

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

FEBRUARY 19, 2023 | SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



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 5 ISSUE 8

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

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

THE REVEREND PAUL LESUPATI
PAROCHIAL VICAR

THE REVEREND DOMINIC RANKIN
IN RESIDENCE

THE REVEREND DOMINIC VAHLING
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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!



Take Action!

The final step in our three-part schema for the spiritual life is to take action. As a reminder, this step happens only after we have become aware and understood the voice speaking to us. If we fail to do this, there can be some unfortunate consequences. Let's take an example. You wake up one Sunday morning and you are tired after a short night of sleep. Mass begins in just over an hour, but as you lay in bed you think: "I don't really get much out of Mass these days. I find myself distracted and not terribly interested in the homilies. This bed is nice and warm, and another hour or two would sure be nice. Maybe I will just go back to bed. I'll make it back to Mass next weekend."

Perhaps our subject is somewhat aware of the voice that is speaking, but there is not much of an effort to understand here. The person is experiencing some spiritual desolation, not feeling the closeness of God, feeling sort of dry and tired (physically and spiritually). If this person would understand that this is what is going on, they would realize that the voice they are listening to is not the good spirit. Instead, they will remember what St. Ignatius teaches in his fifth rule of discernment:

In time of desolation never to make a change; but to be firm and constant in the resolutions and determination in which one was the day preceding such desolation, or in the determination in which he was in the preceding consolation. Because, as in consolation it is rather the good spirit who guides and counsels us, so in desolation it is the bad, with whose counsels we cannot take a course to decide rightly.

Therefore the person who is paying attention, being aware of what is going on, then understanding what is being said, will more easily take the necessary action, rejecting the suggestion from the evil spirit to just stay in bed, and being firm in the commitment to going to Mass.

As I wrote in last week's article, taking action really boils down to accepting and obeying the voice of the good spirit, and rejecting that of the enemy spirit. If the first step of being aware is the most necessary step, and understanding is the most complex, perhaps taking action is the most difficult step. It is hard for us to act contrary to the temptations and desires that often attack us. Giving in to these temptations is often much easier, and we like to take the path of least resistance. But choosing to do the right thing will always be a source of blessing to us.

Let us never forget that this whole process is under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. The gifts of the Holy Spirit come to our aid in understanding the truth of what is going on in our minds and hearts. These gifts also come to our aid to help us to do what the Lord is calling us to do, especially with the gift of fortitude. Rejecting the bad and choosing the good is not dependent on simple willpower from us. No, the Holy Spirit generously comes to our assistance to provide the strength we need to act in accordance with God's will.

With that in mind, perhaps a good phrase to keep at the ready in our daily life is the simple prayer: "Come, Holy Spirit!" As we become aware of the voice that is speaking to us, we call out to the Holy Spirit to come and help us to understand whose voice is speaking. Then, in becoming aware, we call out again: "Come, Holy Spirit" to strengthen us to reject what needs rejecting and to choose what needs to be chosen.

Prayer with the Holy Spirit, as I have mentioned, is a pathway to freedom. The more aware we are of what is moving within us, the better we will understand, and that understanding will lead us to making choices that will lead to the freedom the Lord desires for us as His beloved children.

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, February 20

7am - Heather McMillen
(Chris Sommer)
5:15pm - NO MASS

Tuesday, February 21

7am - Brandi Borres
(Chris Sommer)
5:15pm - Sophia Bartoletti
(Estate of Sophia Bartoletti)

Wednesday, February 22

7am - Otis & Dorothy Huber
(Huber Family)
12:05pm - Richard Dhabalt
(Dale & Jane Grieser)
5:15pm - Pamela Harmon
(Karen Hukelmare & Family)

Thursday, February 23

7am - Vogt Family
(Bill Vogt)
12:05pm - Carol Morgan
(Jim & Sandy Bloom)
5:15pm - John Ansell
(Judy Ansell & Family)

Friday, February 24

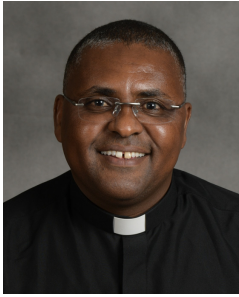
7am - Erin Danaher
(Chris Sommer)
12:05pm - Herb Dulle
(Virginia Kelly)
5:15pm - Sarah McGee
(Tom McGee)

