

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

MAY 29, 2022 | 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



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 22

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.



New Priests for the Diocese

Of all the liturgies that are celebrated here at our Cathedral, the most beautiful, and I would say the most significant, are those days when the bishop ordains priests for service in our diocese. Ordaining new men for the priesthood is a sign of life and hope in the diocese, because it means more laborers in the Lord's vineyard who will share with us the graces that the Lord desires to offer us in the Church. Only the priest is capable of celebrating the Eucharist, and without the Eucharist, we cannot fully live the life the Lord

desires for us, thus the profound significance of the day of priestly ordination not just for the man, but for the entire diocese.

By the time this article comes out (unless you are reading ahead in our weekly eBlast or online bulletin), our diocese will have been blessed with two new priests ordained on Saturday, May 28 – Father Paul Lesupati and Father Zach Samples. In my role as Vocation Director for the diocese, it has been a joy to see these two men progress through their formation and finally reach this blessed day.

Father Zach Samples is a native of our diocese, hailing from Mt. Zion. After graduating with a Master's degree from his beloved Eastern Illinois University, he entered seminary formation at St. Meinrad Seminary. Father Samples has been blessed with many gifts and I am confident that he will serve our diocese well. He begins his priestly ministry at St. Peter's Parish in Quincy, while also helping out as a chaplain at Quincy Notre Dame Catholic High School.



Father Paul Lesupati is a native of Kenya, and his coming to our diocese is a true sign of God's Providence. He had met Father Jeff Grant, Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Parish in Springfield, who was on sabbatical in Kenya, working in a refugee camp. Father Grant noticed a unique gift in Paul and asked if he had ever thought about the priesthood. In fact, Paul had, having been in religious life as a Franciscan for a few years. Father Grant referred Paul to me, and the rest is history! Here at the Cathedral, we will be getting to know Father Lesupati well as he begins his priestly ministry to the diocese here as our new Parochial Vicar.

Mass Intentions

Monday, May 30

7am - Betty Lou Rogers
(Loretta Midden)
5:15pm - NO MASS

Tuesday, May 31

7am - 30th Anniversary for Karen & Dan (Family)
5:15pm - Lessie M. Dortch
(Larry and Beverly Smith)

Wednesday, June 1

7am - John Montgomery
(John Busciacco)
5:15pm - Norma Bartoletti
(Estate)

Thursday, June 2

7am - Rick Weitzel
(Tom Steil & Sharon Oldfield)
5:15pm - Shirley Logan
(Lisa Logan & Lori Logan Motyka)

Friday, June 3

7am - Dr. John Snodsmith
(Lou Ann Mack & Carl Corrigan)
5:15pm - A Special Intention
(Julie Berberet)

Saturday, June 4

8am - Pamela Harmon
(Karen Hukelmare & Family)
4pm - For the People

Sunday, June 5

7am - Kyle Buckman
(Karen Marruffo)
10am - Betty Rogers
(Glen Rogers)
5pm - Pat Tadlock
(O'Brien Family)

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Please pray for these men as they begin this exciting adventure as priests in our diocese. Please pray for our seminarians as they continue their formation that will lead them one day, God-willing, to share in this great gift of service to the people of God. As I did at the beginning of the month, let us commend these men, as well as all of the priests of our diocese, to the prayers of Mary, Mother of Priests, that through her intercession, we may serve you and all of the faithful with the zeal and love that you all deserve as children of God, brothers and sisters in the Lord.

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



St. Justin Martyr

Feast Day: June 1st

Just a bit more than a century after Jesus ascended to His Father, a philosopher in Rome, who had found annoying and empty all the philosophies of his day, and been converted by an extraordinary conversation on the beach with an old man who introduced him to Jesus' fulfillment of the prophets, wrote an extraordinary letter to the Emperor. Antonius Pius had been ruling the Roman Empire since 138, so he was now into his second decade of his reign. The empire was at peace. Antoninus never

led armies into battle, in fact, he probably never went within 500 miles of a Roman Legion, who were adroitly quelling various problems on the outskirts of the empire. He governed well, expanded Rome's infrastructure including its marvelous aqueducts bringing free and clean water to all, built temples and promoted the arts and philosophy. He was an ideal emperor to receive Justin's letter:

