

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

MARCH 12, 2023 | THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT



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

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

Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 11

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
IN RESIDENCE

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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.



Given Up for You

As a priest, the very high point of every day is the celebration of the Mass, and the high point of each Mass is when I am privileged to pray the words of Jesus at the Consecration. There are two words in particular, used in both the words of consecration of the Body and for the Blood, that often catch my attention. They are the words “for you.”

In the consecration of the Body of Christ, we hear the words of Jesus giving us Himself as food, His Body “which will be given up for you.” Then, with the words of consecration for the Blood of Christ, Jesus speaks of the Blood “which will be poured out for you.” For you. For me. The Eucharist is a gift Jesus has instituted not just for those gathered with Him at the Last Supper, it is a gift that He meant to be shared with you and me every time we come to Mass. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are present with the Lord and His Apostles the night before He was to suffer for our sins, and we are given the opportunity to receive the gift of His very being – Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity.

I was reminded of this powerful moment in the Mass as I watched Episode 2 of Presence on FORMED. As the video spoke about the Last Supper and Institution of the Eucharist as being the New Passover, there is a point made about how the Jewish people understood the yearly celebration of the Passover. They would recall that it was not just their ancestors who were brought out of slavery in Egypt, but that it was them who were also freed in that Passover event. Their celebration of the Passover was not just a remembrance of something past, but a sharing in the effects of that moment even in the present day. So when we hear those words “for you”, we should hear them in the same way, not as a remembrance of something in the past, but something that is truly present, every bit as applicable to us as it was to His Apostles.

This is the type of awareness that we are invited to have at each Mass as we hear Jesus speaking His words of offering to us, for us. Just the thought of that as I write this fills me with gratitude and joy, and all the more excited for the next time I get to celebrate Mass and say those words once again!

This awareness of the gift the Lord offers for you and for me in each Mass should extend to how we view Lent. We recall Jesus’s Passion and Death during this season, and it can be easy to see it as something that happened 2000 years ago. But as we reflect on His suffering, on the love His shows for His people, He is inviting us to understand: “I have done this for you.” Jesus underwent His Passion and died on the Cross for you, for your sins. When we truly grasp this very personal nature of what Jesus has done for us, how can we not be moved? How can we simply go to Mass and passively listen without being reminded of the immense love the Lord has for you and for me?

The next time you are at Mass, pay close attention to the words of consecration, and receive those words Jesus meant for you to hear in a personal and powerful way, that the gift He is offering of Himself, shared with us in the Eucharist, has been done for you.

As a reminder, we have a weekly reflection question to keep in mind as you watch the next episode of Presence. It can be found on the bottom right corner of this page.

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

Mass Intentions

Monday, March 13

7am - John Brunk & Deceased Family (Estate)
12:05pm - Joseph Klein (Andrew & Cheryl Klein)
5:15pm - Joann Vicari (Southern Family)

Tuesday, March 14

7am - Brother Francis Skube (Marge Sebille)
12:05pm - Dick Dhabalt & Family (Linda Howell)
5:15pm - Betty Willis (Russ & Jan Militello)

Wednesday, March 15

7am - Stephanie Sandidge (Sue Sandidge)
12:05pm - Pat Kienzler (Vicki Compton)
5:15pm - Irvin Larry Smith (Beverly & Larry Smith)

Thursday, March 16

7am - John & Edith Bakalar (John Busciacco)
12:05pm - Richard Dhabalt (Dale & Jane Grieser)
5:15pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway (Robert Gasaway)

Friday, March 17

7am - Sophia Bartoletti (Estate of Sophia Bartoletti)
12:05pm - Thomas McGee Family (Tom McGee)
5:15pm - Mary Jane Kerns (Estate)

Saturday, March 18

8am - The Janusick Family
4pm - Mary Dwyer (Barbara Bitschenauer)

Sunday, March 19

7am - For The People
10am - Deceased Members of the CCCW (CCCW)
5pm - Joseph Fassero (Leo & Norma Dougherty)

Presence Discussion Question #3

How do we participate in the sacrifice of Jesus in the Eucharist? What are some practical ways to be intentional about participating in this way?

See the announcements at the end of the bulletin for more information, including how to sign up for a free FORMED account.



Stabat Mater Part II

Our praying of the Stations of the Cross is meant to unite our hearts more deeply to the love that Jesus had for each one of us as he walked to Calvary. Mary is the one who embodies this closeness to Jesus, because while she did not physically die like Jesus, she was united to him in his suffering and death. I love the scene in The Passion of the Christ in which Jesus meets Mary while he carries his cross. In the chaos, Mary had somehow found a way to greet and comfort her son. In this depiction, Mary simply says, "Son," to Jesus, and he replies, "See, Mother, I make all things new." This quote is taken from Jesus in the book of Revelation, and I think it is artistically appropriate to place these words on his lips as he meets his mother.