Saturday, February 25

8am - Deborah Waitkus
(Lou Ann Mack & Carl Corrigan)
4pm - For The People

Sunday, February 26

7am - Pamela Rose Harmon
(Archie Harmon)
10am - Richard Dhabalt
(Rita Nortrup)
5pm - Eulalia & Raymond Ohl
(Angela Ohl Marsters)



Receiving First Communion

As we continue to deepen our relationship with Jesus in Holy Eucharist and meditating on the Eucharistic revival in this year of Eucharist in our Diocese, I would like each one of us to flash back on his/her experience receiving Holy communion for the first time. When I first received the Holy Eucharist, I was overwhelmed and I was excited to receive Jesus in my heart, I felt closer to Jesus and nourished by His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. I think each one of us have unique experiences for the first time receiving Holy Communion. When you receive the Holy Communion for the First time, what a special day for you, your family and for the Church too, and more importantly, you are special because Jesus will be in your heart. You can remember the way you were dressing, girls dressed as brides with veils, and boys dressed as bridegrooms in suits and ties. I am going to share with you three points, and hope that you remember as these points are essential for you not only today but for the journey of living your faith ahead.

Eucharist – Food for the SOULS: you have received the Holy Eucharist, in another word, the Body of Christ. Who is Jesus Christ? You have learned about Him for the last months of your catechists. Jesus Christ is our Savior and King. He offered His life for us. He loves us so much and He wants to be with us forever, therefore before He died, He had a last meal with his disciples, and at that night, He asked his disciples to do what He instructed, that is celebrating the Meal. Eucharist is a Meal. Eucharist is solid spiritual Food. It is important to eat properly every day to avoid hunger pains, weakness, malnutrition, and disease. It is the same with our spiritual life. We need to be spiritual-food conscious if we wish to avoid emptiness, spiritual weakness, vulnerability to temptation, and sickness due to sin. In the Holy Eucharist, we are fed, we are full after mass as we have food. The Food is Jesus Christ's body and blood. We go home full, full of spirit, and energy to live out our faith for the whole week. This Food will be your nutrition to live out for the whole week. Also, Eucharist means "Thanks," attending Mass then receiving the Eucharist is the best WORD of Thanksgiving. Therefore, students/ Children you need to go to Mass every Sunday to receive this special Food, and to thank God.

When you come up here to receive the Eucharist, the Body of Christ, children, you may be surprised because you cannot see the difference by tasting this little white Host with a round shape. You may think that is only a host, but Faith tells us that it is the Body of Christ, because if we believe in Jesus as our Lord and Savior, we will believe whatever He tells us is true. At the Last Supper, Jesus instituted His apostles to do what He just did in "remembrance of Me." This is my Body. This is my Blood. At Mass, With the power of the Holy Spirit, through priest, the little white Host and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, that sounds magic to you, and hard to believe because you cannot see it with your own eyes, right?

But there are things that we cannot use our senses to see, or touch or smell, but it does not mean those things do not exist. For example, can you see or touch, or punch the air? No, you cannot see, touch, or smell the air but the air does exist. How do you know the air exists? You know the air exists because you can breathe, thanks to the air we can breathe, otherwise, no life on earth, and we are not here but somewhere else in a cemetery, right? So, we believe and know for sure that the air exists, even though we cannot see or touch or smell, so the Holy Eucharist too, you only see the little Host, but our Faith tells us that, after the consecration the host becomes the Body of Christ, and the wine becomes the Blood of Christ. In Holy Eucharist, Christ present and a little white, round Host is truly Body of Christ. At the consecration, the bread and wine through the power of the Holy Spirit, Transform and become the Body and Blood of Christ. This is not a symbol but Jesus' real flesh and blood, under the appearance of the bread and wine. When we receive Holy Communion, we receive Christ Himself. The Bread and Wine are no longer Bread and Wine but, Jesus Himself. He is real food for our souls.

