

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

MAY 15, 2022 | 5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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 20

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.



Another Year Down

This Sunday evening will mark the official conclusion of our Family of Faith catechesis program. As you hopefully know by now, this program is not just about the few families who have children in the program. It is meant to include the entire parish. This is why we have done our best to keep the topics for the program in front of you, especially in our weekly bulletin. As we come to the conclusion of this year, I would like to revisit a point that I offered at the beginning of this year of formation regarding the moral life in Christ:

Do we truly appreciate that what Christ (and by extension the Church) teaches us and asks of us is actually a true path to freedom and joy? We will only come to that understanding if we start with the person of Christ and our relationship with Him, hearing His words addressed to us that summarize His desire for us in offering us His teaching: "I came so that they might have life and have it more abundantly." (John 10:10) Do you desire this for your life, to have life and have it more abundantly? I guarantee the answer for each of us is a resounding "yes"! So what do we have to lose in following the way of life Christ and the Church invites us to live? I hope you will come to discover, over the course of this year, that we have absolutely nothing good to lose. Rather, by letting the life of Christ be lived in us, we have everything to gain, most importantly eternal life in Heaven.

In light of this goal that we had for this year, it can be fruitful to bring these points to our prayer. How have you experienced a more abundant life in Christ through what you have learned over the past year? Do you feel a greater sense of freedom that comes from following Christ more completely? Where are you still feeling a lack of freedom in your life? Where have you found joy over the past year, especially with regards to your faith? Where have you experienced sadness?

These are just some suggestions to help you in processing this last year, but I want to stress that this processing is not just a private, individual exercise. Share your thoughts, feelings, questions, desires, and struggles with the Lord in a very honest and authentic dialog. As I mentioned, living the life of Christ is first and foremost about our relationship with Him, so I invite you to spend some time with Him as you consider these things.

Another very beneficial practice could be to share with another person or two, perhaps your family, some of what is moving in your heart as you consider how the Lord has been working in your life this past year. While somewhat intimidating if you are not used to sharing on this level, the benefits can be profound, not just for yourself, but for others who will be inspired by your willingness to share on a deeper level.

If you are not where you had hoped to be at this point in your journey with the Lord, do not be discouraged! The Lord is looking upon you with great delight that you at least desire to love Him more and follow Him more faithfully, weak though you may be. Ask Him to help you to continue to grow. Go to our Blessed Mother too, asking for her continued encouragement and prayers. Just as it delights a parent to be asked by their child to help them with something, so too does our Heavenly Father and our Blessed Mother delight in us when we ask for their help in a spirit of trust and love.

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, May 16

7am - Joe Forestier
(Judy Mohler)
5:15pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway
(Rob Gasaway)

Tuesday, May 17

7am - Will
(Family)
5:15pm - Prestina V
(Ann Vaduk)

Wednesday, May 18

7am - Sister Consolata Crews
(Chris Sommer)
5:15pm - Erma Bartoletti
(Estate)

Thursday, May 19

7am - Jean Staab
(Fred & Rita Greenwald)
5:15pm - Delia Sinn
(Pamela Hargan)

Friday, May 20

7am - Sophia Bartoletti & Family
(Estate)
5:15pm - Living & Deceased
Members of the Schmitz Family
(Anonymous)

Saturday, May 21

8am - Wilbur "Bill" West Family
(Carol West)
4pm - For the People

Sunday, May 22

7am - Pamela Rose Harmon
(Archie Harmon)
10am - Vito Sgambelluri
(Rob & Jan Sgambelluri)
5pm - Greg & Mary Kluckman's
40th Anniversary
(Greg & Mary Kluckman)



Buried with Christ in Baptism

One symbolic aspect of baptism that has largely been lost to our modern mind is the symbolism of being buried with Christ. The time that the body of Jesus spent in the tomb from Good Friday through Easter Sunday is actually very significant in our faith. According to the Catechism, the original and full sign of baptism is having one's whole body immersed under water, which is a symbol of being buried in the ground with Jesus. St. Paul talks about this in his letter to the Ephesians when he says, "We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life"

(Ephesians 4:9-10). In the Church today, we typically baptize by pouring water on someone's head, which has great symbolic value of washing away sin. Regardless, the same spiritual effects of baptism are always accomplished when a baptism is celebrated: adoption as God's child and the forgiveness of all sin. I do admit that baptism by sprinkling is much simpler and less messy than full immersion!

