

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

MAY 5, 2024 | SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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 6 ISSUE 18

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!



On Receiving Holy Communion - Part I

Having spent the entire Mass listening to the Word of God, increasing our hunger for the Lord, and praying through the Eucharistic Prayer, we now come to the moment of supreme joy, in which we come forward to receive Our Lord in this greatest of all gifts, the Holy Eucharist.

I have actually been thinking about this particular article for some time now, as I have often caught myself thinking, while distributing Holy Communion each day at Mass, noticing various things: "I'll address that in a future article when I write about receiving Holy Communion." Well, now that that point in these reflections has come, I fear that I

might not have enough space to put in writing all of the things that have been running through my head, but let me make a few observations.

First of all, please know that receiving Holy Communion at Mass is NOT required. It is absolutely encouraged, but there may be circumstances when it is not possible to receive Holy Communion. I could dedicate a full article, or two or three, on this topic, and perhaps that can be an appendix to these articles, but I just want to put that point out there. The obligation to attend Mass each Sunday and Holy Day is not an obligation to receive the Eucharist. Again, it is highly encouraged, but not absolutely required, and it is indeed virtuous to refrain from receiving if one is aware that they are not in a position to receive Our Lord. If you are not able to receive, I highly recommend that you make an Act of Spiritual Communion.

Next, let me say just a few things about our bodily postures when receiving Holy Communion. Let me set the context by quoting what the Bishops of the United States have written on this topic:

The General Instruction asks each country's Conference of Bishops to determine the posture to be used for the reception of Communion and the act of reverence to be made by each person as he or she receives Communion. In the United States, the body of Bishops has determined that "[t]he norm... is that Holy Communion is to be received standing, unless an individual member of the faithful wishes to receive Communion while kneeling" and that a bow is the act of reverence made by those receiving (no. 160).

Working backwards, the normal reverence made before receiving Holy Communion is a bow. It is not uncommon for some of the faithful to genuflect before receiving Holy Communion. Although I have no objection to this personally, I am mindful of what the Church is asking of us. I can assure you, the Lord will not be offended if we put aside our preference for the sake of obedience what the Church asks of us.

Note also that the Church's norm for receiving Holy Communion is standing, however in this case, there is an explicit permission given for receiving while kneeling if an individual member of the faithful should wish to receive in that way. Once again, I offer no opinion on preference, for the Church offers both as valid options, but please avoid falling into playing the comparison game that often comes at this point of the Mass. To presume that you are more reverent by kneeling to receive Holy Communion can be prideful. If you receive while standing, and presume that those kneeling to receive are overly pious and somehow trying to make a show, that can be uncharitable. So let us always keep obedience to the Church in mind, practicing humility regarding the legitimate preferences that can be exercised, and in all things, let us have charity in our hearts toward others as we prepare to receive the sacrament of charity in the Eucharist.

Well, this is what I was afraid of – having more to write than can fit in one article. I will return in our next installment with a few more reflections on how it is we receive Holy Communion at Mass.

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 6

7am - Dan Sexson
(Sharon Sexson)
5:15pm - Marguerite Wisniewski
(Don Wisniewski)

Tuesday, May 7

7am - Marian Crowley
(Celeste Crowley)
5:15pm - Thomas McGee
(Fr. Tolton Council 16126)

Wednesday, May 8

7am - John Montgomery
(John Busciacco)
5:15pm - Bill Vogt
(Bev & Larry Smith)

Thursday, May 9

7am - Mary Conway
(Tom Conway)
5:15pm - Karen Bucari
(Alan Bucari)

Friday, May 10

7am - Jean Anne Staab
(Staab Family)
5:15pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway
(Robert Gasaway)

Saturday, May 11

8am - James Conrite
(Litina Carnes)
4pm - Anna Wanda Chiaradonna
(Geny Chiaradonna)

Sunday, May 12

7am - Mary Ann Midden
(Bill Midden)
10am - Raymond & Eulalia Ohl
(Angela Ohl-Marsters)
5pm - For the People



St. Hilarius

Feast Day: May 5th

"God loves a cheerful giver." – 2 Cor 9:7

When St. Paul writes to his little flock in Corinth he uses a particular word to describe generosity of a Christian – Hilaros / ἡλᾱρός – a kindness or stewardship that is not reluctant, hesitant, forced, or begrudging, but is free, loving, joyous ... cheerful! This is the root of the Latin term hilarus holding a similar meaning: lighthearted, merry, lively ... cheerful. And that is the name St. Hilarius got when he was born! His surname, entirely pragmatic, would simply be "of Arles", the diocese that he was bishop of at the end of his life. His life is (helpfully) bookended by an adjective and a location, and now prefaced by the title "Saint", but there's a bit more to his story than that.