Remember that when you receive the Host, the taste and appearance may be the same as Bread, but that is the Body of Christ, the true presence of Christ in the Holy Eucharist. When you receive the Eucharist, you receive Christ Himself, so be respectful. After receiving it, you pray with Him and thank Him for being in your soul. Talking with him about what is in your heart and telling Him what your desires are and asking Him to fulfill it. Christ is King and our Savior, when you welcome an important guest into your house, your parents and you normally prepare the house very well, cleaning up, set up a nice table, good food....to show your hospitality and love to that person, and you want to impress that person too. So, Jesus is the King, the most important guest that enters your house, the soul today, so we need to prepare our souls too, your soul must be free from sins. It is important to eat good food in order to be healthy and fit. If you eat good food, you will be healthy; if you eat bad food, you will be unhealthy. Eucharist is Food for our souls, we receive the Holy Eucharist, means we receive Jesus Christ, WE BECOME CHRIST. Students/children. Receiving the Body of Christ means you act, behave like Christ. Always remember that from today on, Jesus Christ is in YOU, He lives in your hearts therefore your life must reflect the life of Christ. Jesus Christ loves us and everyone, so you are supposed to do the same things, that is loving others, love your parents, brothers, sisters, and neighbors, behave well in the family, listening and obey your parents and teachers. When you go to Mass on Sunday, you need to stay focused, and behave during Mass, every day, you need to pray, morning and evening before you go to Mass.

Therefore, student/Children, may I ask you a favor? Your mom and dad work so hard for you and for themselves, during the week, sometimes they forget today is Sunday, the Day you go to Mass to receive the Holy Food. My favor is to please remind your parents to take you to Mass. On Saturday, you tell mom and dad, please take me to Mass tomorrow so that I may have food to eat, to nourish my soul. I want to receive the Eucharist at Mass, so mom, please take me there to fulfill my desire, my hunger. I am sure that when you request that your mom and dad are so happy and glad to take you to Mass. Am I right, Parents? AND please remember that the mass is not entertainment. The purpose of the Mass is similar to the purposes for which Jesus offered Himself on the Cross. We spend time at Mass to worship God who made us and saves us. So please do come to Mass on Sunday to thank Him and ask Him to give you strength, grace to live the life of Christian, and to pray for favor to fulfill your intentions. I would like to Invite you all to say this prayer after communion silently.

Prayer after Communion: Anima Christ.

Soul of Christ, sanctify me. Body of Christ, save me. Blood of Christ, inebriate me. Water from the side of Christ, wash me. Passion of Christ, strengthen me. O Good Jesus, hear me. Within your Wounds hide me. Permit me not to be separated from you. From the wicked foe, defend me. At the hour of my death, call me and bid me come to you That with your Saints, I may praise you for ever and ever. Amen.

St. Ignatius of Loyola.

Father Paul Lesupati serves as parochial vicar at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.



Ss. Francisco and Jacinta Marto

Feast Day: February 20th | Youngest Non-martyred Canonized Saints | Patronage: Children (especially in Portugal), those Captive, Ridiculed, and Ill | Attributes: Children, Holding Rosary, Lantern, Wearing Peasant Garb, Shepherding Sheep; Francisco Carrying Valise, Leaning on Crutch; Jacinta: Hand on Hip, Wearing Veil.

Francisco and Jacinta were the youngest siblings of 7 in a poor Portuguese family. As World War I tore the continent apart and as countless men never returned to their families, they cared for the family's flock of sheep and played with their friends. Francisco was a calm and quiet boy, who, if not particularly pious, did share easily, and loved animals, even lizards and snakes (his mom, it should be noted, didn't appreciate this last trait as much as the others!) Jacinta was full of affection and admiration for her older cousin Lucia and loved to dance, entertain, and collect flowers for those she loved. But, her more fiery temperament could also lead her to pout and mope if not allowed to play with the bigger kids or take care of the sheep (for which she had carefully named each one!)

On one ordinary day, before these ordinary children, an ordinary angel appeared. The world needed a message from God and these were His chosen messengers. The Angel of Peace he called himself, and he was entrusted with God's solution to the hatred and violence that plagued the world. It was a simple one, the same one that Jesus had shown us: "Make of everything you can a sacrifice, and offer it to God as an act of reparation for the sins by which He is offended, and in supplication for the conversion of sinners." Perhaps more concretely, the angel offered these children an easy prayer that would help them to do this: "My God, I believe, adore, hope and love You! I ask pardon of You for those who do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love You."