To the Emperor Titus Ælius Adrianus Antoninus Pius Augustus Cæsar... and to the sacred senate, with the whole people of the Romans, I, Justin... present this address and petition in behalf of those of all nations who are unjustly hated and wantonly abused, myself being one of them. Reason directs those

who are truly pious and philosophical to honour and love only what is true, declining to follow traditional opinions, if these be worthless. For not only does sound reason direct us to refuse the guidance of those who did or taught anything wrong, but it is incumbent on the lover of truth, by all means, and if death be threatened, even before his own life, to choose to do and say what is right. Do you, then, since ye are called pious and philosophers, guardians of justice and lovers of learning, give good heed, and hearken to my address; and if ye are indeed such, it will be manifested. ...

Stewardship of Treasure May 21st and 22nd

Envelopes:	\$8,237.00
Loose:	\$2593.00
Maintenance:	\$66.00
Total:	\$10,896.00

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!

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He spends many pages outlining for the emperor the truths that Christians believe, explaining how it is a reasonable religion and should be at least tolerated alongside of all the other religions then swirling around the Roman Empire. But his purpose is not just to clarify, but also to evangelize, he spends many chapters explaining Jesus as the Logos-Incarnate, God-made-man, and then gives the emperor an account of the Church's practices. It is to these words that I want to turn:

*But we, after we have thus washed him who has been convinced and has assented to our teaching, bring him to the place where those who are called brethren are assembled, in order that we may offer hearty prayers in common for ourselves and for the baptized [illuminated] person, and for all others in every place, that we may be counted worthy, now that we have learned the truth, by our works also to be found good citizens and keepers of the commandments, so that we may be saved with an everlasting salvation. Having ended the prayers, we salute one another with a kiss. There is then brought to the president of the brethren bread and a cup of wine mixed with water; and he praise and glory to the Father of the universe, through the name of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, and offers thanks at considerable length for our being counted worthy to receive these things at His hands. And when he has concluded the prayers and thanksgivings, all the people present express their assent by saying Amen. This word Amen answers in the Hebrew language to *יְהוָה* [so be it]. And when the president has given thanks, and all the people have expressed their assent, those who are called by us deacons give to each of those present to partake of the bread and wine mixed with water over which the thanksgiving was pronounced, and to those who are absent they carry away a portion.*

Notice that already, just a few decades after the death of the Apostles, and over a century before the great waves of persecution that would seek to destroy the Church under Diocletian, we already have a foundational belief in the Divinity of Christ, a recognition that if Christianity is true, every other philosophy and religion is at best incomplete. We already see the Church having bishops, priests, and deacons, and emphasis that divine life is given in Baptism and that the Eucharist is really, truly, Jesus' Body and Blood, and we can only receive it if we have received from God faith and forgiveness and continue to live in His truth. I stop here for this week. We will return to Justin's letter next week to see what he knows to be the life that Christians are called to from all of these truths.

Fr. Dominic Rankin while studying in Rome, went with other priests and seminarians from Illinois for lunch to a restaurant in a town outside of Rome. There were rumors that St. Justin was buried in the Church there, but we were saddened to find the Church was not open Sunday afternoon. Turns out, his remains are not in Italy, at least not all of them. After he was beheaded, Justin's relics were treasured by the Church and revered in various Churches in Italy all the way until the 1800s, during which, at a time of upheaval in Italy, they were given to a priest of Baltimore, Maryland. There they stayed until rediscovered in 1989, at which point the Church of St. Mary's in Annapolis, MD, gave them a proper burial.

Sacraments

Deaths

Father Carl Schmidt

Date of Death: May 12, 2022

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

Hygiene Items Collection for Holy Family Food Pantry

As warmer months approach, there is a growing need for hygiene items for clients at the Holy Family Food Pantry. Cathedral parishioner, Adam Wentz, a member of the Blessed Sacrament Boy Scout troop is collecting personal hygiene items for his Eagle Scout Project. Donations of shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and laundry detergent have been requested by the Holy Family Food Pantry. Any donation will be greatly appreciated! Items will be collected through the weekend of June 18-19. Place your donations in the specially marked bin in the atrium. Thank you in advance for all your support!

