

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

MARCH 17, 2024 | FIFTH 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 6 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

DEACON IRVIN LAWRENCE SMITH

VICKI DHABALT COMPTON
COORDINATOR OF FAITH FORMATION AND MISSION
VCOMPTON@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

HALEY DUTTON
COORDINATOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
HDUTTON@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

MARK GIFFORD
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
MGIFFORD@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

KIM GUNTER
PARISH SECRETARY
KGUNTER@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

STEVEN KEHOE
BOOKKEEPER
SKEHOE@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

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!



Fraction of the Bread

When the Precious Blood is distributed to the faithful at Mass (note, I will address that topic in a future article), there may be the case that, when taking the chalice to consume a drink of the Precious Blood, you notice that there is a small particle of the Body of Christ in the chalice! You might panic, thinking: "Did the last person spit a portion of the host in the chalice?" Or, "I saw Father place that little crumb in the chalice, should I avoid consuming it?" Why is that little portion in the chalice after all? Let's explore that very question.

Following the invitation to offer one another the sign of peace, the celebrant of the Mass does and says a couple of things that often go unnoticed. Here is how it reads in the Roman Missal:

Then he takes the host, breaks it over the paten, and places a small piece in the chalice, saying quietly: May this mingling of the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bring eternal life to us who receive it.

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal says the following about this action:

The gesture of breaking bread done by Christ at the Last Supper, which in apostolic times gave the entire Eucharistic Action its name, signifies that the many faithful are made one body (1 Cor 10:17) by receiving Communion from the one Bread of Life, which is Christ, who for the salvation of the world died and rose again. (GIRM, 83)

There is an interesting historical connection to this action that I think helps to drive this point about unity home. I recall hearing about it while in seminary, and then I was reminded of it in a set of articles on the silent prayers of the Mass written by Father Boniface Hicks, O.S.B. He writes the following:

Another origin for the mingling of a particle of the host in with the chalice was from the spirit of ecclesial unity. A particle from the consecrated host at the bishop's Mass called a fermentum was brought to the parish church and mingled in the priest's chalice as a sign of the unity of the priest's Mass with the bishop's. With this unity in mind, the priest's prayer during the ritual action of commingling can take on other dimensions. The particle from the bishop connects the Mass with the whole diocesan Church, and the prayer can serve an intercessory role for all those in the diocese who receive from the bishop's host. It also reminds us that salvation is not a solitary affair but, like Holy Communion, it is something that we strive for together and that brings us into unity even as it also has a dramatically personal dimension. Seen under the sign of unity, the comingling reminds us that receiving the Eucharist is certainly entering into communion with Christ, but it is also deepening our communion with his Bride, the Church.

[\(https://adoremus.org/2021/11/the-quiet-that-speaks-haec-commixtio-may-this-mingling/\)](https://adoremus.org/2021/11/the-quiet-that-speaks-haec-commixtio-may-this-mingling/)

Although this practice of bringing a portion of the bishop's host to each church is no longer observed, the significance is still present as a reminder of the unity that is a desired fruit of our reception of Holy Communion. I've written about unity in previous articles, and I think this action helps to strengthen our understanding of how important unity is when it comes to our understanding of and prayer at Mass. This unity is both vertical (with Christ Himself) and horizontal (with His Body, the Church). Christ's death and Resurrection are at the service of both, and as such, our reception of Holy Communion should commit us to striving for a deeper love for Christ and His 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, March 18

7am - John Ansell
(Judy Ansell)
12:05pm - Dan Sexson
(Sharon Sexson)
5:15pm - Deceased Members of the Chiaradonna Family (Geny Chiaradonna)

Tuesday, March 19

7am - Thomas R. McGee
(Joann & Rose Lenn)
12:05pm - Delia Sinn
(Pamela Hargan)
5:15pm - Rocco & Palma Piccinino
(John Busciacchio)

