

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

APRIL 14, 2024 | THIRD 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

Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 15

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!



Preparation for Communion

After the Lamb of God is sung or said, we are almost ready for the high point of receiving our Lord in Holy Communion. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal says the following about what happens next: "The Priest prepares himself by a prayer, said quietly, so that he may fruitfully receive the Body and Blood of Christ. The faithful do the same, praying silently." (GIRM, 84)

Both the priest and the faithful are invited into silent prayer as a way to prepare for receiving Holy Communion, but for the priest, there is a specific prayer (rather an option of two prayers) that he is to pray, but the faithful are not given any specific prayer. On the one hand, this gives freedom to the faithful to pray from their heart in words that are unique to them, or simply just to be in silence, but we have to admit that sometimes "we do not know how to pray as we ought." (Rom 8:26) And so a written prayer from the tradition of the Church can help in this time of preparation.

First of all, there is nothing to prevent the faithful from using one of the prayers that the priest uses for his preparation. I prefer the first option, which is as follows:

*Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the living God,
who, by the will of the Father
and the work of the Holy Spirit,
through your Death gave life to the world,
free me by this, your most holy Body and Blood,
from all my sins and from every evil;
keep me always faithful to your commandments,
and never let me be parted from you.*

There are other good options as well. For example, St. Thomas Aquinas has written a beautiful prayer that can be recited before receiving Holy Communion:

*Almighty and ever-living God, I approach the sacrament
of Your only-begotten Son Our Lord Jesus Christ, I come sick to the doctor of life, unclean to
the fountain of mercy, blind to the radiance of eternal light,
and poor and needy to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Lord, in your great generosity, heal my sickness, wash away my defilement,
enlighten my blindness, enrich my poverty, and clothe my nakedness.
May I receive the bread of angels, the King of kings and Lord of lords,
with humble reverence, with the purity and faith, the repentance and love,
and the determined purpose that will help to bring me to salvation.
May I receive the sacrament of the Lord's Body and Blood,
and its reality and power.
Kind God, may I receive the Body of Your only-begotten Son,
our Lord Jesus Christ, born from the womb of the Virgin Mary,
and so be received into His mystical body and numbered among His members.
Loving Father, as on my earthly pilgrimage I now receive Your beloved Son
under the veil of a sacrament, may I one day see him face to face in glory,
who lives and reigns with You for ever. Amen.*

So whether you use one of these prayers or one in your own words, or just maintaining a prayerful silence with no words, the important thing to remember is that this short moment of silence is like making those last minute preparations in your house for that long-awaited guest, so that when Jesus arrives, He may find you ready and eager to welcome Him.

*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, April 15

7am - Lambert P. Fleck Jr
(Greg & Marie Fleck)
5:15pm - Elmo & Frances Kistner Family
(John & Debra Beltramea)

Tuesday, April 16

7am - Mary Eleanor Maloy
(Madonna Fluckiger)
5:15pm - Betty Rogers
(Family)

Wednesday, April 17

7am - Betty & Gene Barish
(Family)
5:15pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway
(Robert Gasaway)

Thursday, April 18

7am - Rose Crispi
(John Busciacco)
5:15pm - Thomas R. McGee
(Becky Will)

Friday, April 19

7am - Cora Gaston
(Greg & Marie Fleck)
5:15pm - Brother Francis Skube
(Community)

Saturday, April 20

8am - James Conrite
(Litina Carnes)
4pm - Frank Coffey
(Family)

Sunday, April 21

7am - Mary Ann Midden
(Bill Midden)
10am - For the People
5pm - Deceased Members of the CCCW
(CCCW)



St. Lidwina

Feast Day: April 14th

We travel to Holland this week, a little town of Schiedam, named after the river it was perched along. Peter was a laborer, and his (even more hardworking) wife, Petronilla, was the mother of their 9 children. Eight were boys, but right in the middle was their only daughter, Lidwina, or Lydia as we'd probably call her. She was born on Palm Sunday, right as the Passion was being chanted at their local church, an easy delivery for Petronilla thank God in the year of Our Lord, 1380.