One teaching of the Church that is not very widely known or talked about is that the body of Jesus did not experience any corruption during his three days in the tomb. God's divine power miraculously preserved Jesus' body from any sort of decomposition to stay prepared for and foreshadow the Resurrection. Now, Jesus was truly dead in the tomb. His soul separated from his body, went to the realm of the dead, and opened the gates of heaven. But there was still a sort of unity that Jesus kept with his body, even in death. This preservation is a fulfillment of Psalm 16 when it says, "My flesh will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, nor let your Holy One see corruption."

The body of Jesus was treated with great respect between his death and resurrection because of the respect that his Mother and disciples held for him during his life. The Pieta is one of the greatest works of art ever made, and anyone who sees it is drawn in to consider the grief of Mary as she beheld the body of her dead son. As Christians, we are called to imitate Christ in many ways. We can even imitate Christ in death by showing great respect to the bodies of our deceased brothers and sisters. Our bodies are not free from the corruption of the tomb like Jesus' body was. As we hear every Ash Wednesday, "You are dust, and to dust you shall return." When we die, our bodies decompose until they are resurrected and reunited with our souls on the last day.

With all of this in mind, it is easy to see why the Church prefers that we bury the bodies of our loved ones, rather than disposing of them in some other way. Even in death, our souls keep a sort of connection with our bodies which will be rekindled in the resurrection. The Church does allow for cremation, and there can sometimes be good reason for this such as hygiene during an epidemic, burial in times of war, and most commonly, financial prudence. However, there is great symbolic value to burying our bodies intact, as the body of Jesus was buried. This reminds us that we are not done with our bodies when we die, but we await the glorious day when Jesus will return. Those who have done good will be raised to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment (John 5:28-29). However, remember that no matter what happens to somebody's body, God has no problem raising it back up! In this season of Easter, let us continue to give thanks to God for making us in his image and likeness, with the plan for us to live forever with him in heaven!

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

Stewardship of Treasure May 7th and 8th

Envelopes:	\$5,593.00
Loose:	\$3,844.00
Maintenance:	\$1,355.00
Total:	\$10,792.00

April EFT: \$19,541.00

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

Baptisms

Scarlette Bosio Monterey
Baptized on 05/04/2022
Child of Mark-Jay Monterey & Aiza Bosio

Leo Faustino Palad Cuevas
Baptized on 05/08/2022
Child of Patrick & Jeanylyn Cuevas



St. Christóbal Magallanes and Companions

Feast Day: May 21st

I hate to disappoint anyone, but there is not an overarching scheme in my choice of the saint for each week. I look ahead to see who the Church is celebrating, I keep somewhere in the back of my mind the theme of our faith-formation for the month (our Journey to Heaven), and then I do some digging on each saint to see whether one leaps to the top of the list.

This week it was immediately St. Christopher Magallanes and Companions. I emphasize “and companions” because as soon as I saw that I knew I had to look into these saints. Saints often come in pairs or triplets – think of Basil, Gregory, Gregory, Macrina, Naucratus, and Peter (of 4th century Cappadocia), or John of the Cross and Teresa of Ávila (of 16th century Spain), or St. Teresa of Calcutta and John Paul II (of 20th century Europe) – and then there are the abundant moments when God pours out grace for many to come to sanctity at the same time.

The 22 others canonized with Christóbal were not all martyred at the same time, but they were martyred with the same heart. As persecution gripped Mexico in the 1920s, these priests and laymen each chose to continue to minister as they could under the radar. It was a crime to celebrate the Mass, to baptize, or teach, but they continued to walk from village to village and offer the sacraments and the solace of grace to those who would come for it. Violence exploded around them as churches were burned, looted, and desecrated. One particular governor named his sons “Lenin”, “Satan”, and “Lucifer” and his livestock “God”, “Pope”, “Mary”, and “Christ”. Such was the society these men found themselves living in.

