

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

MAY 26, 2024 | THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY



**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 21

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

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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!



Prayer after Communion

Having taken some time for quiet prayer, after receiving Jesus in the Eucharist, the liturgy brings the Communion Rite to a conclusion with the Prayer after Communion. This prayer, similar to that of the Opening Collect, though brief in nature, can be a profound prayer to express in words what we desire in our hearts, having just welcomed the Lord anew into ourselves. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal describes this prayer in this way:

To bring to completion the prayer of the People of God, and also to conclude the whole Communion Rite, the Priest pronounces the Prayer after Communion, in which he prays for the fruits of the mystery just celebrated. (n. 89)

Perhaps the best way to appreciate this prayer is to look at a couple of examples, the first of which I will take from next Sunday's Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, also known as Corpus Christi. Here are the words the Church gives us to conclude our prayer on that solemnity, words which I think summarize what we desire every time we receive Holy Communion:

*Grant, O Lord, we pray,
that we may delight for all eternity
in that share in your divine life,
which is foreshadowed in the present age
by our reception of your precious Body and Blood.
Who live and reign for ever and ever.*

Another example that I find particularly beautiful, and which highlights how this sacrament of charity commits us to greater love of God and neighbor, comes from the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, which will be celebrated the Friday after Corpus Christi. Here are the words of that prayer:

*May this sacrament of charity, O Lord,
make us fervent with the fire of holy love
so that, drawn always to your Son,
we may learn to see him in our neighbor.
Through Christ our Lord.*

In last week's bulletin article, I encouraged the importance of taking time for silent prayer after receiving the Eucharist. I provided some examples, but I can also suggest that this Prayer after Communion can also be something we pray personally, before praying it communally, such that having reflected on the words briefly in silence, they will be all the more fruitful when we hear them proclaimed by the celebrant as we bring the Communion Rite to a close.

How beautiful indeed are these prayers that our Mother, the Church gives to us to pray during the Mass! I want to repeat something I wrote about the Opening Collect, words which I think apply equally as well to the Prayer after Communion. "In addition to praying with the readings of the Mass as a good way to prepare for Mass, praying with the Prayer after Communion can also be very fruitful, so do not overlook these gems that the Church offers to us as sources of rich reflection and meditation."

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 27

7am - Charles & Jane Baker
(Kathy Howard)
5:15pm - NO MASS (Memorial Day)

Tuesday, May 28

7am - Diana Schumacher
(Daniel Schumacher)
5:15pm - Bill Vogt
(Jim & Sandy Bloom)

Wednesday, May 29

7am - Mary Jane Kerns
(Estate)
5:15pm - Rose Marie Johnson
(D.A. Drago)

Thursday, May 30

7am - Kathy Crowley
(Celeste Crowley)
5:15pm - Sue Warner
(Jim & Sandy Bloom)

Friday, May 31

7am - Michael & Pattie Peet
(Vicki Compton)
5:15pm - Lessie Meredith Dortch
(Bev & Larry Smith)

Saturday, June 1

8am - John Montgomery
(John Busciacco)
4pm - For the People

Sunday, June 2

7am - Mary Conway
(Tom Conway)
10am - Mercedes & Charles Nesbitt
(Kathy Frank)
5pm - Thomas R. McGee
(McGee Family)



Bl. Juliana of Liège

Feast Day: May 26th

First stop: Bolsena, Italy, 1253 AD. A German priest, Peter of Prague, was on his way to Rome. He was almost there, just 60 miles away, and had stopped in that little town to celebrate Mass at a small church dedicated to the martyr St. Christina. The fact was he was on pilgrimage to Rome because he was struggling to believe that the bread and wine became Jesus' Body and Blood when he spoke the words of consecration.

It was only a few decades before that the Fourth Lateran Council – among a whole lot of other things – had formally used the word “transubstantiation” to describe the change that happened to the bread and wine at Mass. Of course, even the simplest Christian and dozens of the greatest bishops and fathers of the Church from the earliest days of the Church had believed that when Jesus said “this is my Body”, and when the priest said it, it was true, it happened. But that radical truth is not easy to understand, and so a smattering of theologians over the centuries had tried to rationalize it away, leading to the aforementioned clarification from Lateran IV. In any case, Fr. Peter was no theologian, nor heretic, but as he prayed those perennial words “hoc est enim Corpus Meum” [“this is My Body”], his heart still questioned.

And then the host began to bleed.

Second stop: Orvieto, Italy, April 27th, 2015 AD. The bishop of Orvieto, a small city a dozen miles west of Bolsena, was finally receiving the results from a project that experts had been conducting during that entire season of Lent. You see, when Fr. Peter had found his Mass interrupted by the very visible presence of Jesus' Body and Blood, he had done the sensible thing and humbly gone to the bishop in Orvieto to confess his doubt, and ask what ought to be done with the blood that he dripped from his trembling hands upon the altar and corporal. The bishop, with Pope Urban IV tagging along since he was actually living there at the time, hastened to see the miracle for themselves, and brought it back in great solemnity to the bigger city. Within a year Urban IV would be the first Pope to instate a universal feast day for Holy Roman Church, enlisting St. Thomas Aquinas, to formulate prayers for the Mass and Office of that day, with Tantum Ergo spilling from choir lofts and congregations ever since.

