

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

JUNE 5, 2022 | PENTECOST SUNDAY



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 23

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.



Come, Holy Spirit, Come!

On Pentecost Sunday, an often overlooked part of the liturgy is the Pentecost Sequence. This prayer to the Holy Spirit is inserted into the Mass between the conclusion of the Second Reading and the Alleluia before the Gospel. Since we rarely hear the Sequence at Mass, it can seem a little out of place. But the Sequence for Pentecost is an extremely powerful prayer in which we invite the Holy Spirit to come and renew our hearts on this very important day in the liturgical year. As I was reflecting on the Sequence, a few lines section caught my attention:

*Heal our wounds, our strength renew;
On our dryness pour your dew;
Wash the stains of guilt away;
Bend the stubborn heart and will;
Melt the frozen, warm the chill;
Guide the steps that go astray.*

This is a prayer we can offer first of all for ourselves. If we are honest, we can all admit that we have wounds that need to be addressed in our lives. We often feel dry when it comes to prayer or our participation at Mass. We can all cling stubbornly to our will. Calling upon the Holy Spirit to address those areas within us can be a very powerful prayer. I never get tired of reminding people (and myself) that the same Holy Spirit that set the hearts of the Apostles of the early Church on fire, as well as saints throughout history, is available to us today. He wants to melt our hearts, frozen in complacency and inactivity, and warm the chill of our lack of concern for the needs of those around us so that we can be those dedicated, missionary disciples He has equipped us to be through our Baptism and Confirmation.

After begging the Holy Spirit to renew our hearts, we pray for the rest of the Body of Christ to be awakened to the power of the Holy Spirit. We pray for a New Pentecost, so badly needed in the Church and in the world. We can and should be talking about all the legislative and cultural situations that need addressing, the rights of the vulnerable that are being overlooked, the structures in society that need so to be addressed. But more importantly than all of that is to call upon the Holy Spirit to come to our aid, so that we can benefit from His powerful gifts which will be the most effective in bringing about conversion and change. We need the Holy Spirit to point out how and what needs to be addressed, not simply relying on the spirit of the world, otherwise known as popular opinion. Speaking of the Holy Spirit whom He would send, Jesus told His Apostles: "But when He comes, the Spirit of truth, He will guide you to all truth." (John 16:13)

As we look at the many difficult situations that face our Church, our nation, and our world, it can feel very overwhelming! Before we give in to despair or discouragement, let us proclaim with confidence: "Come, Holy Spirit, come!" In doing so, we are reminded of how the power of the Holy Spirit has worked throughout the history of the Church, a power that the Lord is eager to continue to send to us if we are but willing to receive it.

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, June 6

7am - NO MASS
5:15pm - NO MASS

Tuesday, June 7

7am - NO MASS
5:15pm - NO MASS

Wednesday, June 8

7am - NO MASS
5:15pm - NO MASS

Thursday, June 9

7am - NO MASS
5:15pm - NO MASS

Friday, June 10

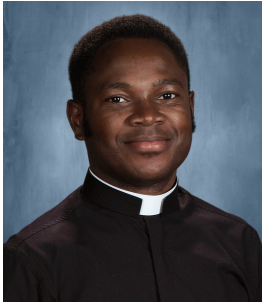
7am - NO MASS
5:15pm - NO MASS

Saturday, June 11

8am - Msgr David Hoefler
(Chris Sommer)
4pm - Felicula Acuna
(Family)

Sunday, June 12

7am - Mary Ann Midden
(William Midden)
10am - For The People
5pm - L. Mae Nicoud
(Tim Nicoud)



Happiness?

Surprisingly, one of the recurring challenges I have encountered as a priest is people asking me questions about my homilies. As funny as it may sound, it is true. But I truly enjoy those questions and anticipate them because they are signs that people listen to my homilies and understand them. This is despite the difficulties that are sometimes imposed by the echo in the sound system of our cathedral church. As if that is not enough, my accent, which is different from that of most of our parishioners, sometimes increases the difficulties people experience in understanding the words I speak from the pulpit.