It was not a slow, imperceptible squeezing of Christianity out of life, it was a quick and brutal attack on Jesus and His followers. So also would be their deaths. I turn my focus upon just Father Magallanes and Father Caloca (his companion), who were walking out to celebrate Mass for the feast of St. Rita of Cascia (May 22nd). They encountered a shootout between the Christeros and Federal forces, were arrested and hauled off to the local governmental headquarters. They had no rights, no defense, and no trial, and after three days were marched from their cells to their deaths. The two priests gave each other absolution, encouraged each other in faithfulness, and Fr. Magallanes shouted his final words “I am innocent and I die innocent. I forgive with all my heart those responsible for my death, and I ask God that the shedding of my blood serve the peace of our divided Mexico.”

These were average men and ordinary priests. Fr. Magallanes had worked as a priest for 20 uneventful years before persecution broke into his world. He was angry, as anyone would be, at the injustice of his arrest and the absurdity of the hatred directed against him, against the Church, against the poor Christians trying to keep their faith, and against Our Lord Who came to bring us into the Father’s Love. Yet he held onto that love not only in the ordinary years, but also those last horrible days, and so did all those who are now venerated with him, and so must we.

Fr. Dominic Rankin would be very happy to just be a companion of a saint: Just latch onto the holiness and love in someone else and, through and with them, hang on to Jesus all the way to heaven!

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

CPR - Save a LIFE!

The Faith Community Nurses would like to offer a HeartSaver CPR course to the members of our parish. The HeartSaver CPR course is a basic beginner's CPR course that teaches the lifesaving skills of adult Hands-Only CPR, child and infant CPR, and the Heimlich maneuver for choking. The course is taught in a watch-practice format which allows hands-on practice. We want to be sure to have enough materials for plenty of practice, so if you are interested in learning basic CPR, please call Adrienne at (217) 638-7879.

NEW Cathedral Directory

We are pleased to announce that Cathedral will be publishing a new pictorial directory! Photography dates will be June 28-July 2 and July 12-16. Everyone photographed will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 photo and a directory. Right now we need volunteers to help with the sign-up process and check-in on photography days. Please contact Janice Wray jkwray622@gmail.com or 217-622-6737 if you are willing to help. Thank you!

Cathedral's Online Prayer Wall

At home, work, wherever and whenever, take a look at the Cathedral's Online Prayer Wall (www.spicathedral.org/prayer-wall/) and take a few minutes pray for those needing support, healing, and the power of prayer. Your prayer intentions can be submitted on the page and will be forwarded to a group of individuals who constantly keep their fellow parishioners in their prayers. If you would like your prayer intention to be anonymous, you may select the checkbox on the form and know your prayers will be shared with Cathedral Parish staff only. No access to a computer? No problem! Call the Parish Office at 217-522-3342 and one of our staff members will enter your intention for you.

We are always looking to add volunteers to our Prayer Team. If you are interested in being a member of this team, please email Haley Dutton at hdutton@cathedral.dio.org to be added to the distribution list.

Night of Healing at the Cathedral - June 4

Do you or anyone you know need prayers for healing? The Cathedral will be hosting a Night of Healing on Saturday, June 4th, starting at 6:30 p.m. at the Cathedral. At the Night of Healing, there will be an opportunity to pray with one another as a larger group and also there will be prayer teams who can pray over/with those who want to receive prayer for healing. If you have not experienced it before, being prayed over is a very beautiful and powerful experience. Anyone is welcome to come, not just Catholics!

Grief Share Bereavement Ministry

The Cathedral will be hosting Grief Share, a weekly, faith-based, grief support group. If you, or someone you know, would like help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend, please join us beginning Tuesday, May 31, 1:00-2:30pm in the Cathedral School Library. Grief Share runs for 13 weeks, but guests may join the series at any point and can pick up content they missed during the next cycle. For more information go to <https://www.griefshare.org/> or contact Berni Ely @ 899-6637 or jackandberni96@yahoo.com. To register call 217/522-3342 or email Vicki at vcompton@cathedral.dio.org. All adults, of any or no faith background, are welcome.

