

MAY 14, 2023 | 6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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

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

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VOLUME 5 ISSUE 20

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

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

THE REVEREND PAUL LESUPATI PAROCHIAL VICAR THE REVEREND DOMINIC RANKIN IN RESIDENCE THE REVEREND DOMINIC VAHLING IN RESIDENCE

DEACON ROBERT SGAMBELLURI

DEACON IRVIN LAWRENCE SMITH

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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!

RECTOR'S COLUMN





40 Hours Devotion

In February 2006, I stepped foot into a seminary for the first time. I was attending a priesthood discernment retreat at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary in St. Louis with nearly 40 other young men. There were many graces from that retreat, but one in particular comes to mind as I think back on that memorable weekend. It happened on Friday night, the first night of the retreat. After dinner, we went to the main chapel of the seminary for a time of Eucharistic Adoration. What I did not realize at the time was that we were gathering to mark the beginning of a special devotion known as the 40 Hours Devotion.

The 40 Hours Devotion involves adoration of the Blessed Sacrament for 40 continuous hours, breaking only for the celebration of daily Mass. We know that 40 is a significant number when it comes to our faith, so it is a fitting number of hours for this devotion. During those hours, the men in the seminary would sign up in groups of two to spend an hour in front of the Blessed Sacrament, meaning that prayer was being offered that entire time. The thought of that really struck me, and it was such a blessing to be able to stop in the chapel during the retreat to see Jesus present on the altar with two young men kneeling in front of Him in adoration.

Once I entered the seminary, this tradition continued. My first year, one of my friends mentioned that he was going to sign up for a time in the middle of the night. I thought that sounded a little difficult, but I decided to do likewise. I went to bed early and rose with my alarm ten or so minutes before I needed to be in the chapel. Myself and the other seminarian who signed up for the 2 AM slot entered in and took our places. I looked up at Jesus who was right in front of me and entered into the silence. Before I knew it, I heard the footsteps of the next pair, coming to replace us! The time flew by in a way that I had never experienced before. From that point on, I tried to be one of the first in line to sign up for a slot so that I could claim one of those hours in the middle of the night.

From my experience of the 40 Hours Devotion while in seminary, I had always hoped this would be something that I could bring to a parish to which I would be assigned in the future. I am happy to say that we hosted a 40 Hours Devotion two years ago in the days leading up to Pentecost. After taking last year off, we are planning to bring 40 Hours back for the days leading up to the Solemnity of the Body and Blood of Christ, better known as *Corpus Christi* from June 9-11. During that time, we will be inviting you to consider signing up for an hour with the Lord. We will begin on Friday, June 9 with an Opening Mass at 5:15 PM and conclude with the celebration of the 10 AM Mass on Sunday, June 21, which will include a Eucharistic Procession in the nearby streets. If you are trying to do the math, with breaks for Mass, that will leave us just short of 40 hours technically, but with daily masses being just 30 minutes, and the Sunday 7 AM usually not taking more than 45 minutes, we will be pretty close to 40 hours.

I plan to write more about 40 Hours in the next couple of weeks as we prepare for this beautiful devotion, but in the meantime, please mark your calendars for those days. Beginning next weekend, we will have volunteers available after the masses so you can sign up. We will also be sending out an email with information about how to sign up.

One final thing – do you remember how I asked the parish to add a 4th Hail Mary during this Eucharistic Year? Perhaps you can particularize that intention in these days, asking Mary's intercessions that many will come to encounter her Son in this beautiful devotion.

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

Mass Intentions Monday, May 15

7am - Sister Consolata Crews (Chris Sommer) 5:15pm - William F. & Shirley Logan (Lisa Logan & Lori Logan Motyka)

Tuesday, May 16

7am - John W. Montgomery (John Busciacco) 5:15pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway (Robert Gasaway)

Wednesday, May 17

7am - Sophia Bartoletti (Estate) 5:15pm - Deacon Michael "Kim" Scott (Bev & Larry Smith)

Thursday, May 18

7am - Brother Frances Skube (Marge Sebille) 5:15pm - John Brunk & Deceased Family (Estate)