One wintery day a decade and a half later, Lidwina was out with her friends ice skating and took a bad fall on the ice breaking one of her ribs. It was an injury that changed the course of her whole life. At first it all seemed to be ramifications from the broken rib: an abscess formed in her chest, eventually bursting, further increasing her pain and nausea. With some periods of remission, she grew increasingly disabled over the coming years. By 19, both of her legs were paralyzed, and her vision limited and over the coming four decades, she would lose feeling and eventually grow paralyzed through much of her body, enduring fevers and headaches, bleeding and blindness. For anyone with chronic pain or who has been bedridden, St. Lidwina is your patron.

Scientists say it may have been the first recorded case of multiple sclerosis. The Catholic Church says she was a saint. And it all came down to the way she endured all those crosses. No one expected, at 15, that she would become a saint in that way. She could have been a virtuous wife and mother, she could have entered religious life, or dedicated her life to God in some other way. Her whole life was open before her! But then she had a bad fall, and a disease no one understood began to ravage her body, and she had a choice to make: to embrace Christ, on the cross, or plunge into the sufferings without Him.

The path of sanctity perhaps sounds heroic and meaningful, and surely it was, but in some ways it actually made it harder for Lidwina. Now people came by, gawking at someone that was said to be a mystic. Poking and prodding, some scoffing at her reputed holiness, some claiming her charity had worked miracles. She risked deeper union with the Lord, remaining with Jesus amidst the daily struggle to stay cheerful, her mind and heart were more and more filled by Jesus' Love, and inspired by His cross. She prayed constantly, choosing to fast and make sacrifices beyond even what her illness forced upon her.

Her example is a hard one. At first glance, we have to ask: does being a saint mean suffering for most of your life and dying young? Of course, the answer is 'no', Jesus says "I came that you may have life, life in abundance." But then, where is abundant life to be found at Lidwina's bedside? And here's where we get to her sanctity: not in the extremity of her sufferings, nor the miracles or mystical prayer, but in the simple choice to hold fast to Jesus in all those circumstances. We don't know what her relationship with Our Lord was like before her fall (though we know her parents were faithful and pious, so we must assume their home was one of prayer and devotion), but we know that she did choose Jesus, again and again, in the years after. That is something that we can do as well, whether we're ice skating or just doing a day's work. whether we're suffering or currently in fine health, whether we're given the grace of mystical prayer or just persevering in spending time with Our Lord before Mass. All of us can make the same choice – of relationship with Jesus – and become just as holy, just as saintly, just as inspiring as St. Lidwina.

Fr. Dominic Rankin has ice skated three times in his life. His current skill-level is "unstable". He can get up to a fine rate of speed but can only decelerate by hitting the boards ... or hitting the ice. Meanwhile, figure-skaters are hitting quadruple-axels and speed-skaters are hitting 60mph ... and the Lord is waiting for both of us to do life with Him.

Stewardship of Treasure

April 6th & 7th

Envelopes:	\$6,500.00
Loose:	\$5,020.00
Maintenance:	\$945.00
Total:	\$12,465.00

March EFT

\$20,575.10

March Debt Reduction

\$440.00

March Second Collections

Helping Hands
\$2,634.75

Catholic Relief Services
\$4,903.00

Parishioner Student Assistance
\$4,127.00

St Martin De Porres Center
\$4,539.00

Holy Land
\$1,818.00

Seminarians
\$4,187.67

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 APRIL 15

<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 Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM School Classroom	Mary, the Bible and the Mother of God 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM School Library Adoration 4:00 PM Church			Family of Faith 6:15 PM Atrium

What's Going on Around the Cathedral?



CCCW GARAGE SALE
Accessories, furniture, household/kitchen items, outdoor, sports, toys, books, movies, and more!
CATHEDRAL SCHOOL HALL
FACILITIES ARE HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE

FRIDAY, APRIL 26
7AM TO 6PM

SATURDAY APRIL 27
8AM TO 12PM

CCCW Garage Sale

Donations are also still needed for the 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.

