

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

MAY 21, 2023 | 7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER - THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD



524 EAST LAWRENCE AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
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FOUNDED IN 1839 | DEDICATED IN 1928 | BUILT ON FAITH, RENEWED IN HOPE IN 2009

Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 21

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!



Why 40 Hours Devotion?

The question some may be asking is why should one partake in the 40 Hours Devotion? The most obvious answer is to spend time with the Lord in adoration. Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist and by setting aside time for adoration, we take time to be with the one who loves us, who has called us friends. But there are other reasons for us to participate in this beautiful devotion. In doing some research on the history of this devotion, I came across the following:

While the Forty Hours Devotion nurtures the love of the faithful for our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament, three special dimensions have also surrounded this devotion: the protection from evil and temptation; reparation for our own sins and for the Poor Souls in Purgatory; and deliverance from political, material, or spiritual calamities. Here the faithful implore our Lord to pour forth His abundant graces not only for themselves, but their neighbors, not only for their own personal needs, but for those of the world.

In other words, spending time in adoration can serve to strengthen our awareness of being a part of the Body of Christ, which is the Church. As members of that body, we have the privilege of supporting other members of the body through our prayers. Think of the more than 1 billion Catholics scattered throughout the world, and how when we spend time in prayer, we bring them with us, in a sense, praying for their needs. It can be a helpful practice to spend part of our time in adoration calling to mind the various intentions of the members of the Body of Christ, those who are known to us and those who are unknown. Having that awareness of being able to pray for the Church gives us a little more motivation for coming before the Lord in adoration. I sometimes think to myself in prayer – “Perhaps my being here in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament is making possible somebody somewhere in the Church to realize, maybe for the first time, that God loves them.” As I mentioned in my previous article about praying in the middle of the night, I find it helpful to pray for those who are out and about during those hours, such as first responders or people working in hospitals. I also think about how at 2 am, there may be some less than virtuous actions taking place, and I offer prayers of reparation for those sins, begging God to grant conversion of heart to those who are stuck in a pattern of sin.

Another thought that I find helpful to think of when in adoration is to unite myself spiritually with those members of the Body of Christ who, while I am in prayer, are also praying in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. There is probably somebody in the adoration chapel at Blessed Sacrament here in town at that time. There are perpetual adoration chapels all over the world, and it's comforting to know that we are all praying together. Perhaps there is somebody who has a dying family member in the hospital, and that person has gone down to the hospital chapel to pray for their loved one. There are certainly contemplative religious scattered throughout the world, dedicating so many of their waking hours to prayer. We can unite ourselves to all of these people, and know that those who are praying are doing likewise for us.

I hope that some of these reflections on the communal nature of adoration are helpful to you in motivating you to consider signing up for an hour or two during our 40 Hours Devotion. First and foremost, you will deepen your relationship with Jesus, but you may also be providing the prayers that somebody in the Body of Christ needs for their relationship with the Lord. Perhaps only in Heaven will we understand the impact one hour has had on the Church, but one hour given to the Lord could be just what somebody needs in order to accept the gift of Eternal Life.

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 22

7am - John & Edith Bakalar
(John Busciacco)
5:15pm - Mark Beagles
(Tom McGee Family)

Tuesday, May 23

7am - Brother Frances Skube
(Friends)
5:15pm - Mary Jane Kerns
(Estate)

Wednesday, May 24

7am - Scott Pauley
(Bev Hoffman)
5:15pm - Mildred & Edward Nelson Sr.
(Angela Ohl-Marsters)

Thursday, May 25

7am - Sophia Bartoletti
(Estate)
5:15pm - John Brunk
(Family)

Friday, May 26

7am - For the People
(Carol West)
5:15pm - NO MASS

Saturday, May 27

8am - NO MASS
4pm - Richard Dhabalt
(Dale & Jane Grieser)

Sunday, May 28

7am - Diana Schumacher
(Daniel Schumacher)
10am - Sophia Bartoletti
(Estate)
5pm - For the People



St. Phillip Neri

Feast Day: May 26th | Priest, Second Apostle of Rome, Founder of Oratories of Secular Clergy | Imagery: Priestly garb, especially "Neri Style" Chasuble; Looking up to Heaven, Surrounded by saints, or children, White beard, Heart aflame, Holding lilies, Book, or Crucifix| Patronage: Laughter, Comedians, Artists, Writers

