

The Diocese of Springfield

E-NEWSLETTER

July 2026 - The Week of V Pentecost

Christ in the House of Martha and Mary, Jacopo Dal Ponte, c. 1600s, Picryl (Public Domain)

All Donations Now Matched Dollar for Dollar

Endorsed by Diocesan Council and Trustees, Bishop Burgess will be matching all donations made to the Diocesan Appeal between July 1 and November 1 (up to \$40,000) from funds left to his discretion by previous generations of faithful giving. All donations received during this time will receive a one-to-one match. It is his hope that this will motivate a final wave of sacrificial giving that will push the project to its completion and the total \$250,000 goal. To read more about the progress on the Appeal and how you can double the impact of your generosity, click the [here](#).

UPCOMING:

- 7/04 - Independence Day
- 7/08 - Priscilla and Aquila
- 7/11 - Benedict of Nursia
- 7/22 - Saint Mary Magdalene
- 7/23 - John Cassian
- 7/24 - Thomas à Kempis
- 7/25 - Saint James the Apostle
- 7/29 - Mary & Martha of Bethany



Diaconal Ordination

On Wednesday, June 24th, The Nativity of St. John the Baptist was observed within the Cathedral Church of St. Paul the Apostle with a Mass of Diaconal Ordination. Danny Shuler and Jeff Wenzel were presented to Bishop Burgess for the conveying of Holy Orders. Over 70 stood as witness and lent their voice to the necessary consent when asked, “Is it your will that Danny and Jeffrey be ordained deacons?” (BCP pg. 539) Dean Andrew Hook

preached the Homily reminding the congregation that it is quite liberating to properly subject our lives and ministries to rightful authority. Clergy and laity stood as the rubrically-required presenters and assisted in the vesting of the newly ordained according to the order of deacons. Following the Episcopal Blessing and Dismissal, a reception was held in the Diocesan Center as the opportunity to greet and congratulate those now living their lives under Diaconal Orders.

Congratulations Deacon Shuler and Deacon Wenzel.



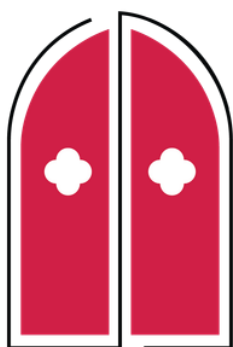
The Episcopal Parish of Alton's 190th Anniversary Celebration

The Episcopal Parish of Alton, IL would like to extend an invitation to the Diocese to join them in their 190th Anniversary Celebration, lasting from July 3rd through the 5th. The weekend will feature many fun events, including a jazz concert, a 4th of July cookout, and services of Evensong and Holy Eucharist. For more information on the weekend, [click here.](#)



Matching Grant Opportunity

The Diocese of Springfield is now ready to make funds available for matching grants for capital improvement projects. [Click here to submit an application.](#) 40% of the collected funds are available for matching grants to our parishes and missions. Please complete the application and submit it no later than **August 3rd**.



Emmanuel Memorial
Episcopal Church

On May 17, Emmanuel Memorial in Champaign launched Open Doors, a three-year [strategic plan](#) and [capital campaign](#) (click links to view). The plan rests on four "Pillars": Worship, Parish Life, Outreach, and a facilities- and staff-focused area called Heritage and Future. The parish seeks to boost Sunday attendance and membership significantly, focusing on young adults and families, while investing in new programs and a renewal of parochial buildings. The \$1 million capital campaign will address short-term capital improvements, while the parish prepares a long-term plan for renovations. The campaign has \$650,000 already pledged. Please pray for this important effort, and contact Fr Zachary Guiliano if you would like to contribute to the capital campaign (rector@emmanuelmemorialepiscopal.org).

BISHOP'S VISIT TO ECCI 2026





Please include those in our Diocese who are pursuing Holy Orders in your prayers:

Andrew Meade, Postulant, Trinity, Lincoln
Zach Buscher, Postulant, Trinity, Lincoln
Len Harris, Postulant, Church of the Redeemer, Cairo

You can visit our website to check out the most up-to-date prayer calendar ([click here](#)) or our diocesan calendar ([click here](#)) with feasts and other events listed for around the Diocese.



Christ Appears to Mary Magdalene, Picryl (Public Domain)



The Episcopal Church in Central and Southern Illinois

