

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

MAY 28, 2023 | PENTECOST SUNDAY



524 EAST LAWRENCE AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFICE: 217-522-3342
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FOUNDED IN 1839 | DEDICATED IN 1928 | BUILT ON FAITH, RENEWED IN HOPE IN 2009

Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 22

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!

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.



Growing the Fruits of the Holy Spirit

While visiting my parents in Wisconsin recently, my mom shared with me that she had purchased a few tomato plants to be planted in a new raised garden bed that my dad had just set up in the back yard. My mind immediately went to the delicious taste of fresh, home-grown tomatoes, one of my favorite summer treats! But as I looked at those plants sitting on the kitchen counter, I realized there was quite a journey ahead of them before they would bear the desired fruit for which they were created. The successful production of fruit would depend on the plants being properly cared for, ensuring that they get enough water, that the weeds get pulled, and that the deer stay away from the plants.

The image of tomato plants is one that often comes to mind when I think about the Holy Spirit, whose descent at Pentecost we celebrate today. In particular, I think of the fruits of the Spirit, so desirable to us. Here is how St. Paul lists them: "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control." (Gal 5:22-23) If you are like me, seeing this list makes my spiritual mouth water with a desire to have these fruits! But, as with those beloved tomato plants, to enjoy the fruits of the Spirit, we need to ensure that our souls are properly disposed to ensure the growth of these fruits. In other words, these fruits are not automatic. We cannot produce them on our own, but our cooperation with the Lord will give them the environment that they need in order to be present for our enjoyment as Christians.

Think of how weeds can slow the growth of a plant, and how if they are not controlled, can actually kill the plant, preventing it from producing any fruit. In the spiritual life, those weeds are our sins. Every time we come to Mass, we are called to acknowledge our sins, to humbly admit we have spiritual weeds in our lives. The Mass helps in removing those smaller weeds, known as venial sins. But some weeds (mortal sins) have deep roots and require a more intense uprooting, which is why we have the Sacrament of Reconciliation. So as you review the list of the fruits of the spirit, and wonder why you just cannot seem to be patient, joyful, or self-controlled, ask yourself this question: When was the last time I went to confession? If it's been more than a month or so, you are likely being prevented from enjoying these fruits due to unattended spiritual weeds which the Lord is more than happy to help remove in the sacrament of His mercy.

Another important element for growth with many plants is exposure to the sun. If there is no sun, or if the plants are in places that never get good sunlight, they are likely not to grow, at least not as effectively as they could. When it comes to growing in spiritual fruits, the same principle applies, but this time, we are in need of exposure to the Son. One of the ways that we do this is through daily prayer, when we place ourselves in the presence of the light that is Christ, who's loving gaze warms us and helps us to grow. In that regard, a way of getting maximal Son exposure is to spend time in prayer in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, especially in Eucharistic Adoration. The rays of Christ shine most powerfully on us during these times, strengthening us in His love, bringing about that transformation in our hearts that make room for the Spirit to work and grow in powerful ways.

Why not take advantage of this during our 40 Hours Devotion that will be taking place June 9-11? As you read this, I can guarantee there are still many open slots that need to be filled. But please do not hear that as just a plea that we need you to fill those slots. More importantly, I make the plea to remind you that you need this time for your own spiritual growth, so that we can more fully bear the fruits of the Holy Spirit in your life, for your good and the good of the Church.

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 29

7am - Gale Patrick
(The Fleck Family)
5:15pm - NO MASS

Tuesday, May 30

7am - Mary Urbanckas
(Troy Mathews)
5:15pm - Ron Nilsson
(Nilsson Family)

Wednesday, May 31

7am - Rachel Langdon
(Chris Sommer)
5:15pm - Lessie Meredith Dortch
(Beverly & Larry Smith)

Thursday, June 1

7am - Betty Rogers
(Family)
5:15pm - Danny Millburg
(Margaret Millburg & Family)

Friday, June 2

7am - Mary Jane Kerns
(Estate)
5:15pm - Intention for Bianca
(D.A. Drago)

Saturday, June 3

8am - Jordan Boone & Family
(Rose Kehoe)
4pm - Eulalia & Raymond Ohl
(Angela Ohl-Marsters)

Sunday, June 4

7am - John Ansell
(The Lemanski Family)
10am - For the People
5pm - Brother Frances Skube
(Community)



Sts. Marcellinus and Peter

Feast Day: June 2nd | Priest and Exorcist | Imagery: Middle-age Men, Tonsured, holding Palm or Crown indicating Martyrdom; Marcellinus in Chasuble, Peter in Alb

Fragments of their final days trickled out to their fellow Christians: of Peter's imprisonment, but then his marvelous deliverance of the jailor's daughter from demonic influence! Yet, the good priest Marcellinus, who came to baptize the family who had all chosen Christ, ended up imprisoned as well, both he and Peter held in horrible, tortuous, conditions. In a scene reminiscent of the worst viciousness man has inflicted on man, the priest Marcellinus and the exorcist Peter after their brutal

imprisonment were marched outside of Rome, ordered to clear the ground for their own grave, and were then beheaded. Those tasked with carrying out Diocletian's persecution did not want their bodies to be found.

But God had other plans! In a dream that very night, the two martyrs, now splendid and glorious, appeared before the Christian woman Lucilla, showing her where they had been martyred. Their bodies were carefully collected, and their relics have been passed down through all the ages of the Church since. Why such an importance on finding their bodies? Why not just pass on their story, their example, their courage? Why dig catacombs? Why risk life and limb to save the bodies of the martyrs? Why, when almost everything else about these men has been forgotten, do we remember their death, and reverence their bones?