Fr. Philip Neri's final day was pretty typical for him: hearing confessions, celebrating Mass, engaging visitors in banter as well as spiritual conversation, living with brother priests in one of the oratories that he founded. And, it was Corpus Christi, the day on which the whole Church celebrates the Body and Blood of Christ! He had begun his walk after the Lord as the Council of Trent was radically calling all Christians, especially priests, back to holiness and a faithfulness to the truths of the faith. Philip was not yet a priest, but had already begun to meet with ardent laymen and women, talking about the faith, assisting the poor, going on excursions outside of Rome to visit the ancient churches (he restored the tradition of walking between the 7 most ancient of the cities churches, which stretched back to the first seven deacons of that city) and enjoy each other's company over picnics and singing and praying together (he began the famous 40-hour devotions that continue to our day, when people sign up for shifts over an entire weekend to accompany Our Lord in Adoration of His presence in the Eucharist!)

He would bring this ardor, and joy, to his ministry as a priest as well. Often called the "Second Apostle of Rome" (after St. Peter himself, though of course St. Paul had also finished his life in the Eternal City), by his example and candor, Philip had brought so many people back to the practice of their faith, and a joyful practice of the faith, that he earned this astonishing title! One famous story comes to my mind that illustrates these characteristics and indicates his holiness.

As persecution against the Church raged in England (following Henry VIII's defection from the Church having been refused an annulment of his valid marriage to Catherine of Aragon; though probably at the time of this story the persecution continued under Queen Elizabeth I), Fr. Philip would sit outside of his oratory greeting those that walked by, and each day the seminarians who had fled England to receive their formation elsewhere, and who were preparing in Rome to return to their persecuted homeland, would walk past on their way to class. The every-cheerful Philip would call out to the plucky young men "Salvete flores martyrum!" The phrase literally means "Greetings flowers of the martyrs!", and I suspect would remind each of them the seriousness of their vocation! (The holy Philip had been asked by one of the first to go back to England for his blessing before that new priest strode into the jaws of death and apparently he took it as his work there in Rome to encourage the young men in the preparations for such a fate.)

That story is actually passed onto us by St. John Henry Newman, who would convert from Anglicanism to Catholicism some 300 years later in England, experiencing a very different kind of persecution there, one, at least, that didn't lead to his death. It reminds me that each of us is given the precise grace we need to be God's instrument in our lives. Philip didn't head off to England to die a martyr's death – God didn't ask that of him – but perhaps those young priests that were called to the ultimate sacrifice, received just enough grace each morning to stay faithful each day to the Lord's call to them.

Fr. Dominic was ordained a priest on May 26th, St. Philip Neri's feast day. Many of the days while he was studying in Rome he walked past the Church where St.

Philip is buried, Chiesa Nuovo and recalled one or more of the many wonderful stories told about the great saint. One final tale: to a person who confessed the sin of gossip, Philip asked for their penance that they tear open a feather pillow from the Church's belltower ... and then go and try to collect all the feathers. Detraction is similarly impossible to reverse!

Stewardship of Treasure

May 13th & 14th

Envelopes:	\$5,472.00
Loose:	\$3,619.00
Maintenance:	\$107.00
Total:	\$9,198.00

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!

Sacraments

Baptisms

Abigail Marie Biris
Child of Brian & Anne Biris
Baptized on May 13, 2023

Isadora Gabriella Gobble
Child of Joseph & Celeste Gobble
Baptized on May 13, 2023

WEEK OF MAY 22

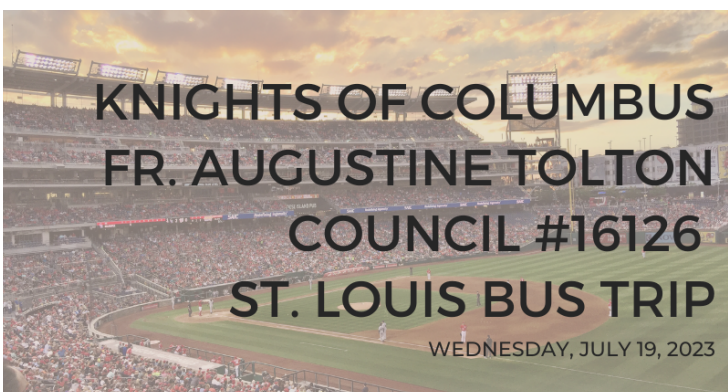
<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>
	Grief Share 12:30 PM School Library Adoration 4:00 PM Church	Men's Bible Study 6:00 AM School Library Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM Cathedral School	Lectio: Eucharist Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM School Library Adoration 4:00 PM Church Knights of Columbus #16126 Meeting 6:00 PM School CCCW Meeting 6:00 PM School Hall	Deaconate Ordination 6:00 PM Church		

What's Going on Around the Cathedral?