The fourth station of the Cross is when Jesus met his Blessed Mother. The following is from a meditation that St. John Paul II wrote on the fourth station: "Mary meets her son along the way of the Cross. His cross becomes her cross, his humiliation is her humiliation, the public scorn is on her shoulders. This is the way of the world. This is how it must seem to the people around, and this is how her heart reacts: "A sword will pierce your soul." The words spoken when Jesus was 40 days old are now coming true. They are reaching complete fulfillment. Although the pain is proper to her, striking deep into her maternal heart, the full truth of this suffering can be expressed only in terms of shared suffering – 'com-passion.' That word is part of the mystery; it expresses unity with the suffering of the Son."

Here are some more verses of the Stabat Mater for your prayer. Last week, I included the first part of the hymn.

*O, thou Mother, fount of love,
touch my spirit from above,
make my heart with thine accord.*

*Make me feel as thou has felt;
make my soul to glow and melt
with the love of Christ our Lord.*

*Holy Mother, pierce me through;
in my heart each wound renew
of my Saviour crucified.*

*Let met share with thee his pain,
who for all my sins was slain,
who for me in torments died.*

*Let me mingle tears with thee,
mourning Him Who mourned for me,
all the days that I may live.*

*By the cross with thee to stay,
there with thee to weep and pray,
this I ask of thee to give.*

*Fr. Dominic Vahling serves as a teacher and chaplain at
Sacred Heart-Griffin High School in Springfield.*

Stewardship of Treasure

March 5th & 6th

Envelopes	\$6,514.00
Loose	\$3,355.00
Maintenance	\$1,105.00
Total	\$10,974.00

February EFT

\$20,438.80

February Second Collections

Church in Central and Eastern Europe
\$2,947.00

Pregnancy Care Center
\$2,587.00

February Debt Reduction

\$732.00

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

Jon A. Quinn
Date of Death: February 24, 2023



St. Cyril of Jerusalem

Feast Day: March 18th| Bishop, Confessor, Father and Doctor of the Church| Imagery: Hand raised in Teaching and Blessing, Three Fingers together for the Trinity, Two for the Two Natures of Christ; Holding Book of Gospels or Scroll of His Preaching; Wearing Vestments and Pallium

St. Cyril may have been a heretic.

His life encompasses the most intense arguments throughout the Church about the Arian heresy, with many claiming that Christ was not fully God. Heresy is always popular, for it usually involves making the demands of the faith a bit easier and more comfortable. Now, Cyril was exiled from his see multiple times by the most stringent of those heretics. (The emperor Valens, who found political power by allying with the heresy, was happy to get him out of his hair). BUT, for the ways that he gained back his episcopacy, sliding towards a middle ground that wasn't quite heresy, but wasn't quite the truth of the faith, he was asked at the Ecumenical Council of Constance (in 381) to formally accept the homoousion (the "consubstantiality" of Christ with the Father.) Praise God that this shepherd of the Church had the humility to allow his own life and heart and conscience to be formed by the truth of Christ there articulated by the Church!

St. Cyril may have been a heretic, BUT he repented, and so is a Father and Doctor and Saint of the Church!

This week, we join his catechumens as he preaches to them for the final time after their entrance into the Church at Easter. Throughout Lent, he had personally taught them the foundational truths of the faith in 18 instructions: 1. An exhortation. 2. On sin, and confidence in God's pardon. 3. On baptism, how water, by the power of the Holy Spirit, sanctifies and seals the soul. 4. An abridged account of the Faith. 5. On the nature of faith. 6. On the monarchy of God (and the various heresies which deny it). 7. On the Father. 8. His omnipotence. 9. The Creator. 10. On the Lord Jesus Christ. 11. His Eternal Sonship. 12. His virgin birth. 13. His Passion. 14. His Resurrection & Ascension. 15. His second coming. 16-17. On the Holy Ghost. 18. On the resurrection of the body and the Catholic Church. Only once the catechumens had understood and accepted all of this, did Bp. Cyril – after their baptism – welcome them to their period of "mystagogy", letting God carry them into the heart of the "mysteries" of the faith. In five more sessions, he explained: 1. The renunciations of Satan which preceded baptism. 2. The effects of baptism. 3. Confirmation. 4. Holy Communion. 5. The Holy Mass for the living and the dead.

I think we could all use the reminder that he goes through all those many other truths of the faith before getting to the Blessed Sacrament! It is the source and summit of our faith; not a sacrament we should take lightly, for it presupposes our acceptance and understanding of everything else! Here's a few words from that final of his mystagogical conferences; you can read the rest by following the QR code!