CCCW & Knight's of Columbus Council #16126 Scholarship

Applications for the Cathedral Council of Catholic Women (CCCW) & Knight's of Columbus Council #16126 Scholarship are now available. Any students who are Cathedral parishioners (Kindergarten through High School) are invited to apply.

K-6 Grade Students are invited to submit a drawing of "Jesus Teaching the Children" and must be received by Tuesday, April 30, 2024. There will be a labeled basket in the Atrium for submissions. Please make sure the student's name, grade, and school is listed on the drawing. Drawings will be removed from the basket when submitted, and the basket will be removed on Tuesday, April 30th after the 5:15pm Mass.

7-8 Grade and High School Students must submit a completed scholarship application to include service hours, a one-page essay, and one teacher evaluation on the Cathedral website by midnight on Tuesday, April 30, 2024. Late submissions will not be considered.

For more information or to apply, please visit www.spicathedral.org/cccw-knights-of-columbus-council-16126-scholarship-application/



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY
DEADLINE TO SUBMIT APPLICATION: APRIL 30, 2024



MEMORIAL MASS FOR BILL VOGT
MAY 1, 2024
12:00 PM

Memorial Mass for Bill Vogt

Please join us at the Cathedral on Wednesday, May 1st at 12pm for a Memorial Mass for Bill Vogt. Bill served as the "Office and Plant Manager" for the Cathedral for more than three decades, and passed away on Saturday, February 17, 2024. Not only was Bill a dedicated and faithful servant of the Cathedral Parish, but he was also especially dedicated to the bishops and priests who have lived here over the years. As such, all parishioners are invited to join us for this Mass to pray for the repose of Bill's soul.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Looking for Spring/Summer Work?

Calvary Cemetery in Springfield is hiring seasonal trimmers for the spring and summer. These are part-time, temporary positions (mornings and early afternoons). \$14/hour. Must be 18 to apply. Call (217) 523-3726 or email director@calvary.dio.org for information.

Science and Christ: A Dialogue

Science and Christ: A Dialogue was written by Fr. Richard Chiola with Sr. Sharon Zayac. O.P. The book roots the traditional teachings about Jesus the Christ in the empirical data of science, specifically the evolution of the Cosmos and of life on Earth. Readers will understand that the breadth of scientific, historical, and theological content in the book requires focusing on group discussion. For that purpose, a public discussion of Science and Christ will be led by the authors at St Joseph the Worker from 6-7:30pm over three Thursdays: April 10th, April 17th and April 24th. Paperback copies will be available for sale at \$18. It is recommended, however, that anyone who wants to attend the discussions should have already read the book which is available on Amazon in Kindle, paperback, and hard cover versions. If you are interested in attending, or have any questions about this discussion, please contact Geoff Davis—geoffreydavis6212@comcast.net or 217-638-5671.

Job Opportunities - Diocese of Springfield in Illinois

The Diocese of Springfield in Illinois is hiring! The Diocese is looking for dynamic individuals to fill these open positions: Internal Auditor, Director, Office for Safe Environment, and Safe Environment Assistant. For more information, please visit dio.org/hr/employment-listings.

SHG Glow Bingo Night

Let's Glow Cyclones! SHG GLOW BINGO NIGHT: Saturday, April 27th. Doors open at 6pm, Bingo begins at 7pm. Individual tickets are \$25 in advance or \$30 at the door. Reserved tables are \$250 for a maximum of eight players and must be reserved in advance. Price includes six bingo cards for ten games, a glow dauber, and glow accessories. BYOB and snacks! Purchase your tickets/table at weareshg.org/LetsGlowCyclones2024! All proceeds go to benefit SHG's Day of Gratitude and Giving. We hope to see you all there!

Dive Deep: A Buddhist Becomes Catholic

Buddhists make up 1% of the US population, but what about Buddhists who become Catholic? Who knows, but you know it's tiny, yet Dive Deep found one of them! Deena Bell of Springfield joins Dive Deep to share her conversion story from Buddhism to Catholicism. Go to youtube.com/diospringfield or search "Dive Deep" on all the major podcast platforms to listen and subscribe. Dive Deep is the podcast of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.

