (Estate of Norma Bartoletti)
 5:15pm - Richard Wilaredt (Tom & Amy Miller)

Tuesday, March 22

7am - Louis Epley (LouAnn & Carl Corrigan)
 12:05pm - Drew Dhabalt (Sandy H.)
 5:15pm - Ron & Jean Borre & Family (Richard & Kay King)

Wednesday, March 23

7am - Special Intention for Steve Logan (Chris Sommer)
 12:05pm - Sophia Bartoletti & Family (Estate of Sophia Bartoletti)
 5:15pm - Dennis Fringer (Angela Ohl-Marsters)

Thursday, March 24

7am - Anna A. Eleyidath (Augustine Eleyidath)
 12:05pm - Drew Dhabalt (Women's Bible Study)
 5:15pm - Betty King (Carol West)

Friday, March 25

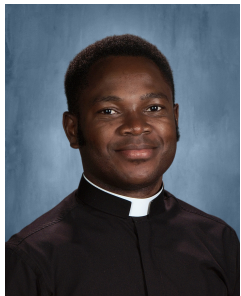
7am - The Quincy Deanery (Chris Sommer)
 12:05pm - The Warner Family (Sue Warner)
 5:15pm - Mary Celine Sestak (Sharon & Ruth Kruzick)

Saturday, March 26

8am - Family (Melinda Roberts)
 4pm - For the People

Sunday, March 27

7am - Ben Garde (Family)
 10am - Sophia Bartoletti (Estate of Sophia Bartoletti)
 5pm - Jim & Helen O'Brien (The O'Brien Family)



They Were Catholic, And Proud of It

Last March 17, we celebrated the very famous Saint Patrick's Day. This feast is traditionally Catholic and still is. But it has become more of a secular and cultural fiesta for many Americans of Irish descent and lovers of everything Irish. Today, wholly Irish Americans may be less than ten percent of the entire United States population. But this feast of St. Patrick has remained one of the most celebrated fiestas in the United States mainly because many people in the United States are Irish in various ways. Some are Irish by ancestral lineage. Others are Irish by marriage or identifications with institutions and organizations that are Irish by foundation and tradition.

Recently, I encountered a gentleman who claimed he is one hundred percent Irish. He not only argued to be fully Irish, but he was also very proud of it. This gentleman, a devout Catholic and a great fan of the Notre Dame football team, the fighting Irish, told me incredible stories about Irish immigrants. Particularly dear to him was how they survived and thrived in the United States amidst the many prejudices they endured as poor immigrants. That was during a protracted period of waves of Irish immigration. I tried to understand what he believed was why the Irish immigrants survived and flourished in their new country and would become a critical part of the making of America.

His answer was simple and clear. "They were Catholic and proud of it." What got my attention was not the Irish immigrants being Catholics. But that they were proud of it. When ethnic churches existed, Irish immigrants had the highest number and most vibrant churches. Many of their young men and women pursued religious and priestly vocations. They would have enough to make up a more significant percentage of the clergy and religious men and women in the country for a long time. One of her young priests in the early 1880s' would establish an organization that would help take care of helpless Irish immigrant widows and children. That organization would grow to become the most prominent Catholic lay men's organization in the world today. It is the Knights of Columbus.

These giant strides were possible because the Irish immigrants and their children were proud of their catholic faith. This was even as anti-Catholic sentiments and ethnic chauvinisms were the order of the day.

Today, many of us are concerned about our children and grandchildren not practicing the faith. We worry about the fast disappearance of those social, spiritual, and moral values that we hold dear as Catholics. Some of us are even doubting the possibility of Catholicism in our world by the next fifty years. Well, all these are legitimate concerns. But what are we doing to remedy the situation?

Are we still Catholics? If we are, are we proud of it? The faith of our fathers, this holy faith, let us be proud of it. Only in being proud of it are we able to live it out, fight for it, and hand it down like our ancestors in the faith.

Father Peter Chineke serves as parochial vicar at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and as co-chaplain of Sacred Heart-Griffin High School.

Stewardship of Treasure March 12th & 13th

Envelopes:	\$5,354.00
Loose:	\$3,375.00
Maintenance:	\$210.00
Total:	\$8,939.00

February EFT: \$20,179.85

Online Giving: If you would like to extend a special gift to the Cathedral, please visit our website. Our parish is grateful for your continued support.
Thank you!

Sacraments

Deaths

John Snodsmith

Date of Death: 02/27/2022

Mary Jane Kerns

Date of Death: 03/02/2022



St. Turibius of Mogrovejo

Feast Day: March 23rd

I wonder if *resentment* is one of the things that most strongly holds us back from greater, and more Christ-like, charity? Isn't it easier to chalk our lack of charity up to fears or a lack of courage; or perhaps our busy-ness and a lack of prudence in scheduling things; or the direct attack of the Evil One???

Looking in myself, I find that sometimes this lack is the less-glamorous, less-acceptable, vice of resentment. To respond to someone's request, or need, or to anticipate how I should love them – to

share myself with them – requires me to put their need above my own, to put their life ahead of mine, to put their schedule on my calendar before my own preferences go on there. And I resent it when my needs go second!