First Friday Concert - June 2, 2023

Join us for our First Friday Concert Series! June's concert will feature Adam Chlebek, Organ. The First Friday Concert Series is sponsored by the Staab Family, and is free and open to the public. All are welcome!



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>

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Second Collection - Retired Diocesan Priests

Each year on the feast of Pentecost we rejoice that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are given to the Church in every age. As we celebrate this feast, please consider a generous response in the Retired Diocesan Priests Collection to meet the immediate retirement and health care needs of our priests. Please pray for our priests who serve so generously in various apostolates throughout our diocese. Please thank God for all that we have received from our priests who are now retired, many of whom continue to offer generous service in every way that they are able throughout our diocese. If you are unable to make an in-church contribution, please make your donation online at parishgiving.dio.org/secondcollections. You can also mail your donation to the parish office. Thank you for your support.

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

Baby Bottle Boomerang

Will you help raise \$100 to help rescue lives? The Baby Bottle campaign funds the life-saving work that First Step Women's Center offers to mothers making unplanned pregnancy decisions. 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 <http://www.cultureoflifefield.org/> Thank you for supporting life!

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Teenage Mental Health with Sister Josephine Garrett is a series of 17 short videos designed for parents, mentors, and youth ministers. This series covers many aspects of teenage mental health from information about the crises of teenage mental health, as well as practical tips for accompanying teens in caring for their mind, body, and soul. <https://watch.formed.org/teenage-mental-health-with-sister-josephine-garrett>

Pentecost Novena on Formed

Join us in praying the original novena with the apostles as we await the promise of the Father (Acts 1:4) at Pentecost. Beginning May 19: <https://watch.formed.org/pentecost-novena>

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.

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!

"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!

Thank You!

The Pregnancy Care Center would like to thank the generous parishioners of the Cathedral for their donations made during the recent second collection at Mass. We are truly humbled by your continued support of our mission and help with keeping services free to our clients. Your assistance is so important to us, especially during these difficult times we are facing. Thank you for all you do to help the women and families we serve!

Seeking Christ in One Another

The funeral luncheon, the Irish wake, the vigil at an ailing loved one's bedside: in times of crisis, people gather. In moments of sadness, fear, and confusion, we gravitate toward one another. For some reason, the feelings are so much more bearable when we are not alone.

I'm sure that the disciples and their companions, gathered in the upper room after the Lord's Ascension, did all of the things we typically do at these functions. I'm sure they hugged and talked and shared food, processing together the remarkable events they had witnessed.

But we don't hear about any of that. We hear only that they prayed — fervently, and together.

Saint John Paul II famously said that "it is Jesus that you seek when you dream of happiness; He is waiting for you when nothing else you find satisfies you." And I think that, whenever we gather, in good times or in bad, we think we are seeking companionship — but we are actually seeking God.

As I think back on the last few crisis-gatherings my family has had, I try to remember when we have stopped everything to pray together. I can think of a few times, but to be honest, they are too few. We are usually occupied with more practical tasks: planning the funeral, talking to the doctor, making the decisions, ordering the food. Just trying to survive through it.

But this is the busywork of sorrow, and it is a waste of our time. We would do better to follow the example of the disciples and remember that, in these dire moments, God is waiting for us.

"Of you my heart speaks; you my glance seeks." — Psalm 27

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

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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.
- **The Little Way, A Journey Along St. Therese's Path of Confidence and Love Retreat**, July 13-16, 2023 at Villa Maria Catholic Life Center. All women are welcomed and invited to participate. For registration information visit <https://www.theresians.org/events.html>. Look for Midwest Regional. Online registration deadline is June 15. If you have questions, please contact Vicki Schmidt at 217.652.8632 or Email: v.schmidt55@outlook.com.
- **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.