Friday, May 19

7am - Herb Dulle (Patrick & Sue Ann Landgrebe) 5:15pm - Jean Borre & Intentions (Richard & Kay King)

Saturday, May 20

8am - John Ansell (The Lemanski Family) 4pm - For the People

Sunday, May 21

7am - Deceased Members of the CCCW (CCCW) 10am - Mary Kay Butler Harrelson (Bev Hoffman) 5pm - Mercedes & Charles Nesbitt (Kathy Frank)

CONTEMPLATION CORNER





St. Paschal Baylón

Feast Day: May 17th | Lay Franciscan Brother | Imagery: Robed as a Franciscan, Carrying or Worshipping the Eucharist, Surrounded by Sheep

Poverty doesn't guarantee you will become a saint, but Jesus was poor, and a whole lot of saints have learned sanctity in the school of scarcity. St. Paschal was one of them. He was born on the feast of Pentecost in 1540 to peasant parents in the Kingdom of Aragon in Spain. At that time, children were often given names based on the feast day on which they were born, and so, being born on the culmination of the season after Easter, the Baylón baby was named "Paschal".

He would be a shepherd for most of his early life, spending much of his life out in the hills guiding and protecting his family's flock. During those hours, having been given the Little Office of the Blessed Virgin Mary (a collection of psalms, prayers, and hymns similar to the Divine Office that all priests and religious promise to pray), whenever he came across someone who could read, he would ask them to teach him another word or phrase, slowly learning how to pray the prayers that he carried with him everywhere. Already, he was noted to have a supernatural generosity, giving away part of his food to feed those poorer than himself, and an integrity and humility beyond that of his fellow shepherds.

Gradually these virtues allowed him to hear the gentle call of Christ to religious life. He was directed towards a number of wellendowed monasteries but having come to know Christ in his early poverty, Paschal knew to reject the attraction/temptation of a more comfortable road, not wanting to neglect where Christ had already been working in his heart. At the age of 25 he entered the Reformed Franciscans, discerning during his novitiate that the Lord was not calling him to priesthood but to the simple life of a Franciscan Lay Brother. He would spend a number of his years humbly manning the door, waiting for people to come by

and attending to their needs. (Several saints held this same role in their communities!: Andre Bessette, John Masias, Charles of Sezze, Didacus of Alcala, Alphonsus Rodriguez, Benito Solana Ruiz, Bonaventure of Barcelona, and Bl. Solanus Casey. Don't think that holding the door for someone or picking up the phone is not a path to sainthood!)

However, he was also entrusted with quite arduous labors, including a mission to the Calvinist and Huguenot heretics, attempting to renew in them their belief in Christ's presence in the Blessed Sacrament. One could questions whether he was successful at this – given the mob that formed and almost killed him – but it seems that his measure of success was not that of this world, but perhaps that of God, because his own generosity, humility, and devotion to prayer before the Tabernacle, were undaunted by the rejection. He died of an illness in 1592, only 52 years old, and without many accomplishments that the world would count important – caring for sheep, praying for hours, kindness to all?? – but he was immediately acclaimed a saint, miracles were rampant at his tomb, and he is a patron saint of Eucharistic Congresses and Eucharistic Devotion. May he pray for us as we seek renewal in our own Eucharistic love! It seems that we probably should start with some kind of poverty...

Fr. Dominic Rankin often looks for consolation in food. Example at hand: a piece of dark chocolate and a few tablespoons of peanut butter went into the composition of this article... But holiness is not going to be found there! St. Paschal points us towards the importance of feeling hungry at times – whether physically or in other ways – and then directing our hunger, our poverty, towards the Bread of Life. If we aren't ever hungry, we won't adequately appreciate Christ's gift, and if we don't fill our hunger with Heavenly Food, we're apt to be stuck with chocolate and peanut butter for all eternity. (Which, I promise, will not satisfy us for very long.)