As I write this in a coffeeshop, a gentleman just asked if I'd buy him a sandwich. I procrastinated in my charity towards him, why? Not because I don't have money, not because it will cost me time I don't have, not because he's going to misuse a sandwich, not because Satan shook his pitchfork at me ... but because I resented Kenny's reliance on me, his expectation that I would help, *his asking that I would love Him like Jesus loves him*. Whew, that hurts to say that! I want to love, I desire to be more generous, I hope to see in myself Jesus' kindness and mercy and care ... but the ugly tendency to resent holds me back.

I realized this as I meditated today on the life of St. Turibius of Mogrovejo. He was a canon lawyer in Spain, in fact the Grand Inquisitor of that country (growing up in his namesake town of Mogrovejo) a studious and intelligent young man, who had been asked by King Philip II to hold that estimable position. The same monarch in 1578 would nominate the pious and productive Turibio as a candidate for the Episcopacy, to fill the See of Lima, Peru, though he was not yet even ordained! Of course, he protested that he was not ready or desirous of that vocation, but, in the end at the age of 41 or 42, he accepted the King's request, and Pope's confirmation, was ordained a deacon, priest, and then bishop, and set sail for the New World.

If I had to slog through mosquito infested, ferociously humid jungles and mountains, I would have resented King Philip ... If I had to sleep in the open because nobody had thought to prepare a place for me to stay, I would probably have resented the Pope's go ahead... If I was called to prepare, baptize, and confirm 500,000 individuals, I would have certainly resented the lazy and corrupt priests that were already there and not doing diddlysquat... (Remarkable fact: he confirmed three future canonized saints among those: St. Rose of Lima, St. Martin de Porres, and St. Juan Masías). As I caught fever after fever in the horrendous conditions, and knew that it would be the death of me (Turibius was given the knowledge, and grace, of knowing precisely when he would die), especially that last march, dragging myself 50 miles from Pacasmayo to Zaña to receive Extreme Unction and Viaticum, I would have resented even/especially God Who had demanded from me such efforts and such a dismal death.

But Turibius, evidently, did not let resentment corrupt those requests for charity. He endured the hardships of his unexpected vocation, and preached again and again that *"Time is not our own and we must give a strict account of it."* He did not consider his time, energy, love, or life to be his, and so he did not resent when he was asked to share it. His final words, after receiving those final sacraments, on Holy Thursday of 1606, were those of Jesus: *"Lord, into Thy hands I commend my spirit."* May his intercession help us to be similarly generous with our own lives, and defend us against the clutch of resentment!

Fr. Dominic Rankin, as the Master of Ceremonies for Bishop Paprocki, is assisting currently with our own bishop's pastoral visits around the diocese, as well as his giving the sacraments of Confirmation and 1st Communion, here at the Cathedral. With the help and example of St. Turibius, he prays that all these occasions where duty asks him to help in various ways may also be occasions of authentic charity and self-gift.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

First Friday Concert - April 1

Join us on Friday, April 1, 2022 at 7pm in the Cathedral for a First Friday Concert! April's concert will feature Logan Campbell, Bass - Baritone. The First Friday Concert Series is sponsored by the Staab Family, and is free and open to the public. All are welcome!

Second Collection - Catholic Relief Services

Next weekend's second collection will be for Catholic Relief Services. Funds from this collection provide food to the hungry, support displaced refugees, and bring Christ's love and mercy to all people here and abroad. Next week, please give generously to the CRS and help Jesus in disguise. Learn more about the collection at www.usccb.org/catholic-relief.

Lent at the Cathedral

We want to walk with you during Lent. We are here to listen, to pray with you, to serve with you, and to grow into intentional disciples with you. We want to help provide answers to your questions and help connect you to a relationship with Jesus. In our effort to provide radical hospitality, we have created a variety of resources and programming both online and in person. From online to in-pew, we have an opportunity for you to grow in your Catholic faith at Cathedral this Lent! Visit www.spicathedral.org/lent today!

CCCW Bumper Stickers

CCCW will be selling bumper stickers/window decals to show our support and prayers for the people of Ukraine after each Mass for the next 2 weeks. Your donation will be forwarded to a Catholic Charities fund specifically set up for Ukraine. We will be set up in the atrium and the front entrance. Thank you for your support!

Fasting: Hungry for More

Join Fr. Dominic Vahling as he talks about the spiritual discipline of fasting.
Monday, March 21, 7:00-8:00pm, Cathedral Atrium

Overcoming Disaster

In Bangladesh, cyclones and other natural disasters are increasing—destroying farms, homes and more—making it difficult for people like Noornobi to earn a living and support their families. But Noornobi has learned new techniques to protect his land and income, enabling his niece and nephew to go to school. How can you care for creation to help the planet and our global family? Visit www.csricebowl.org to learn more.