"the Priest cries aloud, Lift up your hearts. For truly ought we in that most awful hour to have our heart on high with God, and not below, thinking of earth and earthly things. In effect therefore the Priest bids all in that hour to dismiss all cares of this life, or household anxieties, and to have their heart in heaven with the merciful God. Then ye answer, We lift them up unto the Lord: assenting to it, by your avowal. But let no one come here, who could say with his mouth, We lift up our hearts unto the Lord, but in his thoughts have his mind concerned with the cares of this life. At all times, rather, God should be in our memory but if this is impossible by reason of human infirmity, in that hour above all this should be our earnest endeavour."

[Cyril of Jerusalem, "Catechetical Lecture", Number 23, Paragraph 4]

Fr. Dominic Rankin has to mention another emperor who went on the attack against the faith, and the faithful bishop. Julian, who had apostatized from the Christian faith, tried to disprove Christ's prophecy of the destruction of the Temple [Luke 21:6:] by rebuilding the Jerusalem Temple while Cyril was bishop there. (Cyril, it would seem, took Exodus 14:14 to heart: "The Lord will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.") Ammianus Marcellinus, a contemporary, pro-Julian, secular historian reports what happened next: "though this Alypius [Julian's delegated architect] pushed the work on with vigor, aided by the governor of the province, terrifying balls of flame kept bursting forth near the foundations of the temple, and made the place inaccessible to the workmen, some of whom were burned to death; and since in this way the element persistently repelled them, the enterprise halted." [Ammianus Marcellinus, "Roman Antiquities", XXIII.1.] St. Gregory of Nazianzus reports the same: "they began to debate about rebuilding the Temple, and in large number and with great zeal set about the work. ... when they were forcing their way and struggling about the entrance a flame issued forth from the sacred place [church] and stopped them, and some it burnt up and consumed so that a fate befell them similar to the disaster of the people of Sodom, or to the miracle about Nadab and Abiud, who offered incense and perished so strangely..." [St. Gregory Nazianzen, "Oration 5: Second Inveictive Against Julian." #4]



SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

CCCW Garage Sale Donations

Start your Spring Cleaning or downsizing now and donate to the CCCW Garage Sale! All proceeds benefit our Scholarship fund, our parish and other local charitable organizations. Arrangements can be made for donation pick up or we can meet you at the atrium entrance on Mondays and Fridays. Please call or text 217-691-6333 to arrange a drop off or pick up. Thank you!

CCCW Lenten Soup Suppers

Looking for dinner options during Lent? Join the women of CCCW for Lenten Soup Suppers next Wednesday, March 22, beginning at 6pm in the Atrium. All are welcome!

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!

Lord, Teach us to Pray

Lent is a time during which the Church invites us to deepen our relationship with the Lord through prayer. While we desire to be prayerful people, we humbly acknowledge that "we do not know how to pray as we ought." (Rom 8:26), thus our asking Jesus, as His disciples did: "Lord, teach us to pray." (Lk 11:1) Come and join Father Alford for a Lenten series on learning how to grow in our life of prayer. Sessions will be at 7:00 pm in the Atrium on the first four Mondays of Lent. Please bring your Bible and something with which to take notes.

Mondays, February 27, March 6, 13, & 20 @ 7pm

Fearless and Free - Experiencing Healing and Wholeness in Christ

This six-week women's Bible study provides a firm foundation to stand on no matter what life throws our way. Based on the book of Ephesians, this study ideal for women who long for wholeness of heart and are in need of freedom from past wounds. Call 217/522-3342 or email vcompton@cathedral.dio.org to order a book and reserve your spot.

Thursday evenings, March 30-May 11 (no meeting on Holy Thursday) @ 6:00pm, Cathedral School Library, \$20 for the book

Sunday Holy Hour and Evening Prayer during Lent

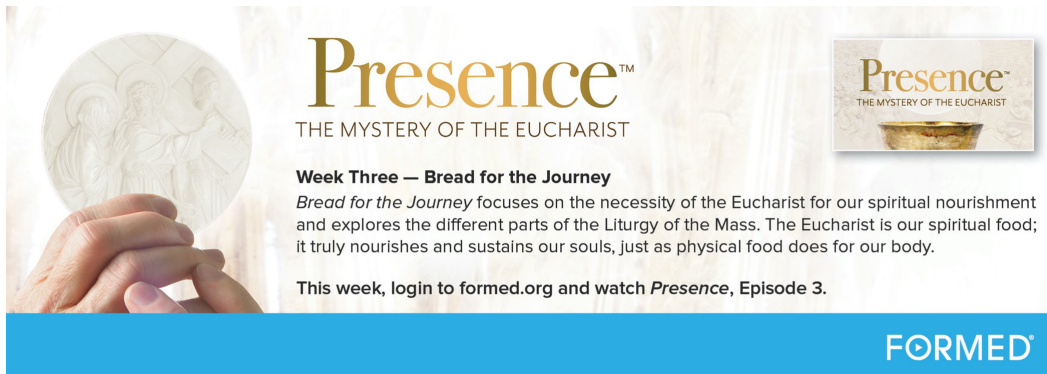
Beginning February 26, and each Sunday during Lent, Cathedral will have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 4:00 p.m., followed by Evening Prayer at 4:30 p.m. Evening Prayer (also called Vespers) is part of the Liturgy of the Hours where the Church fulfills Jesus' command to "pray always." In this prayer we come together to sanctify the day by praise of God and prayers of intercession for the needs of the world. Handouts will be available. No experience necessary. The sacrament of reconciliation also will be available during this time, and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at the conclusion of Evening Prayer (around 4:45 pm). Our usual Sunday 5:00 p.m. Mass will follow. Join us during Lent for this added devotion.