So, when I receive questions to discuss what I preach about, I feel both excited and a bit anxious. This anxiety is because I hardly write down my homilies. Therefore, it is not always easy to remember them distinctly enough to discuss them. But this is except for those subjects that either tickled my fancy or made strong impressions on me. One of such subjects is HAPPINESS.

A few months ago, I was at the YMCA here in town one afternoon for my routine exercise when I met one of our Sacred Heart-Griffin High School students. Talking briefly with him, he asked me about one of my recent homilies in school that discussed HAPPINESS. I was not nervous to talk about the topic with him because it is one of those things, I am willing to preach on or talk about as often as I have the opportunity.

One may wonder why happiness. Even before Christ would take flesh and be born in the likeness of men, one of the greatest intellectuals that ever lived, Aristotle, posited that happiness is the central purpose of human life. This happiness, he explained, constitutes making good choices and living a life of virtue, which saves us from the shackles of bitterness and sadness.

Ultimately, in the sacred scriptures, Saint Peter, the pre-eminent apostle and first leader of the Church, in his first apostolic letter, instructs us to always embrace happiness even in the most troubling times of our lives (1Peter 4:13). A joyful disposition, when it is genuine, is both a foreshadowing of and a preparation for the boundless happiness that we will experience when we see Christ as He is. That is when his glory is finally revealed to us.

In our today's society, it is no longer news that too many people are sad, bitter, and sometimes miserable. While there are many reasons to be unhappy in our world today, the gospel message encourages us to radiate the love of Christ both in our words and actions. This means being as positive as possible with a cheerful disposition that allows people to encounter Christ when they meet us. Another great advantage of a joyful spirit in today's world is that it helps people who may be going through some difficult times to cheer up when they see us. This is because happiness can be infectious when genuine.

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 May 28th and 29th

Envelopes:	\$3,847.00
Loose:	\$2,534.00
Maintenance:	\$90.00
Total:	\$6,471.00

May EFT: \$20,731.00

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 Deaths

Mary Frances Prosperini Coffey
Date of Death: May 17, 2022



St. Justin Martyr

Feast Day: June 1st | Patron of Philosophers and Lecturers

Last week we got to know the gutsy philosophy Justin, who found in Jesus a Person Who finally described for him all the truths that he had been searching for in the philosophies of his age, and so captured his heart that he wanted to tell everyone about this Jesus, the Christ, even the emperor! Justin recognized something that we often forget: the Truth stands apart from us, and everyone, no matter how smart, or powerful, is called to accept, and change their lives, in accordance with Him. I give extra space here to his own words because I need to hear them too!

... this food is called among us Εὐχαριστία [Eucharist], of which no one is allowed to partake but the man who believes that the things which we teach are true, and who has been washed with the washing that is for the remission of sins, and unto regeneration, and who is so living as Christ has enjoined. For not as common bread and common drink do we receive these; but in like manner as Jesus Christ our Saviour, having been made flesh by the word of God, had both flesh and blood for our salvation, so likewise have we been taught that the food which is blessed by the prayer of His word, and from which our blood and flesh by transmutation are nourished, is the flesh and blood of that Jesus who was made flesh.

St. Justin's sanctity is not extraordinary. He simply takes Jesus seriously. Jesus says "this is my Body", and Justin holds Our Lord's words so tightly that he knows that everything else has to conform to that truth. If the Host that the priest holds is Christ, how must I approach? How should I prepare? How should I carry Jesus in the hours that follow?