Stewardship of Treasure

April 29th & 30th

Envelopes:	\$5,717.00
Loose:	\$2,546.00
<u>Maintenance:</u>	\$160.00
Total:	\$8,423.00

May 6th & 7th

Envelopes:	\$5,075.00
Loose:	\$4,382.00
<u>Maintenance:</u>	<u>\$2,131.00</u>
Total:	\$11,588.00

April EFT

\$21,553.80

April Second Collections

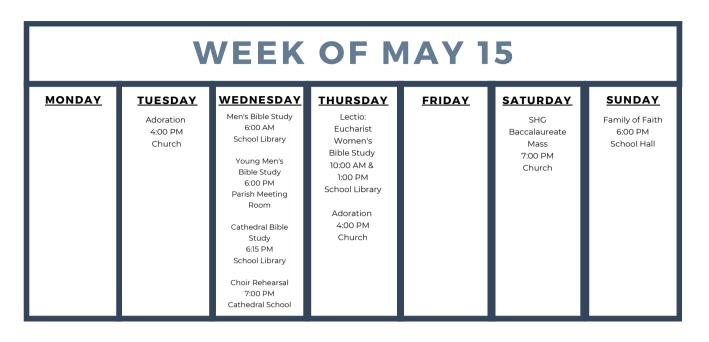
Holy Land \$3,554.58 Seminarians \$4,592.00 Catholic Home Missions \$2,221.00 St. Martin de Porres \$3,683.70

April Debt Reduction \$2,853.00

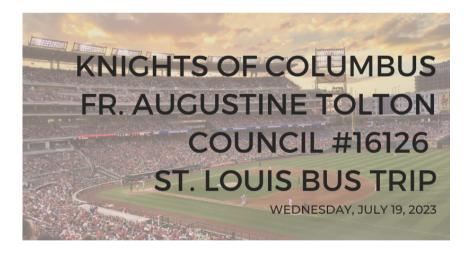
Online Giving: If you would like to extend a special gift to the Cathedral, please visit our website. Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS





What's Going on Around the Cathedral?



Sacraments

Baptisms

Marcello Dwight Sandidge & Ella Marie Sandidge Children of Clayton Sandidge & Daniela Marval Baptized on April 21, 2023

> Miller Jett Turasky Child of JT & Kelsey Turasky Baptized on April 30, 2023

K of C Fr. Augustine Tolton Council #16126 St. Louis Cardinals Bus Trip

Ready to start scheduling your summer plans? On Wednesday, July 19th join Fr. Augustine Tolton Council #16126 as we take a charter bus down to St. Louis for a seminary tour and St. Louis Cardinals game. Fr. Alford will give us a tour of Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, where several of the seminarians from the Diocese attend, and celebrate mass there. That afternoon we will be attending a St. Louis Cardinals game before returning to Springfield that evening. Additional details including an itinerary can be found at the link below. There are 40 spots on the bus available, and an additional 20 spots for those that would like to transport themselves. The cost is \$65/person for a spot on the bus and ticket (section 265) to the game. If you would like to provide your own transportation the cost is \$20 for a ticket. You can reserve your spot now by visiting the link below. If you have any questions about the trip you can contact info.kofc16126@gmail.com. https://tinyurl.com/2p823x3x



Baby Bottle Boomerang

Our parish is once again participating in Baby Bottle Boomerang to support First Step Women's Center. In 2022, 138 mothers who were facing an unintended pregnancy, chose life! First Step provides compassionate, comprehensive care at no cost to the patient. Please pick up a baby bottle or an envelope, fill it with cash or a check and return it in the collection basket by the end of the month. For more information about First Step Women's Center, or to make a donation online, go to <u>http://www.cultureoflifespringfield.org/</u>

The Way of St. James

Parishioner Jane Fornoff is walking the Camino this month. The "Camino de Santiago," or the Way of St. James, is the ancient route leading from the Pyrenees to the famous and ancient shrine of Santiago de Compostela. A documentary on the Way of St. James is available via Formed: https://watch.formed.org/the-way-of-saint-james

Please keep Jane in your prayers!

Also, for one night only on May 16, *The Way* with Martin Sheen, is being shown in movie theaters. The Way is not a Catholic film, but is rife with themes of baptism, trust, surrender, humility, transformation, community and encounter with God.

"For I was hungry, and you gave me food..."

Holy Family Food Pantry is especially in need of peanut butter & jelly, pancake mix & syrup and saltine crackers. Place donations in the blue bin in the atrium. Thank you for your generosity!