Certainly, and perhaps most importantly, we care for the bodies of our dead because we believe that all of us will be resurrected to bodily eternal life. God created an entire material world, and seems to like it quite a lot, and all of it is meant, somehow, for eternal glory, especially our human bodies. This is precisely the truth underscored by Christ's ascension, with His human body, into Heavenly Glory. BUT, there is another dimension that we often forget: we also believe that all of us here and now, in our bodies, already give glory to God. Grace enters our world in a bodily way! "[T]he believer's body and soul already participate in the dignity of belonging to Christ. This dignity entails the demand that he should treat with respect his own body, but also the body of every other person, especially the suffering." [CCC1004] "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body." [1 Cor 6:19-20]

Christ's ascension is enacted within us now by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit! This was the Spirit that operated through Peter's touch to drive away Satan's oppression. This was the Spirit that allowed Marcellinus to overcome his natural fear of death and choose the path Christ placed before him, even if death may be the consequence. And this is the same Spirit that is given to all of us to persevere through our own share of hardship, to patiently respond when love is demanded of us, to choose the duty of our state in life and know how God has entrusted it to us, to place our confidence in God when it seems easier to handle it ourselves, to pray for someone when that is not what they asked of us, to give ourselves bodily to the work of God. It may not even feel "holy". You can still offer bodily sufferings to God when you're stuck in bed. You can still give Him glory when you didn't get a goal accomplished. You can still give Him thanks when you are fasting, or feasting. Sts. Marcellinus and Peter remind us that our bodies are sacred, they carry the Holy Spirit, and everything we do with them matters to God.

Fr. Dominic is currently sitting in a coffee shop, wishing he had gotten more of St. Francis de Sales read, and more of these articles written, and more emails sent ... but God didn't create our bodies just to get work done ... though that truth is one He continues to impart more and more deeply into me.

Stewardship of Treasure

May 20th & 21st

Envelopes:	\$7,234.00
Loose:	\$2,911.00
Maintenance:	\$236.00
Total:	\$10,381.00

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!

WEEK OF MAY 29

<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>
Parish Office Closed NO 5:15 PM Mass	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	Adoration 4:00 PM Church	First Friday Concert 7:00 PM Church		

What's Going on Around the Cathedral?

40 HOURS DEVOTION

Begins Friday, June 9
Opening Mass at 5:15 PM
Adoration begins at 6:00 PM

Through Sunday, June 11
Solemn Benediction at 10:00 AM
Eucharistic Procession to follow

40 Hours Devotion

The Cathedral will be hosting a 40 Hours Devotion from June 9-11, leading up to the celebration of the Feast of *Corpus Christi*. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for Adoration for 40 continuous hours for the faithful to spend time before our Eucharistic Lord, beginning on Friday, June 9 with an Opening Mass at 5:15 PM and concluding with the celebration of the 10 AM Mass on Sunday, June 11, which will include a Eucharistic Procession in the nearby streets. Please consider signing up for an hour during this time to pray in thanksgiving for the Lord's blessings and for greater openness to the working of the Holy Spirit in your lives. We are requesting a minimum of two people at a time for each hour. To sign up for a time slot, please visit <https://spicathedral.flocknote.com/signup/123014>

Cathedral First Friday Concert

JUNE 2, 2023
7 PM - 8 PM

Featuring
Adam Chlebek, Organ

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!

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS FR. AUGUSTINE TOLTON COUNCIL #16126 ST. LOUIS BUS TRIP

WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 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>

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



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>

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!

Baby Bottle Boomerang

It's time to return your baby bottle or envelope with your donation to support the life-saving work of First Step Women's Center. At First Step in 2022, 138 mothers who were facing an unintended pregnancy, chose life! For more information about First Step Women's Center, or to make a donation online, go to <http://www.cultureoflifefirststep.org/> Thank you for supporting life!

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!

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

Pregnancy Care Center Board Member

The Pregnancy Care Center of Springfield, Inc. is looking for individuals interested in becoming a member of the Board of Directors. The Center has been serving low-income pregnant women and their families from Springfield and surrounding communities since 1978. Board Members assist in promoting the Center along with fundraising events necessary to keep their services free to all clients. For more information please email the Center's Executive Director, Kara Gray at kara.gray@hshs.org.

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>

"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!

The Flame Communicated

"Fire! Fire! They're all gonna die! They're all gonna burn up!"

I had absolutely no hope of restoring order as I read the story of Pentecost with my young children last year. As soon as they glimpsed the tongues of fire hovering over the foreheads of the apostles, they were lost to giggles and shrieks. I sighed, sipped my coffee, and wondered resentfully why the Holy Spirit couldn't have chosen to be a dove on that particular day. Just a nice, peaceful dove.

I'll say this, though: the fire left an impression. It usually does, doesn't it? Fire consumes. It renews. It illuminates. It leaves you breathless with fear and awe. The memory and scent and impact of a flame lingers long after it is extinguished.

When I am trying to explain theology to my kids, I have an awful habit of overcomplicating things. I'd had a whole speech prepared for them about what the Holy Spirit is, but it went out the window as soon as they saw the flames. And you know what? It's probably for the best. They wouldn't have remembered that speech. The flames, though? The flames they remembered. The flame communicated.

As a result of Pentecost, the apostles suddenly had the ability to give the truth to foreigners. Aliens. People who were heretofore beyond their reach, isolated by language. The flame communicated.

God's sense of timing is impeccable, and His delivery is carefully crafted. And on Pentecost, the Holy Spirit did not descend as a dove or pour forth as water.

On Pentecost, the Holy Spirit burned.

"Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the earth." — Psalm 104

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.
- **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.