... And the wealthy among us help the needy; and we always keep together; and for all things wherewith we are supplied, we bless the Maker of all through His Son Jesus Christ, and through the Holy Ghost. And on the day called Sunday, all who live in cities or in the country gather together to one place, and the memoirs of the apostles or the writings of the prophets are read, as long as time permits; then, when the reader has ceased, the president verbally instructs, and exhorts to the imitation of these good things. Then we all rise together and pray, and, as we before said, when our prayer is ended, bread and wine and water are brought, and the president in like manner offers prayers and thanksgivings, according to his ability, and the people assent, saying Amen; and there is a distribution to each, and a participation of that over which thanks have been given, and to those who are absent a portion is sent by the deacons. And they who are well to do, and willing, give what each thinks fit; and what is collected is deposited with the president, who succours the orphans and widows, and those who, through sickness or any other cause, are in want, and those who are in bonds, and the strangers sojourning among us, and in a word takes care of all who are in need. But Sunday is the day on which we all hold our common assembly, because it is the first day on which God, having wrought a change in the darkness and matter, made the world; and Jesus Christ our Saviour on the same day rose from the dead.

The charity and generosity that Justin describes is only crazy because we are so much more used to a natural-level love. He, and the Church he describes, are living out of a supernatural-love. They give because they really trust that everything they have was given to them by God already, that every last part of their lives, including those precious hours of their Sunday, is already a gift of love from God, and that by giving all away they will find Him to be even more generous than they can imagine.

For He was crucified on the day before that of Saturn (Saturday); and on the day after that of Saturn, which is the day of the Sun, having appeared to His apostles and disciples, He taught them these things, which we have submitted to you also for your consideration.

Justin submits to each of us the vision of a life lived as if God really loved us as much as we say He does. Titus wasn't convinced; his life didn't change. Will mine?

Fr. Dominic Rankin recently spend 5 days covered in sand, sleeping on the ground, eating bad pasta, carrying 50lbs up and down boulders, sweating through his one pair of clerics in the desert sun, with 14 people he had never before met... and they were blessed days because every person on that hiking expedition had met Jesus, trusted Jesus, and followed Jesus into that desert. With Christ, all is beautiful, even the barren and brutal stretches.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

No Weekly Masses - June 6-10

Please note, there will be no 7am or 5:15pm Masses this week (Monday, June 6-Friday, June 10) due to the priests being out for retreat.

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!

Parish Directory

It's time for a new parish directory! When people come to our parish they are looking for a place to belong. A parish directory helps them connect with new relationships and helps us connect with those we haven't seen in a while. Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here on the Cathedral campus. You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give family and friends. Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a directory! Our directory will not be complete without you! Schedule your appointment now.

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply visit www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login in on the right side, enter il218 in the Church Code field, and enter photos in the Church password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family, please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday-Friday. Appointments will fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.

Please call the Parish Office at 217-522-3342 if you have any questions.

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!

Safe Families Training

Cathedral is a Safe Families parish. This means our parish partners with Safe Families to exemplify Biblical hospitality that helps keep children safe and families intact. We surround families in crisis with a caring, compassionate community. And we need you to help grow our network of support by opening your arms, your hearts, and your homes. Safe Family training is happening in Springfield on June 11, 8:45 am at First United Methodist Church on Koke Mill. Training Topics to be covered are:

- Orientation Training
- Family Friend Training – Family friends provide support to host families and families in need
- Host Family Training – Host families voluntarily host children in their home on a temporary basis
- Family Coach Training - Family coaches help families in need reach their goals and provide encouragement to host families

If you are interested, you can register here <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/safe-families-in-person-volunteer-training-tickets-340178732747>
Contact Vicki if you have questions 217/522-3342 or vcompton@cathedral.dio.org.

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 from Sr. Francella and her Cathedral volunteers.

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!

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!

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

Butler Funeral Home - Peace of Mind Seminar

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:

Peace of Mind Seminar
Thursday, June 16th
8:30am – 10:30am
MCL Restaurant & Bakery
2151 Wabash Ave., Springfield, Illinois 62704

This event is complimentary: no cost or obligation. Please call 217-544-4646 to reserve your space no later than Monday, June 13th.

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.

Employment Opportunity: Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities is searching for an experienced Office Manager to manage the Springfield office. Primary responsibilities include organizing the office, assisting with our community service programs, and assisting the Area Director with various tasks. If interested, please apply at cc.dio.org under the Employment tab.

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

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