Hilarius was born in Lorraine, France, around the year 403 A.D. We only know that he gave up a successful career to join St. Honoratus, possibly a relative, who had recently founded an Abbey on one of the islands of Lérin. Today you'd know where this is because it is located on the French Riviera, but back before 400, Roman records use the name "Lerina" to describe the uninhabited island. Caprasius of Lérins, a hermit, was the first person we know to live there, seeking solitude and prayer. Honoratus went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land with him, kindling a friendship, and his own sanctity, going on to become a hermit on the island as well. Honoratus found that his holiness attracted a following, so he established the first Abbey on the island in 410. Hilarius was drawn away from his career by the life and sanctity he saw in the Cistercian community there and joined the abbey when he was in his 20s. (Here's a twist to the story, these saints may have met St. Patrick around this time, who is said to have spent some time in their abbey and was only 18 years older than Hilarius).

Now, Honoratus was both Abbot at Lérin, but also bishop of the important see of Arles. Hilarius became the natural successor of Honoratus as leader of the monastery when he died, and was also quickly picked to also be bishop of Arles. He was known for his austere life, his generosity to the poor, and for the emphasis he placed on the personal sanctity of his priests, organizing those assigned to his cathedral in Arles into a congregation of their own, committed with him to this life of simplicity and charity.

But here is where the story takes a twist, and here is where this saint becomes a bit more like you and me. Hilarius, Bishop of Arles, also had responsibility over other sees in the area (perhaps nowadays we would call him the Metropolitan Archbishop, though it seems with greater authority over those regional bishops). He took this to mean that he was primate over the whole of South Gaul, something that an earlier predecessor, Patroclus of Arles had exercised. This, though, led to a power struggle with Bp. Chelidonius, of Besançon, who was claiming a similar authority. Hilarius deposed Chelidonius, who appealed to Rome, where Pope Leo I had recently succeeded to the papal throne. (That would be Pope St. Leo the Great, who was hard at work bringing Pelagians and Manicheans back into the fold, and who's most famous deed, facing down Atilla the Hun, would not happen for another 7 or 8 years).

Leo sided against Hilarius.

Our saintly bishop was deprived of the right to consecrate bishops, call synods, oversee the other dioceses in his province, and his entire claim to be Primate of Gaul was abolished. Leo had this decision officially sanctioned by the Emperor, Valentinian III, and we still have the line from his decree that must have so pained Hilarius, "ut episcopis Gallicanis omnibusque pro lege esset quidquid apostolicae sedis auctoritas sanxisset." "Therefore, whatever the authority of the apostolic see had sanctioned shall be [law] for the Gallican bishops and for all the law." (Novelae Valent. iii. tit. 16). We have no record of how Hilarius received this news; certainly it overturned his understanding of the responsibility given to him and more than likely it called into question all that he had been working on and all that he thought had been successful and fruitful about his work as a bishop or even a leader in the Church. But success is not a prerequisite for sanctity.

Fr. Dominic Rankin has occasionally had his projects or plans taken away from him. It stings. But St. Hilarius offers an example to all of us that the sadness of seeing many years of work overturned or misunderstood, whether his fault or not, did not overturn the love that God had for him or the example of holiness that he could still give. We do not know exactly how he responded, but five years later when he passed onto his reward, the Church acclaimed him a saint. Whatever conversion was needed had happened; whatever grace Hilarius need to receive, or give, had been found. A cheerful giver, in many ways during his life, and certainly when it counted at the end.

Stewardship of Treasure

April 27th & 28th

Envelopes:	\$4,616.00
Loose:	\$3,954.00
Maintenance:	\$135.00
Total:	\$8,705.00

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 MAY 6

<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 Men's Bible Study 6:15 PM Parish Library Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM School Classroom	Adoration 4:00 PM Church Liturgical Arts Festival Concert 6:00 PM Atrium	Rosary 4:45 PM Church		

What's Going on Around the Cathedral?



June First Friday Concert Series

Join us on Friday, June 7, 2024 at 7pm in the Cathedral for a First Friday Concert! June's concert will feature Broadway in the Atrium. 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



Cathedral Summer Bible Study for Women

The Cathedral will be sponsoring two summer Bible Studies for Women, Thursday afternoons, 1:00-2:30.

Fearless and Free - a Bible study based on the book of Ephesians, is ideal for those who long for wholeness of heart and are in need of freedom from past wounds. So many of us are wrestling through the reality that life isn't easy, even when we are doing the right thing. Suffering can slam into us from left field, leaving us reeling.

6 weeks, May 30- July 11. \$20 workbook

Living In The Father's Love - In a world where women are measured by their beauty, achievements, and possessions, wouldn't it be nice to find a place where you could just be valued for who you are? Living in the Father's Love will lead you to that safe place where you are unconditionally loved, baggage and all. This brief but powerful Bible study is the ideal way to revive and refresh yourself. Discover just how much God loves us and how the gospels are deeply relevant to our relationship with God and with those we love.