This simple request would be the seed of sanctity for these young people. They began to make sacrifices every day: kneeling for their prayers, sacrificing some of their food, enduring the incomprehension of their family as well as ridicule and persecution from authorities who had long since forgotten God and considered the ruckus these kids were fomenting to be a distraction from the real problems of the world. Word had gotten out now that Mary was appearing to them each month and many were flocking to try and see what was happening.

But sanctity is not all about sacrifice, it is mostly about receiving God's love and gifts. In 1910 Pope Leo XIII had moved the age to receive Holy Communion earlier, from 12 down to 7 or so, but the Church – as sadly sometimes is the case – was lethargic in letting God's love pour into the world. It was 1916 and Francisco and Jacinta had yet to receive their first Holy Communion. God was going to change that. In August of 1916 the Angel came again, holding a chalice and the bleeding Eucharist. He taught them another prayer: "Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son, Holy Ghost, I adore You profoundly, and I offer You the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ, present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifference with which He Himself is offended. And, through the infinite merits of His most Sacred Heart, and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I beg of You the conversion of poor sinners." And then He gave them each Holy Communion.

Each child would continue to make sacrifices in their own unique way. Francisco and Jacinta would both fall victim to the 1918 Spanish Flu pandemic, enduring, and offering up, terrible sufferings for sinners as the doctors struggled to treat them. Francisco prayed many rosaries and examined his conscience carefully, knowing his lackluster piety as a little boy. He was given the Last Rites before he died, receiving the Eucharist for the second time. Jacinta offered up in particular the times she was all alone, a particular sadness for someone as lively and loving as her. She loved it when Lucia visited her after receiving Holy Communion for she knew she was close to Jesus who dwelt in her cousin but when she asked the priest for Holy Communion for herself he demurred. She died having only ever received the Blessed Sacrament from the hand of an angel.

Fr. Dominic Rankin can only delight in the way that God's grace was given to these little kids. Each of their temperaments, with their strengths and weaknesses, were exactly where God worked to ask their self-offering, and to offer Himself to them in turn. God wants the same for me! And, He can bring His Kingdom of Peace to the world through a child. He can only bring His Kingdom of Peace through a child!

Stewardship of Treasure

February 11th & 12th

Envelopes	\$4,778.00
Loose	\$2,932.00
Maintenance	\$100.00
Total	\$7,810.00

January EFT

\$21,038.80

January Second Collections

Catholic Times
\$2,961.00

Church in Latin America
\$2,967.25

January Debt Reduction

\$807.00

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

Urenna Angelia Oduche
Baptized on February 11, 2023
Child of Ebuka & Amir Oduche

Deaths

Sally J. Hays
Date of Death: January 28, 2023

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

40 Days for Life Campaign

The Spring 40 Days for Life campaign is being held from Feb. 22 to April 2nd. There will be people from various churches in and around Springfield peacefully praying in one hour shifts in front of Planned Parenthood on Bruns Lane every day from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. This is a peaceful prayer event. We need 20 volunteers to help cover Cathedral's day which is Saturday, February 25th. This breaks down to 2 people per hour for the 10 shifts. For more information, please call or text Daphne Southern at 217-638-2805 or MaryJean Sheets at 217-523-2700.

The Parish Directories are Here!

The directories have finally arrived! If you have not yet picked up your copy, you can do so by stopping by the Cathedral Parish Office. The directories that were damaged in shipping (bent corners) can be purchased for \$1 each. Thanks for your patience.

CCCW Meeting - February 23

Join the women of the CCCW at their next meeting on Thursday, February 23, beginning at 6pm. All women of the parish are welcome!

Cathedral Bible Study

The Wednesday night Bible study group is beginning a new series, "Fulfilled: Uncovering the Biblical Foundations of Catholicism." In this study, we will learn how to better explain and defend the Catholic faith as we explore how the Old Testament is fulfilled by Christ and lays the groundwork for the traditions of the Catholic Church. Meetings will be every first and third Wednesday from 6:15-7:45pm and participants will need to purchase the companion texts. For more information contact Larry Travis at LTravisjr@gmail.com.