Wednesday, March 20

7am - Betty L. Rogers
(Family)
12:05pm - Joseph Reichle
(Celeste Crowley)
5:15pm - Marve Bangert
(Rex Bangert)

Thursday, March 21

7am - Brother Francis Skube
(Community)
12:05pm - Special Intention
(Pat O'Laughlin)
5:15pm - Richard Hanselman
(Lou Ann Mack & Carl Corrigan)

Friday, March 22

7am - Mary Conway
(Tom Conway)
12:05pm - Bill Vogt
(Rose & Joann Lenn)
5:15pm - Ron & Jean Borre & Family
(Richard & Kay King)

Saturday, March 23

8am - Joseph & Margaret Fassero
(Norma & Leo Dougherty)
4pm - Dennis Fringer
(Angela Ohl-Marsters)

Sunday, March 24

7am - Deceased Members of the CCCW
(CCCW)
10am - For the People
5pm - Mickie Culton
(Jim & Sandy Bloom)



St. Joseph of Arimathea

Feast Day: March 17th

I want to start us off here with each of the passages where Joseph of Arimathea is mentioned in the Gospels. Pay attention, if you will, to the way Mark, Matthew, Luke, and John describe this man, in this first and only time that he appears in their account of Jesus' Passion.

Mark 15: 42 And, it being already evening, since it was preparation day, that is, the day before Sabbath, 43 Joseph from Arimathea having come (a respected council member who was also himself awaiting the kingdom of God), having taken courage, came in before Pilate and requested the body of Jesus. 44 But Pilate was amazed that he had already died; and having called over the centurion, he questioned him if he was dead for some time. 45 And having come to know from the centurion, he granted the corpse to Joseph. 46 And having bought a linen cloth, having taken him down, with the linen cloth he tied up and put him away in a burial place that was hewn out of rock; and he rolled over a stone against the door of the tomb.

Matthew 27: 57 But it being evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea whose name was Joseph, who had also himself been a disciple of Jesus. 58 This man, having come before Pilate, requested the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered (it) to be given up. 59 And having taken the body, Joseph wrapped it up in a clean white linen cloth 60 and placed him in his new tomb which he had hewn in the rock; and having rolled a large stone to the door of the tomb, he went away.

Luke 23: 50 And behold a man, Joseph by name, being a member of the council, a good and just man—51 he was not in agreement with their decision and course of action—from Arimathea, a city of the Jews, who was awaiting the kingdom of God. 52 This man, having come before Pilate, requested the body of Jesus. 53 And having taken (it) down, he wrapped it up with a linen cloth and placed him in a rock-hewn burial place where no one was yet laid. 54 And it was preparation day, and Sabbath was dawning.

John 19: 38a But after these things Joseph from Arimathea, being a disciple of Jesus but hidden because of fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate permitted (it). 38b So he came and took away his body. 39 But there came also Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night, bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about a hundred pounds. 40 So they took the body of Jesus; and they bound it with cloths together with spices, as is the custom among the Jews for burying. 41 But there was in the place where he was crucified a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had ever yet been placed. 42 So there, on account of the preparation day of the Jews, because the tomb was near, they placed Jesus.

These are translations from a famous Catholic biblical scholar, Raymond Brown, who carefully compares the details from each Passion Account in his (comprehensive) book, "The Death of the Messiah."

First, simply notice the details that each Gospel-writer focuses us on. Mark, the vivid storyteller, surprises us when from the least likely place – the Sanhedrin, that council of Jewish leaders who worked to put Jesus to death – comes a man, respected, courageous, seeking the Kingdom, who asks for Jesus' body. Notice that Joseph is not yet described as a disciple or follower of Jesus. Yet somehow, he is moved amidst all the ridicule and hatred being flung at Jesus, to still be faithful to the Jewish law and seek a proper burial for this misunderstood man.