Fast forward 800 years, and Ester Giovacchini, an expert in conservative restoration and ancient fabrics, was concluding her presentation to the modern Bishop of Orvieto, with the results of her microscopic examination of that same corporal. Like his predecessor, his own faith was rekindled. It is not wine stains that spot the ancient square of linen, but plasma and serum of human blood dating back to when Fr. Peter's shaking hands held that bleeding host.

But the feast of Corpus Christi predated Lateran IV's First Canon, Urban IV's "Transiturus de hoc mundo", Thomas Aquinas's "Pange Lingua", or Peter of Prague's doubt.

Third stop: Liège, Belgium, 1198 AD. A little girl, Juliana, was orphaned when both her parents died, and so ended up with her sister being raised at the Norbertine convent of Mont-Cornillon. The quiet, bookish, girl loved to read the theology of Augustine and Bernard, but also to care for the sick and lepers – hers was a deep faith, combined with a deep charity. As a young lay woman, she began having visions of the moon, marred by a dark spot, as she prayed to Jesus about its meaning, she came to know that the Church needed to better celebrate the gift of the Blessed Sacrament. Turmoil was all around. In Juliana's life, a corrupt priest ran her out of town the simple dwelling of a nearby anchoress. But it was that pious woman who convinced Juliana to share her hope with the bishop, to help draft a set of prayers and hymns for such a feast, all of which was also shared with the Archdeacon of Liège, Jacques Pantaléon.

He went to the Council of Leon I some decades later, impressed Pope Innocent IV, was sent to negotiate various big and important situations in Germany, Jerusalem, and France. And then was elected Pope Urban IV, who found himself on one important afternoon staying with the Bishop of Orvieto.

When St. Thomas Aquinas finished his office for the great feast of Corpus Christi, the first antiphon of vespers for the evening before Corpus Christi – the very first line to be chanted around by every priest and nun and layperson around the Christian world – was not written by the great Dominican. He knew he could do no better than what had been already penned by a little-known pious lay-woman up in Belgium:

Animarum cibus Dei | Food for souls
 sapientia nobis | the wisdom of God has offered to us
 carnem assumptam proposuit in edulium | for the flesh that He has assumed
 ut per cibum humanitatis | so that through the food of humanity
 invitaret ad gustum divinitatis | He may invite us to taste of divinity.

Fr. Dominic Rankin can resonate with Peter of Prague. How is it that God would love us so much to become food we can eat ... would love me so much as to enter the world in my hands?! Perhaps rather than questioning, we would better to emulate Juliana and simply smile when His Love surpasses our mind's capacity to understand, and our heart's capacity to love.

Stewardship of Treasure

May 18th & 19th

Envelopes:	\$4,659.00
Loose:	\$3,370.00
Maintenance:	\$40.00
Total:	\$8,069.00

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!

Sacraments

Baptisms

Laney Marie Matli
 Child of Shane & Sarah Matli
 Baptized on May 19, 2024

WEEK OF MAY 27

<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>
NO 5:15 PM Mass - Memorial Day	Adoration 4:00 PM Church	Men's Bible Study 6:00 AM School Library Rosary 4:45 PM Church Ukraine and the Catholic Response Presentation 6:00 PM Atrium Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM School Classroom	Summer Bible Study - Fearless & Free 1:00 PM School Library Adoration 4:00 PM Church	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!



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



Church Bells and Air Raid Sirens – Faith Amidst Fire in Ukraine, A Presentation by Erica Smith, Executive Director of Hospital Sisters Mission Outreach

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.) Wednesday, May 29 @ 6:00pm, Cathedral Atrium

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 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.

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.



Precious Things

I once wrote an article about a school that embraced the Reggio Emilia approach to education. This meant, in practice, a lot of fascinating things, and it was a fun piece to work on. But all these years later, I could not accurately describe the Reggio Emilia style of learning to anyone except to say this: they give the kids glass bowls and china plates.

That's what stuck with me, and that's what sticks out in my memory amidst the hundreds of intervening articles and interviews on other equally fascinating topics. I remember those glass bowls and cups lining the shelves, the fine china dishes, the beautiful shiny cutlery the children used for lunch.

This was a pre-school, and these students were three-year-olds. "If they drop a cup and it shatters, then they learn that glass can break. We clean it up," the teacher said with a shrug. The idea was that a child will never learn to handle a fragile, precious thing — and grow into an adult who can respect and cherish a fragile, precious thing — if they are not sincerely trusted with a precious thing whose fragility they bear personal witness to.

The breaking, you see, was part of the education.

The disciples worshiped, but they doubted. And yet, Christ gave them the Great Commission anyway, something fragile and important, something that could be easily dropped and easily broken. Christ knew who they were, what they were. They were mere human beings, deeply imperfect, scared and hesitant, a little slow on the uptake. He knows that's exactly what we are, too. But he gives us the Great Commission just as he gave it to them. Because that is what the Faith is: it is something perfectly beautiful, passed from one flawed person to another, throughout the ages — constantly dropped, constantly broken, and constantly, miraculously, pieced back together again.

"Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations." — Matthew 28:19-20

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.