

Cathedral OF THE
Immaculate Conception

MAY 19, 2024 | PENTECOST SUNDAY



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 20

THE MOST REVEREND THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
NINTH BISHOP OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS

THE VERY REVEREND BRIAN C. ALFORD, V.E.
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PAROCHIAL VICAR

THE REVEREND DOMINIC RANKIN
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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!



Intimacy with Jesus

As we receive Holy Communion, we receive the greatest gift possible, the gift of Jesus Christ in His Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity. We are never so close to Him than when we receive the Eucharist. Some might object, saying that they can experience Jesus better in other ways, such as out in nature or in the quiet of their homes. "God is everywhere", so the argument goes. Regarding Christ's presence par excellence in the Eucharist, the Catechism explains it this way:

The mode of Christ's presence under the Eucharistic species is unique. It raises the Eucharist above all the sacraments as "the perfection of the spiritual life and the end to which all the sacraments tend." In the most blessed sacrament of the Eucharist "the body and blood, together with the soul and divinity, of our Lord Jesus Christ and, therefore, the whole Christ is truly, really, and substantially contained." "This presence is called 'real' - by which is not intended to exclude the other types of presence as if they could not be 'real' too, but because it is presence in the fullest sense: that is to say, it is a substantial presence by which Christ, God and man, makes himself wholly and entirely present." (CCC 1374)

Since this is the case, then our quiet prayer after receiving Holy Communion should be a very special moment for us, in which we savor His presence within us and speak to Him from the depths of our hearts in thanksgiving for His gift.

Perhaps one of the most helpful ways of entering into this prayer is to close one's eyes so as to not be distracted. It can be tempting to notice everybody else as they process to the altar and then back to their pews. We might see friends who we want to catch up with after Mass. But our focus at this point should really be on the Lord. Focusing on others at this point is sort of like having somebody talk to us, yet not looking at them. It is disrespectful. Our experience of worship at Mass is indeed communal, so there is always a horizontal dimension to it, by which we pray with and for those gathered with us. We even direct our attention to individuals when making the Sign of Peace. But at Mass, the primary focus is the vertical dimension. We are there first and foremost to worship God, to enter more fully into communion with Him, and as we receive the Eucharist, that vertical dimension is our focus.

One of my favorite prayers to pray after receiving Holy Communion comes from a beautiful prayer composed by St. Pio of Pietrelcina, better known as Padre Pio. There are several petitions that he makes to Jesus, but they all start in a similar way: "Stay with me, Lord." You can look up the full prayer online, but I find it a powerful prayer to just say over and over: "Stay with me, Lord." Another beautiful prayer that many people love to pray after Holy Communion is the Anima Christi, which is Latin for "Soul of Christ", the first words of the prayer. Here it is in full:

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.
 Body of Christ, save me.
 Blood of Christ, inebriate me.
 Water from the side of Christ, wash me.
 Passion of Christ, strengthen me.
 O good Jesus, hear me.
 Within Thy Wounds hide me.
 Suffer me not to be separated from Thee.
 From the malignant enemy, defend me.
 In the hour of my death, call me,
 And bid me come to Thee.
 That with Thy saints, I may praise Thee.
 Forever and ever. Amen.

The words do not need to be complicated or long. In fact, no words are needed. Just being quiet, knowing with firm faith that Jesus is with you, is enough and can express more than words ever can. Whatever you choose to do with this prayer, the most important thing to do is to not omit it. What a truly special and sacred moment we miss for intimacy with Our Lord if we fail to spend a few moments in recollection with 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, May 20

7am - Geraldine Rogers
 (Vicki Compton)
 5:15pm - Ron & Jean Borre Family
 (Richard & Kay King)

Tuesday, May 21

7am - Mary Jane Kerns
 (Estate)
 5:15pm - Bill Vogt
 (The Bentel & Dutton Families)

Wednesday, May 22

7am - Thomas R. McGee
 (Bruce Betzold)
 5:15pm - Lorne Davis Jr
 (Lou Ann Mack)

Thursday, May 23

7am - Mary Conway
 (Tom Conway)
 5:15pm - Dale & Delia Sinn
 (Pamela Hargan)