Baseball for Babies

Join the Father Tolton Knights of Columbus Council and Cathedral Parish on June 9th for a night at the ballpark. Use promo code "KNIGHTS" and \$2 from every ticket sold will be donated to First Step Women's Center, a pregnancy resource center in the Springfield area. Tickets start at \$8. If you can't join us on June 9th you can still purchase tickets to any Springfield Lucky Horseshoes home game this season to help benefit First Step using the same promo code. Go to <https://shoesbaseball.com/> to get your tickets and help First Step Women's Center!

Thank You From the CCCW

The CCCW raised \$2,162.00 by selling stickers that supported Ukraine and would like to thank everyone for their generosity. The CCCW would also like to thank everyone for their generous donations to their garage sale this past weekend, and for those who supported the CCCW by volunteering and shopping at the sale.

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.

Baby Bottle Boomerang

Did you know that First Step Women's Center shares the Good News of Jesus with their patients? You can help First Step continue to share hope and life to those in need when you RETURN your baby bottle NOW! Thank you for your support!

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.

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!

First Friday Concert - June 3

Join us on Friday, June 3, 2022 at 7pm in the Cathedral for a First Friday Concert! June's concert will feature Young Musicians from around the Springfield area. The First Friday Concert Series is sponsored by the Staab Family, and is free and open to the public. All are welcome!

For I was hungry and you fed me...

Now that the summer months are upon us, children are home from school and not receiving school lunches. Holy Family Food Pantry anticipates an increased demand for these food items.

Pancake mix, syrup, peanut butter, jelly, boxed cereal, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce

A collection bin is in the atrium. Thank you for your generosity!

Candidate for Reception into the Church - Please Welcome!

My name is Jarrod Davenport. I'm recently married, living in Petersburg with my wife Meghan. I like to exercise, go to the movies, and help my wife with her ever-expanding vegetable garden. I've been a Lutheran my whole life but always been interested in Catholicism. Looking forward to completing my journey in becoming a member of the Church!



SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

Second Collection - Retired Diocesan Priests Collection

Each year on the feast of Pentecost we rejoice that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are given to the Church in every age. As we celebrate this feast, we ask you to consider a generous response in the Retired Diocesan Priests Collection to meet the immediate retirement and health care needs of our priests. Please pray for our priests who serve so generously in various apostolates throughout our diocese. Please thank God for all that we have received from our priests who are now retired, many of whom continue to offer generous service in every way that they are able throughout our diocese.

If you are unable to make an in-church contribution, please consider making your donation online at parishgiving.dio.org/secondcollections. You can also mail your donation to the parish office. Thank you in advance for your support.

Dive Deep: Dealing with Death - The Right and Wrong Ways

Losing a loved one is painful. How we handle that loss depends on each person, but are we grieving in a healthy way? What should we say and not say to someone who lost a loved one? What should we do if the pain of a loss is just as apparent today than when it occurred? Dr. Dee Stern, a Springfield Catholic grief therapist authored a new book to help people grieve healthier and better comfort those who lost loved ones. It's called "Comforting the bereaved through listening and positive responding, what are the bereaved trying to tell us?" Dr. Stern offers her advice on Dive Deep. Go to dio.org/podcast or search Dive Deep on the major podcast platforms.

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.

Vessels: A Day of Reflection for Women

You are invited to a prayerful day for women to experience the power of Christ in Scripture and Sacraments, sponsored by the Diocesan Women's Ministry. Join us on July 23, 2022 for the first reflection day at the Villa Maria Retreat Center in Springfield. Cost is \$35.00 per reflection day. Register at www.dio.org/vessels

Memorial Day Calvary Cemetery Field Mass

Join the Springfield Diocese and Bishop Paprocki for a traditional field Mass at Father Howard Altar in celebration of Memorial Day on May 30th at 9:30am. This accessible worship event is open to the public and includes music, parking, seating, and golf cart transportation to and from the service location as needed. *Participants may bring lawn chairs if preferred.

Career Opportunity in Financial Services for a Catholic Company

The Knights of Columbus is seeking an intelligent, financially motivated, entrepreneurial, and professional catholic man for a career opportunity representing their financial program in the area. We offer a complete benefits package (health, dental and life insurance, retirement pension program), expense allowance and professional training with this full-time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information, and/or an initial interview please contact, Jeff Niemeyer FICF, LUTCF, General Agent, at (618) 526-7991 ext. 301 or via email at Jeff.Niemeyer@kofc.org. Website: www.NiemeyerAgency.org

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.