Matthew, the tax collector, himself having experienced Jesus' mercy for those with many possessions, emphasizes that Joseph was rich. We find that he gives Jesus his own tomb, painstakingly hewn from the rock, and the simple linen shroud is additionally described as "clean" and "white", and the scene shows Joseph carefully wrapping Jesus' body in it. Luke adds that Joseph was "good and just", not in agreement with all that the Sanhedrin had done, placing greater emphasis than Mark on Joseph's "awaiting the Kingdom of God". And John, with his greater spiritual insight, sees in Joseph's heart already the heart of a disciple, and recognizes amid the bleak tomb a garden, where man was first created, and will soon be re-created.

Fr. Dominic Rankin once had the opportunity to visit Jerusalem, including the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, where under one enormous vault-roof, you can visit the hill of Calvary, the stone on which Jesus' body was anointed, and the nearby location of His tomb, each enshrined with altars or lanterns, each a quiet witness to the blood God shed for me. When we are given Jesus' Body – risen! – at Mass, does it reconfigure our hearts, reorder our priorities, like it did for Joseph of Arimathea? Do I stop waiting for God's Kingdom and start living it? Do I take courage to risk ridicule or rejection to hold fast to Jesus? Do I put all my own riches, even my own mortality, at Christ's service? Can I see in my own darkness a garden where God will bring resurrection?

[1] Brown, Raymond E. 1994. *The Death of the Messiah and 2: From Gethsemane to the Grave: a Commentary on the Passion Narratives in the Four Gospels*. Vol. 1. New York; London: Yale University Press.

Stewardship of Treasure

March 9th & 10th

Collection numbers for last weekend were unavailable at the time of publication. Please check back next weekend for these collection numbers.

February EFT

\$19,608.80

February Debt Reduction

\$1,184.00

February Second Collections

Church in Central and Eastern Europe
\$1,250.00

Pregnancy Care Center
\$3,033.00

Catholic Charities
\$4,411.00

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

Heath Emerson, Hugh Elliot, and Ty Christian Alvey
Children of Wesley & Alexandria Alvey
Baptized on March 9, 2024

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



WEEK OF MARCH 18

<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>
Rosary 4:45 PM Church	Adoration 4:00 PM Church	Men's Bible Study 6:00 AM School Library Rosary 4:45 PM Church CCCW Lenten Soup Supper 6:00 PM Atrium Bible Study 6:00 PM Parish Library Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM School Classroom	Bible Study - The Bible and the Mother of God 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM School Library Adoration 4:00 PM Church K of C #16126 Meeting 6:00 PM School Classroom CCCW Meeting 6:00 PM School Hall	Rosary 4:45 PM Church		

What's Going on Around the Cathedral?



CCCW Lenten Soup Suppers

Looking for dinner options during Lent? Join the women of CCCW for Lenten Soup Suppers throughout this season of Lent! The next Lenten Soup Supper will be this Wednesday, March 20, beginning at 6pm in the Atrium. Seven homemade soups with bread & crackers will be served. All are welcome!



Lenten Almsgiving Second Collections

You are invited to contribute to any of the above Lenten collections. Donations can be made in any of the following ways:

Online: Make a one-time donation on the Cathedral's website at www.spicathedral.org/give-online, and specify which second collection you would like your donation to go towards.

Envelopes: Include a separate check in your regular envelope and specify which second collection you would like your donation to go towards.

Mail: Send your donation to the Parish Office. (524 E. Lawrence Ave, Springfield, IL 62703)

Thank you for your continued support of all of these organizations.



First Friday Concert Series

Join us for a First Friday Concert! April's concert will feature Requiem: Maurice Durufle', Millikin University Choir. The First Friday Concert Series is sponsored by the Staab Family, directed by Mark Gifford, and is free and open to the public. All are welcome!