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.

SHG Job Posting - Theology Teacher

SHG is currently looking for a Theology teacher. The position description and requirements can be found at www.shg.org/about-shg/employment-opportunities/. Interested applicants should send a cover letter and resume to Susan Faivre, Theology Department Chair, at faivre@shg.org.

The Twist Ending

Any reader of psychological thrillers will come across the “dead main character trope” fairly often. This is the famous Sixth Sense twist ending (I would say “spoiler alert,” but the movie is older than most of the people who work in Youth Ministry at your archdiocese, so you’ve probably seen it by now) where the reader finds that the main character has been dead for all or most of the story.

I’m always a little disappointed when this happens. It delivers shock value, sure, but it also undermines everything that happens in the story. You’ve come on a journey with this character, only to find out that nothing you saw transpire was real in the way you thought it was. You feel a little stupid, because the whole time you only had part of the truth.

I suspect Jesus knows this about us. He knows we don’t like to have the rug pulled out. It’s why he is so up-front about his humanity following the resurrection. See how Jesus, resurrected, shows the disciples his feet, his hands. See how he asks them for food and lets them watch him eat it. See how this creates in them an understanding, a belief.

The humanity of Jesus Christ is absolutely crucial. It’s what bridges the divide between the sons of Eve and the God she defied. Our reconciliation with God cannot happen unless human flesh pays the price that will balance the scales. Human flesh: skin that can tear and bleed, bones that can break, a mouth that can thirst, a stomach that can ache with hunger.

The passion and death of Jesus Christ is not a thriller with a twist ending: he was a ghost the whole time! The twist, if anything, is this: he was human the whole time.

“Touch me and see, because a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you can see I have.” — Luke 24:39

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman
©LPi

Around the Diocese

- **Men’s Evening of Recollection**, Thursday, April 25th at St John’s Hospital Chapel (800 E. Carpenter St., Springfield), from 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. The recollection will include Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, a meditation given by a priest, time for silent prayer and reflection, an opportunity for confession, a doctrinal talk and Benediction. All men throughout the diocese are invited to attend.
- **“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. Teens in grades 7 and up are also invited a special youth retreat night with Doug and Dave on Friday, April 19 @ 6:30pm.
- **Springfield Catholic Charities Annual Fundraiser**, Saturday, May 4 from 6 – 9 p.m. at the Knight of Columbus Hall, 2200 Meadowbrook Rd. in Springfield. Event tickets are \$50 per person and include hors d’oeuvres and drinks. Tickets may be purchased on our website at: cc.dio.org/events/springfield-annual-2024-fundraiser or by calling 217.523.4551, ext. 114.
- **St. Sebastian Athlete’s Retreat** for student athletes grades 7-12, coaches, and parents, May 5, 2024 @ St. Agnes Springfield, IL. Includes a prayer, music, breakout sessions for specific groups and ages. Donation of \$5 per person collected at the door. Visit <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040A4FA5AF2FAAFB6-46964349-athletes#/> to register.
- **The Liturgical Arts Festival of Springfield**, May 4-11, 2024. The Liturgical Arts Festival of Springfield’s theme for 2024 is “Creation: Revelation of the Divine,” - which is at once the Divine Act, the artistic process, and our imperiled planet; we look for our events to harness that artistic process to celebrate that Divine Act and advocate for that planet. For more information, please visit <http://www.lafspringfield.org/>.
- **Save the Date for the SDCCW 95th Annual Convention**, August 28, 2024 at the Lake Williamson Retreat Center in Carlinville, IL. More details will follow!
- **National Eucharistic Congress**, July 17-21 in Indianapolis, IN. Participate in beautiful liturgies, lift your voice in prayer alongside world-class musicians, hear from the most influential Catholic speakers of our day, and make history as part of the first National Eucharistic Congress in nearly 100 years. This is the beginning of a new chapter of faith in America. Register at eucharisticcongress.org.