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, May 18th 11:30 am - 1:30 pm Prairie View Reception Center 8865 State Rte. 4 Chatham, Illinois 62629

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, May 15th.

Second Collection - Catholic Communication Campaign

This May, our diocese will take up a collection for the Catholic Communication Campaign (CCC). Fifty percent of collected funds stay in the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois and the other 50 percent support communications projects in the United States and around the world. Over the past year, our diocese had several big announcements and news stories that were important for the people of our diocese to know. Through Catholic Times, social media, podcasting, and other digital methods, our diocese is taking advantage of several communication outlets to spread the news of our diocese, teach the faith, and provide hope and encouragement to people no matter where they are in their faith life. With your generosity, we can continue creating engaging content and bring people closer to our faith or even back to our faith. Parishioners can donate online at parishgiving.dio.org/secondcollections or use their second collection envelope. You can also mail your donation to the parish office. For more information about the collection and the projects it supports, visit www.usccb.org/ccc.

Livestream Ministry Team

While most of us have been back to in-person Mass for quite a while, there are still some beloved members of our parish family whose physical limitations prevent them from attending Sunday Mass. Our ability to livestream the Mass is a tremendous gift to those who are unable to be with us in person. You are invited to be part of this ministry team by serving on the team that livestreams the Sunday 10:00 Mass and Holy Day and Triduum liturgies. If you would like to help us serve our housebound parishioners in this way, please contact the parish office to arrange for a brief training. 217/522-3342

Grief Share

Cathedral parish will once again 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 23, 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 @ 217/899-6637 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.

AROUND OUR DIOCESE AND BEYOND



Weirdly Christian

For some time, I have worn a brown scapular. If you don't know much about this devotional practice, here is a very quickand-dirty version, greatly lacking in detail: it's two little pieces of brown cloth, connected by a cord and worn around the neck beneath one's clothing. One of the cloth pieces depicts Our Lady of Mount Carmel appearing to St. Simon Stock, and the other piece — the one that is sometimes visible at the nape of my neck — depicts Our Lady's "scapular promise:" Whosoever dies clothed in this Scapular shall not suffer eternal fire.

This reflection is not about the brown scapular, but let me just quickly say that, while I believe the scapular promise, I do not view the scapular as a get-out-of-jail-free card, and neither does the Church. I don't wear it for the purpose of avoiding eternal fire. I wear it as a reminder to myself of my Marian consecration and as an act of humility and prayer.

I have sometimes cringed at the thought of how it looks to the person standing behind me in line at the coffee shop, should they happen to glimpse my scapular and read its brazen promise. We don't go in for talk of hellfire and salvation in polite society these days. I wonder if they think I'm a crazy person. I wonder if I should try to tuck the scapular back down below my collar.

Sometimes I do. But more often than not, I take a deep breath and decide that it's okay for me to feel self-conscious and trust that, if God wants to use this moment for His glory, he will — and if He doesn't, all I've lost is the esteem of others, which isn't worth that much to begin with.

I've always heard it said that if you do Christianity right, the rest of the world should think you're just a little bit weird.

"...the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot accept, because it neither sees nor knows him." — John 14:17

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman ©LPi

Around the Diocese

- **Memorial Day Field Mass**, May 29th at 9:00 am at Calvary Cemetery of Springfield. Bishop Thomas John Paprocki will be the principal celebrant. Limited seating will be available under the tent. Lawn chairs are welcome. Transportation will be available to assist visitors from the main gate to the Mass site. Call the Calvary Cemetery office at 217-523-3726 Monday- Friday 8am-4pm with any questions.
- Mark Your Calendar for a Diocesan-Wide Celebration at the BOS Center in Springfield, a Eucharistic Congress is taking place Saturday, October 28 at the BOS Center in Springfield. This major event will include talks from nationally recognized Catholic speakers, adoration, confession, and Mass where the arena will be packed with thousands of Catholics from across the diocese. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. with the first speaker starting at 1 p.m., and Mass begins at 4 p.m. Stay tuned for how to get free tickets!
- Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, November 27-December 7, 2023. For more information, please visit www.holylandtoursllc.com or email edanaher@dio.org.