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Pregnancy Care Center Annual Spring Luncheon

The Pregnancy Care Center of Springfield, Inc. is excited to be hosting its 40th Annual Spring Luncheon on Sunday, April 14th at the Northfield Inn and Suites. This fundraising event helps the Center continue to provide many free services for pregnant women and their families in Springfield and surrounding areas. Doors open for the silent auction and bake sale at 10:45 a.m. An Italian lunch buffet will be served at noon followed by musical entertainment. Raffle tickets are also being sold for a \$250 cash drawing. Lunch reservations are \$30 per adult and \$18 per child under 12. Reservations are required and can be made by calling the office at (217) 525-5630 or through a link online at Springfieldpregnancycare.org. Reservations are due by April 5th. We look forward to seeing you at this fun event!

Covenant Network Spring 2024 Radiothon

Fr. Brian Alford will be on air Tuesday, March 19, at 12pm for the Covenant Network Spring Radiothon! Please support FM 88.9 WTTT Catholic Radio by calling (314) 752-7000 or (877) 305-1234 or by visiting OurCatholicRadio.org.

Embodying the Love of Christ by Caring for One Another

Reflect on your Lenten journey thus far: What have you learned from our global family members in Uganda, El Salvador and Indonesia? How does the Eucharist unite us with our sisters and brothers around the world? Consider how Christ is present in Adolf and Florence, Sandra and Santos, and Evita. Visit csrcricebowl.org to read this week's Story of Hope.

Searching for an Opportunity to Serve in Local and Global Mission Work?

Midwest Missions, located just south of Springfield, is looking for volunteers to help with providing tangible resources to people in need. Included are personal kits for hygiene, disaster clean-up, school/medical supplies and more. Kit assembly requires standing/sitting, and the facility is wheelchair accessible. There are also projects you can complete off site or at home. If interested, please contact the Reservation Coordinator at 217-483-7911. For a complete list of other opportunities, visit our website at www.midwestmission.org.

Cabrini Movie - Showing in Springfield on 03/19

Come and join our parish priests and other parishioners on Tuesday March 19 at AMC Showplace 12 to see the new movie Cabrini. Showtime is at 6:40pm. A limited number of tickets are available in the Parish Office at a discounted price. Please call 217-522-3342 or email kgunter@cathedral.dio.org to purchase tickets. From the award-winning director of *Sound of Freedom*, Alejandro Monteverde, comes the powerful epic life of Francesca Cabrini, an Italian immigrant who arrives in New York City in 1889 and is greeted by disease, crime, and impoverished children. Cabrini sets off on a daring mission to convince the hostile mayor to secure housing and healthcare for society's most vulnerable. With broken English and poor health, Cabrini uses her entrepreneurial mind to build an empire of hope unlike anything the world had ever seen.

Blessing of the Easter Baskets

Please join us at the Cathedral for the Blessings of Easter Baskets and Food on Holy Saturday, March 30th at 11:00am. All are welcome!

Bulletin Reflections - Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist

Calling all Catholics! Have you experienced Jesus in the Eucharist and it touched your heart? Maybe a homily was particularly moving and renewed your belief in our Eucharistic Lord so that when you received Him that Mass, you felt His presence. Maybe you frequent Eucharistic Adoration and Jesus is moving in you, encouraging you to share Him with others. Maybe a Eucharistic miracle story or a procession of the Blessed Sacrament left you in wonder and awe at the profound goodness of God. Maybe it was something totally different. Why not share it? We're inviting you to write a brief reflection on "Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist" to be featured in our bulletin! Leading up to the National Eucharistic Congress held in Indianapolis, Indiana in July, we want to share our own stories of Jesus in the Eucharist. Please submit your reflection with a title and short bio about yourself to hutton@cathedral.dio.org.

Mass Intention Requests

Having masses offered for the deceased is one of the greatest gifts we can offer souls who have died. The Church's presumption is that when people die, they need purification in Purgatory before being admitted to Heaven. These souls rely on our prayers to assist them in their final steps toward Heaven, and the Mass is the greatest means to help achieve that end. However, masses can also be offered for the living as well.