Cathedral Parishioner Catholic School Tuition Scholarship

The Cathedral Parish believes in the value of Catholic education and is committed to assisting parishioners who choose a Catholic education for their children by providing tuition assistance. Parishioners will receive a \$500 tuition scholarship for each child enrolled in a Springfield Catholic Grade School (Grades K-8), and a \$750 tuition scholarship for each child enrolled at Sacred Heart-Griffin High School. The Scholarship is eligible to any parishioner household who is registered and active in the Cathedral parish. For more information or to apply, please visit our website (www.spicathedral.org/cathedral-parishioner-catholic-school-tuition-scholarship-form/). Applications are DUE by March 15th, 2023. If you have any questions, please contact the Cathedral Parish Office at 217-522-3342.

Blood Pressure Checks - February 18th & 19th

Our parish nurses will be available for blood pressure checks before and after masses this weekend. 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 from Sr. Francella and her Cathedral volunteers.

Lenten Toiletry Collection

Thanks to the generosity of Cathedral parishioners, the CCCW has been able to provide toiletries for individuals & families who are homeless, in shelters, or nursing home residents who are unable to purchase their own hygiene items for several years. The CCCW will once again collect toiletries during Lent to distribute to these individuals. The following items can be placed in the marked baskets in the Atrium during the Lenten season: Travel size toiletries and lotions, or those provided when staying at a hotel; Combs; Tissue packets; Emery boards; Toothbrushes and small tubes of toothpaste. NOTE: Shaving items, mouthwash and hand sanitizer cannot be accepted. Thanks in advance for your generosity!

Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist

Just in time for Lent, Cathedral Women's Bible Study will be watching and discussing Presence, a 4-part series which explores the truth and beauty of Christ's real presence in the Eucharist. Thursdays, 10:00 or 1:00, March 2-23 in the Cathedral School Library. Contact Vicki to reserve your spot. 217/522-3342 or vcompton@cathedral.dio.org

Volunteers Needed for Sacraments

The Diocese of Springfield in IL is looking for volunteers to assist with the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion at the Cathedral. Over 1,200 third graders come to our church each year from throughout the Diocese to receive these holy Sacraments. This is a great blessing for us to welcome them here to experience what we already know - that the Cathedral is a special place to come and worship! Please pray about joining the Curia staff in helping to welcome these people to our home. All volunteers need to have Safe Environment on file with their parish. Contact Sister M. Clementia, FSGM for more information (ctoalson@dio.org 217-321-1130), or access the sign-up at <https://ome.flocknote.com/signup/84704>

LENT IS COMING!

Join our faith community—and nearly 13,000 Catholic communities across the United States—in a transformative Lenten journey with CRS Rice Bowl. Pick up your family's CRS Rice Bowl from tables by the entrances today. Unfold the calendar enclosed in the rice bowl and during the 40 days of Lent, reflect on the impact of global hunger and climate change on vulnerable communities around the world. As a parish community we will pray, fast and give alms to help our sisters and brothers in need. Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more and remember, Catholic Relief Services is our US Bishops' official relief and development agency.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

Parish Mission - St. Cabrini & St. Aloysius

Join St. Cabrini and St. Aloysius Parishes for a Parish Mission focusing on the Lenten Eucharistic Revival as the people of God journey to the Easter Triduum. The focus will be to inspire parishioners to encounter Jesus in the Eucharist. The mission is hosted by St. Cabrini Parish from March 1st -3rd. Bishop Vann will preach at the parish evening Masses at 6:00 PM and then direct conferences at 7:00 PM each evening. Talks will be centered on the mystery of the Eucharist in the life of the Church and families. The Parish Mission will conclude at St. Cabrini Parish on Saturday, March 4th at 5:30 PM Mass.

Men's Evening of Recollection

A Men's Evening of Recollection will be held Thursday, February 23rd at St. John's Hospital Chapel (800 E. Carpenter St., Springfield), from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. The recollection will include a meditation given by a priest, time for silent prayer and reflection, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction. All men throughout the diocese are invited to attend. The spiritual guidance at the Recollection is entrusted to a priest of the Prelature of Opus Dei. Check out: www.opusdei.org

Earthquake Aid for Turkey and Syria

On February 6, 2023, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake devastated large areas of central Turkey and northwest Syria. The death toll has surpassed 7,000 and continues to climb. The earthquake is the worst to strike Turkey this century. Later that day, the region experienced a second magnitude 7.7 quake.