Friday, May 24

7am - Dave Shepard
 (Berni Ely)
 5:15pm - Deceased Members of the
 Chiaradonna Family (Geny
 Chiaradonna)

Saturday, May 25

8am - Eva Cadigan
 (Susan Cadigan)
 4pm - Deceased Members of the
 DuBeck & Ohl Families
 (Angela Ohl Marsters)

Sunday, May 26

7am - For the People
 10am - Betty Rogers
 (Family)
 5pm - Special Int for Franciscan Family
 (John & Debra Beltramea)



Pope St. Celestine V

Feast Day: May 19th

DNF is the acronym for “Did Not Finish” and shows up next to an athlete’s name when they began a race but never cross the finish line. Perhaps they got injured, or gave up half-way through, but for whatever reason they did not complete the course. To fail to finish is never in someone’s plans for the day, but it happens, and their response to it often shows more of the character of the person than those who finish strong and make it seem easy.

Here is the opening line of one of the articles I read about Celestine V in preparing for this article (from Catholicnewsagency.com): “*Celestine is a saint who will always be remembered for the unique manner in which he was elected Pope, for his spectacular incompetence in that office, and for the distinction of being the first pontiff ever to have resigned.*” I suspect none of us want “spectacular incompetence” next to our name in the record books. But if I may ask an important question: Where is Celestine now? Right now, he is at peace, in heaven, with all the saints in the blessed presence of God, filled with a joy and fulfillment and freedom and glory that all of our hearts yearn for. What matters in life is NOT whether others count it a success but whether Our Lord does!

Celestine was born Pietro di Murrone, in the Kingdom of Sicily, to a poor family with many siblings whose father, Angelo, died when he was young. His mother, Maria, surely struggling, would still ask her children “which one of you is going to become a saint?” Little Peter piped up “Me, mama! I’ll become a saint!” He worked the fields like his father for a time, but eventually set off to become a Benedictine monk at the age of 17 eventually growing in virtue sufficiently to retire to a cavern in the Marrone mountains, there gaining a reputation for great holiness and asceticism. He would pray and read the scriptures, model his penances after those of John the Baptist, and keep himself from temptation by working the rest of the time. And, typical for someone seeking radical holiness, others were inspired by his example and followed him into the mountains.

At first the group was called the Murronites or the Hermits of San Damiano, but as the intense life of his order exploded in popularity Pietro found it necessary to affiliate it with the Benedictines. (The Church, following the Second Council of Lyon, was pruning the number of upstart religious orders, asking that they be connected with longstanding and upstanding communities). With several hundred monks and a few dozen monasteries, Pietro handed the reigns off to one of his disciples and returned to his solitude and sacrifice.

The decades rolled by, and when Pietro was closing in on his eighth decade the cardinals who were supposed to be electing the next Pope had dallied around for two years with no decision. The Church, as it turns out, is made up of human beings and takes within herself the woundedness and sinfulness and political machinations that we find inside each of our hearts, and so the famous monk pens a letter to the cardinals, warning that re bay operating by worldly standards, failing God, sully Christ, and risking His judgement.

The old, ill, dean of the College of Cardinals cried out “In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, I elect brother Pietro di Morrone!” The other cardinals followed suit, and so we find ourselves with the hilarious scene of the cardinals and princes trekking out to Pietro’s remote hermitage pleading with him to take on the responsibility of Pope. He eventually agrees, but it turns out hermits are not necessarily great popes! He was saintly, but a disastrous leader. Swayed by the politics that swirled around him, his papal decrees were divisive or impractical. As Advent of 1294 approached, he delegated three cardinals to lead the church since he wanted to fast and prepare for Christmas. (They refused.) Inquiring whether it was permissible, he issued one final decree, declaring that a Pope has the right to resign, which he promptly did after only 5 months as pope. He failed. He did not finish.

And he didn’t even get to go back to his hermitage. Celestine’s successor was afraid he could become a rival anti-pope, so he imprisoned Celestine where the holy hermit would die several months later. That successor, Boniface VIII, would go on to be one of the strongest political figures of his age, clashing spectacularly with kings and emperors, and establishing the Church’s practice of celebrating Jubilees every 25 or 50 years in 1300. But while he was celebrating worldly victories, Celestine was simply thanking God in his prison: “You wanted a cell, Peter, and a cell you have.” Celestine is now canonized a saint, Boniface is not. We must ask whether he traded many worldly victories for an eternal loss. Let us pray that he did not!