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.

Parish-Wide Study - Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist

With FORMED, we have an opportunity to grow as a parish family in our understanding of God's true presence in the world today. We want to invite you to participate in a video-based study on formed.org called PRESENCE: THE MYSTERY OF THE EUCHARIST. With beautiful film-making and powerful teaching, the PRESENCE series will move your heart and give you plenty to discuss as a family or as a group of friends over the next 4 weeks. If you have not already created a FORMED account, you can do so by visiting www.signup.formed.org/ and searching for our parish name or zip code (62703).



Presence™
THE MYSTERY OF THE EUCHARIST

Week Three — Bread for the Journey
Bread for the Journey focuses on the necessity of the Eucharist for our spiritual nourishment and explores the different parts of the Liturgy of the Mass. The Eucharist is our spiritual food; it truly nourishes and sustains our souls, just as physical food does for our body.

This week, login to formed.org and watch *Presence*, Episode 3.

FORMED

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

Fine Art Fair at Christ the King

Please join Christ the King for a Fine Art Fair on Saturday, March 18, from 10am-3pm. There is a \$5 adult fee, and the show is for the charity "HOPE". Proceeds go toward a medical clinic in Central America.

"Our Journey of Faith" SDCCW Lenten Retreat

The Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women invites all women to attend our annual Lenten Retreat at Villa Maria in Springfield beginning at 9:00 am on Tuesday March 28th and ending at noon on Wed. March 29th. Kim Paden, retreat master, will take us on "our journey of faith". She is the Chair of the Spirituality Commission for the National Council of Catholic Women and writes periodically for The Catholic Post, the newspaper for the Catholic Diocese of Peoria. What a wonderful time for spiritual presentations, prayer, Holy Mass, Confession, fellowship and much more. Bring your sister, your mom, your friend. All are welcome! Registration forms with cost and further information is available in the atrium.

Pregnancy Care Center Spring Luncheon

The Pregnancy Care Center of Springfield, Inc. will hold its 39th Annual Spring Luncheon on Monday, April 3rd at the Northfield Inn and Suites. Entertainment will be provided by the Rochester High School Madrigals. This year's raffle item is \$250 in restaurant gift cards. Raffle tickets are \$10 and will be sold at the event only. There will also be a bake sale and a silent auction. Doors will open at 10:30 a.m. and lunch will be served at noon. Reservations are required by March 27th. Seats are \$30 each or \$240 for a table of eight. Reservations can be made by calling the office at (217) 525-5630.

FROM FARMING TO FISHING

Raul and Rhodora were coconut farmers in their town in the Philippines, but it took a lot of work before they made money. They participated in a Catholic Relief Services program that helped them build their own fishpond to raise and sell fish. The fish provide nutritious food for their family and more accessible income, enabling Raul and Rhodora's granddaughters to attend school. What changes have you made in your professional, personal or spiritual life that have benefited others? Visit csrricebowl.org to learn more.

Second Collection - Catholic Relief Services

The Catholic Relief Services Collection. Your support for this collection aids victims of persecution and natural disasters, provides legal services to poor immigrants, and advocates for the powerless. Through your generosity, six Catholic agencies reveal Christ's love to the vulnerable refugee, the immigrant family, and those who are poor and marginalized. Please prayerfully consider contributing to The Catholic Relief Services Collection next week. Thank you for your generosity!

Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Join Msgr. David Hoefler on a trip of a lifetime! Sail the Sea of Galilee, walk the Via Dolorosa, and walk the places where Jesus walked. The trip is from November 27-December 7, 2023. Those interested are invited to attend an informative meeting on March 19th at 6:00 p.m. at the Catholic Pastoral Center, 1615 West Washington. The meeting may also be attended virtually. For more information, please visit www.holylandtoursllc.com or email edanaher@dio.org.

Butler Funeral Home 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, March 16th

11:30 am - 1:30 pm

American Legion - Post 32, Mess Hall

1120 E. Sangamon Ave.

Springfield, IL 62702

Complimentary lunch will be provided. This event is free: no cost or obligation. Please call 217-544-4646 to reserve your space no later than Monday, March 13th.

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.