Catholic Relief Services will support emergency relief efforts led by local partners in both Syria and Turkey with Caritas Turkey, Caritas Syria in Aleppo and Lattakia—where extensive damage has been reported—and other local partners, and the Pontifical Mission Societies have mobilized its network of missionary priests, religious sisters, laymen and women to aid survivors.

Your gift will help partners to provide safe shelter, and access to food, clean water and hygiene supplies, and more. Visit www.crs.org or www.missio.org to make a donation help the people of Turkey and Syria.

Special Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe

On Ash Wednesday our special collection will support the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Communism in this region fell more than 30 years ago, but the Church still struggles to rebuild after decades of oppressive rule. Under communism, religion and religious practices were openly persecuted, and atheism was actively propagated and enforced. Your support of this collection aids those affected by the war in Ukraine and renews vital aspects of Church life throughout the region. You support seminary programs, promote ministries and education for children and families, rebuild churches, and renew community life. Please be generous and prayerfully consider how you can support this collection. More information can be found at www.usccb.org/ccce

Encounter the Women of the Bible.

Young adult women are welcome to join Cor Unum for an exciting opportunity to encounter the women of the Old and New Testaments with scripture scholar and Springfield Dominican Sister Mila Díaz Solano. The five-session course begins at 7:00 p.m., Wednesday March 1, and will run for five sessions, on the first Wednesday of each month, at Cor Unum House, 925 N. Fifth Street. Sister Mila earned her doctorate in Sacred Scripture from the École Biblique, the renowned French Dominican School of Biblical and Archeological Research, Jerusalem. Prior to her election as a member of the leadership team for the Springfield Dominicans, Sister Mila taught scripture at ISET, a graduate school of theology in Lima, and ministered at Instituto Bartolomé de las Casas, a Christian human development organization founded by Dominican theologian Gustavo Gutiérrez, and at Mundelein Seminary in the United States. To register for the course call or text Sister Beth Murphy, OP at 312-780-9553. Cor Unum—Latin for One Heart—is a gathering place for young adult women who want to deepen their spiritual lives, be of service, and make change for a better world. To learn more about additional opportunities at Cor Unum visit springfieldop.org/cor-unum.

Christ the King Bible Study

Christ the King will host the Bible Study No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion. This series of 5 weeks is from Ascension Press, with video lessons presented by Dr. Edward Sri. We will meet Tuesdays 9:30-11 a.m. from Feb. 21 to March 21. The study set is \$27 plus shipping. To get on the list for a study book set, contact Mary Kay Hinkle at 217-899-2599 to leave a message or write to mbhinkle75@comcast.net by February 1, 2023.

SDCCW Scholarship Opportunity

Attention Diocesan Catholic female high school seniors! You are invited to apply for the Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (SDCCW) Female High School Senior Leadership Scholarship. Young women who are interested in applying for the scholarship should contact their high school principal, high school guidance office or parish office for applications. A typed completed application, essay, and two letters of recommendation are required. Deadline to enter is March 30, 2023. Winners will be announced in May and honored at the Woman of Distinction Banquet in June.

Pregnancy Care Center Collection

Next week our Lenten almsgiving will support the Springfield Pregnancy Care Center whose mission is to help pregnant women bring healthy babies into the world and to prepare parents for parenthood through education, advocacy, and collaborative partnerships with private and public organizations. Thank you for your generosity!

Women's Day of Recollection

The first Women's Day of Recollection of the year will be this coming Thursday, February 23 at Sacred Heart Church (730 S. 12th St., Springfield), from 12:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. There will be two meditations given by a priest and a 30-minute period for silent Adoration between the meditations. The ladies may take advantage of the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and spiritual direction during this time, as well as following the Recollection. All women throughout the diocese are invited to attend. The spiritual guidance at the Recollection is entrusted to a priest of the Prelature Opus Dei.