Fr. Dominic Rankin recently found himself walking and jogging the final two miles of the Boston Marathon, a personal-best slipping out of his grasp. Failure IS an option. It is the right option if it leads to our greater sanctity.

Stewardship of Treasure

May 11th & 12th

Envelopes:	\$4,751.00
Loose:	\$4,359.00
Maintenance:	\$77.00
Total:	\$9,187.00

April EFT

\$17,928.80

April Debt Reduction

\$650.00

April Second Collections

Catholic Home Missions
\$3,235.00

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 20

<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 K of C Meeting 6:00 PM School Classroom	Rosary 4:45 PM Church	Priest Ordination 10:00 AM 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!



National Eucharistic Pilgrimage

Walk with Jesus in our city streets in an unprecedented experience! You are invited to join the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, coming to seven cities in our diocese July 8-12! This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience in which Catholics will pray and publicly follow Jesus through Eucharistic processions. Cities include Collinsville, Alton, Quincy, Girard, Springfield, Effingham, and Teutopolis. Mass, adoration, potluck dinners, and powerful witness talks are also part of the experience. BE THERE WHEN GOD MOVES IN YOUR COMMUNITY! Go to dio.org to learn more and register!

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Mission Appeal in Springfield

Fr. Patrick Bergin, a priest of the Archdiocese of Tabora, in Tanzania, East Africa, will be participating in a mission appeal here in the Cathedral and will be speaking in the 4PM Mass on June 8 and 7AM, 10AM and 5PM Masses on June 9. Please be generous with your support. Thank you.

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 hdutton@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.

Available Now! Print and Digital Ad Spaces

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community! Brandy Stivers from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on ParishesOnline.com. Email Brandy at bstivers@4lpi.com for more information or to get started!

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.



Spirit to Spirit

Talk to any couple who are devoted to one another. Ask them when they realized they were in love — call-me-in-a-crisis love, face-the-day-to-day-with-me love — and the answer will probably not be “When I realized he was only dating me to win a bet with his boss.”

If you know what movie that references, you and 12-year-old me would have been great friends.

Like any other self-respecting American tween of the early 2000s, I used to watch a lot of romantic comedies. I forget how old I was when I realized that romantic comedies are actually ... really boring. Not because they're about love — true love is fascinating. I could watch real-life people talk about who they love for hours.

Because when we say we love someone — truly love them — what we mean is we love their spirit. We love what they are. We love the qualities that escape description, the attributes we have to talk around or reduce to cliché in order to define. We cannot love a body alone. We cannot love a name or a reputation. We cannot love a story that we've built around a relationship.

To be in love with someone you need to know their spirit. Intimately. And that knowledge cannot help but change everything about you. It changes your goals, your understanding of the world. It changes the amount of courage you have to face the life ahead of you. It changes your ability to be who God wants you to be.

The disciples lived and ate and walked with Jesus for three whole years before they really knew his spirit. They didn't know it on Good Friday when they scattered and hid and wept. They didn't know it on Easter Sunday, when they couldn't believe what they saw. They thought they loved him, but when push came to shove their love failed.

But by the end of their lives, the disciples knew the kind of love that sustained them even in the face of martyrdom.

What was it that changed? It was the Spirit. They finally knew the Spirit.

“No one can say, ‘Jesus is Lord,’ except by the Holy Spirit.” — 1 Corinthians 12:3

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman
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Around the Diocese

- **Board Member Search, Pregnancy Care Center:** the Center is currently seeking Board Member candidates to join its volunteer, working Board. The primary role of a Board Member is to assist with fundraising in order to keep the Center open and free for all clients. If you are interested in applying for a Board Member position, please email Executive Director, Kara Gray at kara.gray@hshs.org for more information.
- **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.
- **Pilgrimage to Poland and Prague, Budapest and Vienna** with Fr. Dean Probst and Fr. Michael Berndt, Oct. 14-25, 2024. Cost is \$3197/person. Contact Fr. Dean at 217-494-6326 phone/text or rdprobst@gmail.com for a complete brochure or any questions. There are 12 spaces left for the group.