Come Watch The Chosen on Cathedral's Big Screen The Chosen – Episode Five

Jesus could have kicked off His signs and wonders with a parting-of-the-Red-Sea-caliber miracle. Instead, He chose a simpler approach—He changed water into wine because it ran out. It was a relatively minor problem that Jesus was asked to solve. His mother was anxious on behalf of the wedding hosts and wanted Him to step in—so He did. Which means it was during a party to reveal His glory to His disciples for the first time. It was the public triumph over trouble.

Sunday, March 20, 2:00-3:15, Cathedral Atrium

Blood Pressure Clinic

The Cathedral Parish Nurses will be in the Atrium checking blood pressures after all Masses this weekend, March 19th and 20th. Please stop by!

Pastoral Care for Cathedral's Sick & Elderly

If you, or someone you know from the Cathedral parish are homebound, hospitalized, or in a nursing care facility, please let the Cathedral Office know (217-522-3342). You may request to be put on the Cathedral Prayer Line or request a Pastoral Visit. Sr. Francella and her Cathedral volunteers.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

Taize Prayer for Peace in Ukraine: Prayer in Solidarity for an End to Oppression, Violence and War

Join us on Sunday, March 20 at 6:00 p.m. at St. Frances Cabrini Church in Springfield for Taize prayer for Peace in Ukraine. Taize is an ecumenical common prayer for peace and reconciliation with scripture, music, and silence for assembly, reader, choir and instruments played in candlelight. All are welcome. For more information and/or to obtain the music, please email Madonna Jones at madonnarose65@gmail.com or call St. Cabrini Church Office at 217-522-8555 and leave a message with your name and contact information.

Cougar Catholic Fundraiser

Cougar Catholic is partnering with CORDA Candles for a virtual fundraiser! CORDA's candles are inspired by the Saints and our faith. Grow closer in prayer with the Saints as the scents of the candles draw on the richness of our devotions, liturgy, and tradition. CORDA will donate 15% of each sale to our Newman Center at SIUE. The candles are great to have and great to gift! Visit <https://cordacandles.com/?ref=siue22> to shop now.

Travel to Poland with Bishop Paprocki

Journey through the life of Karol Wojtyla to St. John Paul the II with Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. From Warsaw to Kraków, from Częstochowa to the Tatra Mountains, from his hometown of Wadowice to the Divine Mercy Shrine, we invite you into a legacy of sanctity crucial for our Church today. All-Inclusive Pilgrimage for \$4,500 Includes non-stop roundtrip airfare from Chicago. Space is limited. Register by March 28 at jp2project.org/come-see-pilgrimage

Illinois Right to Life Annual Leaders for Life Banquet

Illinois Right to Life cordially invites you to it's 53rd Annual Leaders for Life Banquet which will be held on Friday, April 29th, 6:00 pm, at The Carlisle in Lombard. Dan Proft, radio talk show host for AM 560, will serve as master of ceremonies and Dennis Prager will be featured as keynote speaker. Dennis Prager is a best-selling author, nationally syndicated radio talk show host in the USA and co-founder of the Internet phenomenon, PragerU. For more information and to purchase tickets, go to <https://illinoisrighttolife.org/Banquet> or call (312)-422-9300.

SDDCW Lenten Retreat

All women of the Springfield diocese are invited to the SDDCW Lenten Retreat on Tuesday, March 29 and Wednesday, March 30 at the Villa Maria in Springfield. The Lenten Retreat is a tradition - Spiritual Presentations, Prayer, Holy Mass, Rosary, Confession, Fellowship and more! Retreat costs include meals, refreshments, retreat master, retreat materials & use of facility. Registration fee payable to S.D.C.C.W. are due by March 22, 2022.

40 Days For Life

Prayer Partners are being invited to provide a daily prayerful presence in front of Planned Parenthood during the Lenten Season from Ash Wednesday March 2nd through Palm Sunday April 10th. Recommended shifts are 1 hour. Parking and Life Signs are available at Springfield Right To Life, 519 N. Bruns Lane, Springfield, IL – just south of Planned Parenthood. Sign-up cards are available in the church. Cards can be returned to the parish office or placed into the collection basket. If there are questions, please call Springfield Right to Life (217-523-2700) or Dave Klestinski (217-741-8230). you can also sign up online for vigil hours by visiting https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/vigil-hours-signup.aspx?_id=101 or <https://40daysforlife.com/en/springfieldil>.

Dive Deep: What You Never Knew about the Gospel of Luke

Is one of your Lenten goals to read and learn more about the bible? Dive Deep has you covered as we explore the Gospel of Luke. Go to dio.org/podcast or search "Dive Deep" on all the major podcast platforms.

SAVE THE DATES

The Springfield Council of Catholic Women (SDCCW) is pleased to announce the dates of the Celebration of the 2022 Our Lady of Good Counsel Women of Distinction and the 2022 SDCCW Annual Convention. The Celebration of the Women of Distinction Award Celebration will be on Sat., July 23, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Springfield, followed by a luncheon at the Crowne Plaza. The 2022 SDCCW Convention will be held on Wed., Sept. 28, at Immaculate Conception Parish in Mattoon. Further information and registration for both events will be forth coming. The Mission of the SCCW as an affiliate of the National Council of Catholic Women is to support, empower and educate all Catholic women in spirituality, leadership and service.