Baby Bottle Boomerang

Today we are distributing baby bottles and envelopes from First Step Women's Center. We encourage each family to take one bottle and/or envelope, fill it with currency or checks, and ask your family, friends, co-workers to do the same, and return it to Cathedral by the end of May. Will you raise \$100 to help rescue lives? The Baby Bottle campaign funds the life-saving work that First Step Women's Center offers to mothers making unplanned pregnancy decisions.

FORMED!

We are pleased to announce that our parish now has a subscription to FORMED, a premier online platform filled with over 4,000 Catholic studies, movies, audio dramas, talks, e-books, and even cartoons for our children. FORMED has content from over 60 apostolates, including Augustine Institute, Ignatius Press, and the Knights of Columbus, with material that is professionally produced, engaging, and solid in its catechism. Best of all, this material is free to you. In this Easter season, recommit to learning more about your faith and growing closer to our Lord.

To gain access to all of FORMED's content, follow these simple steps:

- Go to <https://signup.formed.org/>
- Enter our parish's zip code
- Enter your name and your email address

That's it! You're in. Now you can get the free FORMED app for your phone by searching FORMED Catholic in your app store.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

REFLECT Retreat - Catholic Retreat for Singles

Mid-life Singles: Are you looking for a renewed sense of purpose & belonging? Register today for a life-changing REFLECT weekend retreat at King's House Retreat Center, Belleville, IL (20 min from downtown St. Louis), on June 3-5, 2022. Take a chance and get involved... you won't regret it! Cost is \$215 including meals and a single room. Visit www.ReflectRetreat.com, e-mail reflect.stlouis@gmail.com, or call (314) 283-0044 for details.

Save the Date - Vessels: A Day of Reflection for Women

Save the date for Vessels: A Day of Reflection for Women on July 23, 2022! Whether you are young or old, this day is for all women!

Come for fellowship, formation, sacraments and more sponsored by the Diocesan Women's Ministry. More information including how to register is coming soon!

Butler Family of Organizations Open Door Session

The Butler Family of Organizations extends an invitation to all who are interested in learning more about planning for their final wishes to help their families celebrate their lives to join us for a lunch and learn program. The details are as follows:

Open Door Session
Thursday, May 19th
11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Prairie View Reception Center (PVRC)
8865 State Route 4
Chatham, IL 62629

Complimentary lunch from Café Moxo will be provided. This event is complimentary: no cost or obligation. Please call 217-544-4646 to reserve your space no later than Monday, May 16th.

Join the Adventures of Scouting!

Summer camp is just around the corner and we would like to invite more young people to be a part of the adventure! Cub Scout Pack 31 and Scouts BSA Troop 31 at Blessed Sacrament are gearing up for a summer of fun. Join us for outdoor adventures at Camp Illinek on Lake Springfield, hikes on trails in the local area and service projects that help the community. Pack 31 is organizing groups for day camps at Camp Illinek while Troop 31 is preparing for a weeklong camp at Camp Bunn near Carlinville. Scouts also learn more about themselves and how to grow closer to God through the many activities of the Troop and Pack. For more information, go to www.blessedsacramentscouts.com or email blessedsacramentpack31@gmail.com.

Job Opportunity - Christ the King Full-Time Hot Lunch Director

Christ the King Cafeteria is looking for a Full-Time Hot Lunch Director for the 2022-2023 school year. Training would start immediately. The position is responsible for, but not limited to, overseeing the Federal Hot Lunch Program, maintaining finance records on Quikbooks, operating the QuikLunch Program, preparing/submitting payroll. Bachelor's Degree and/or Experience recommended. Candidate must undergo background check and complete Protecting God's Children's course. Benefits offered and pay based on experience. Submit your cover letter and application to Christ the King School, 1920 Barberry Drive, Springfield, IL 62704, Attn: Samantha Black or email to sblack@ctkcougars.com.

Catholic Times' Build a Church Lego Contest!

To celebrate the first year of the nationwide Eucharistic Revival starting in June, Catholic Times is hosting a free contest to see what young architect/builder can create the most impressive church from scratch out of Legos! Winners receive \$100! Go to dio.org/buildachurch for more information, the rules, and how to submit pictures of your creations. Sponsored by O'Shea Builders of Springfield.