We are always happy to accept Mass intentions for Masses celebrated at the Cathedral, and ask that a \$10 donation per Mass Intention be sent to the Parish Office. Although we are open to you requesting a specific date, we can not guarantee it will be available due to the large number of requests. We do ask that you try to limit your mass requests to 2 per month so that we are able to accommodate all our parishioners. You can submit Mass Intention requests by calling the Parish Office at 217-522-3342, emailing our Parish Secretary directly at kgunter@cathedral.dio.org, or submitting your requests on our website at <https://spicathedral.org/mass-intention-submission/>.

Chrism Mass

The annual Chrism Mass is a privileged Liturgy in the life of every diocese. Please join us at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Tuesday of Holy Week, March 26, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. for the celebration of the Chrism Mass.

CCCW Spring Spruce Up

The Cathedral Council of Catholic Women (CCCW) will coordinate a Spring Spruce Up of the interior of our beautiful church to prepare for Holy Week and Easter. We will wash pews & kneelers after 5:15 pm Mass on Monday, March 18. Polishing the pews with lemon oil will take place following 12:05 pm Mass on Friday, March 22. All supplies will be provided. This is a perfect opportunity to earn service hours or for a family service experience. We invite anyone interested in spending a few hours to make our Church Home Shine to join us!

Lost in the Crowd

I write my phone number on my kids' arms when we go into large crowds at summer festivals, in case we get separated. If you think this makes me sound like a neurotic person with an overactive imagination who watches too many true crime documentaries, you would be correct. I am all of those things.

However, I am also practical, and I've endured moments of panic after looking up and briefly not being able to locate a child who has wandered off or lagged behind. The phone number, scrawled across their sunscreen-streaked skin, is a safeguard, however insignificant. It's something they can hold up to show an adult, something they can point to and say, "This is where I need to be. Help me get here."

When I reflect on my own life, it occurs to me that I was born lost. We all were. It was only in Eden that a human being ever knew what it was to be at home. In Eden, I would imagine, the feeling of safety was so natural that it was only noticed after it was gone. But original sin came like a noisy crowd to bear us away from the place we needed to be, and since that time, our human lives have played out against a backdrop of insecurity and unfamiliarity. We are cold and alone and confused. And God, our heartbroken parent, never stops seeking us, never stops calling our names.

Baptism, the etching of God's law onto our heart and soul, is not a phone number written on our arms. It's something far better — it's a homing signal, planted deep within. And it will lead us back to where we need to be.

"But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD. I will place my law within them and write it upon their hearts; I will be their God, and they shall be my people." — Jeremiah 31:33

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

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Around the Diocese

- **Presentation of Season 3 of "The Chosen"**, St. Frances Cabrini Parish, Sunday February 4, 2024 - Sunday March 24, 2024 in the conference room of the parish hall beginning at 2pm with the exception of February 11th (Super Bowl Sunday) which will start at 12:30pm. For more information, please contact Anne Powers via phone or text at 217-381-3847.
- **Young Adult Lenten Day of Prayer with the Norbertine Fathers**, Saturday, March 23, 9am-12pm, Corpus Christi Priory, 4867 Laverna Road, Springfield, IL; all young adults (20s-30s) are welcome to join the members of the Forge for a meditative morning of prayer.
- **The Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women's Scholarship Application is now open!** This scholarship program recognizes outstanding Catholic female high school seniors who exemplify SDCCW's mission, values of leadership, faith and service. Four \$2,000 scholarships will be awarded. Applications have been sent to each parish and are due March 30th. Applications are available in the Atrium, or you can reach out to the Parish Office.
- **"Mass Confusion"**, Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 6:30pm at St. Agnes Parish; nationally-known Catholic presenters, Doug Brummel and Dave Wilson, will bring the Mass alive through rich sketches, quirky characterizations, and Holy-Spirit-filled music.