6 weeks, July 25- Aug 29, \$20 workbook.

Call the Cathedral @ 217/522-3342 or email vcompton@cathedral.dio.org to reserve your spot and order a workbook.

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.

Memorial Day Field Mass

You are invited to the Memorial Day Field Mass at Calvary Cemetery in Springfield on May 27 at 9 a.m. The Mass will be at the Father Howard Altar. Bishop Thomas John Paprocki is the celebrant. Accompanying Bishop Paprocki in procession will be priests and members of the Fourth Degree Knights of Columbus. 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 523-3726 Monday – Friday from 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. with any questions.

Livestreamers Wanted

It is a tremendous service to our housebound parishioners to be able to offer a livestreamed Mass on Sunday mornings at 10:00am. We are in great need of more volunteers who can offer this service. It's fun and easy! We'll train you and you can serve at your convenience. Please contact the parish office at 217-522-3342 if you can serve your parish in this way.

Church Bells and Air Raid Sirens: The Faith Response to Help Ukraine

Join the Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach on Wednesday, May 8th at 3 pm for a presentation by Erica Smith, executive director of Mission Outreach, about her recent visit to Ukraine to visit Catholic and other faith-based service providers in Ukraine.

Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach, an affiliate of Hospital Sisters Health System, participates as a partner with the Catholic Response for Ukraine, a group that works on behalf of the Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development at the Vatican. Thanks to the partnerships created by this group, Mission Outreach shipped a 40-foot container of requested medical supplies and equipment to Ukraine in April 2023. Erica Smith, was invited to travel to Ukraine in April 2024 to learn what other needs are present. During that visit, Erica learned about the Catholic response in Ukraine and collaboration with people of other faiths to meet the educational, health, and social needs of Ukrainians – particularly those who have been internally displaced by war that those seeking to care for them.

In this presentation, Erica will talk about how faith communities are working to address the needs of Ukrainians and how Mission Outreach (in partnership with members of the Catholic Response for Ukraine) will continue to be involved in short- and long-term recovery efforts, even as the conflict continues. Erica will also share photos and stories about meeting with Latin Catholic leaders in Ukraine, including the Archbishop of Lviv and the Archbishop of Kyiv (who also serves as the Papal Nuncio).

This event will be held at 4930 Laverna Rd, Springfield, IL. For a Zoom link, please email erica.smith@mission-outreach.org.

St. Monica Ministry

Are you heartbroken because your loved ones have left the Church? You are invited to the Springfield-area St. Monica Ministry monthly gathering. This ministry is a dedicated prayer network offering hope and support to families and friends of Catholics who have walked away from the practice of the Faith. Please join us for prayer, conversation and solidarity. Animated by hope and grounded in faith, we rest secure in the knowledge that, in the words of St. Monica, "Nothing is far from God." Wednesday, May 8th @ 7:00pm, Christ the King Parish Center

Believe

Jesus said, " I AM the bread of life. Whoever eats this bread will live forever".

I believe Jesus is in my heart and soul. Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. Each time I receive Him in the Holy Eucharist at Holy Communion. In my Heart and soul with His infinite love, Grace and Mercy.

Jesus has shown me His Love and Mercy, throughout my life. He was always there. When I cried out for His Mercy. Lifting me out of darkness into His light.

Jesus is there for everyone. At every Mass, in every tabernacle. You just need faith to believe it is true. That you are with Him, Body Blood, Soul and Divinity. Every time you visit Him. And in your Heart and Soul. Each time you receive Him worthily.

At each Mass when the priest holds up the host. In adoration. I say in my heart. I believe, help my unbelief.

Jesus is truly present. His desire is to be in our heart and souls. Until we are with Him in eternal life.

I BELIEVE, HELP MY UNBELIEF.

Steve Schnelten is a parishioner of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. He has been married to his caring wife, Vickie, for 38 years, and had the honor to portray Jesus over a number of years in the Carrollton Community Chorus' drama, " The Witness".

Around the Diocese

- **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/>.
- **National Eucharistic Pilgrimage**, July 8-12; You are invited to a once-in-a-lifetime experience being called "our national Emmaus moment," after the biblical passage in which Jesus walked with two of his disciples along the road to Emmaus. The National Eucharistic Pilgrimage is an unprecedented pilgrimage in which Catholics will pray and publicly follow Jesus in their cities through Eucharistic processions. The Diocese of Springfield in Illinois is excited to be included in one of the national routes. Cities include Collinsville, Alton, Quincy, Girard, Springfield, Effingham, and Teutopolis. Go to dio.org/procession to learn more and register!
- **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.
- **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!
- **The Curia is hiring!** - We are looking for passionate individuals for the roles of Director, Office for Safe Environment, Safe Environment Assistant and Internal Auditor. Please visit dio.org/jobs for more information.