

## News for the month of June 2021 in the Diocese

### **BISHOP SEARCH**

#### **From the Election Committee**

The Election Committee is pleased to announce that within days the Diocesan Profile will be posted online and nominations for the 12th Bishop of Springfield will be open. The profile provides raw data for potential nominees, delegates, alternates, and the faithful of the Diocese to “read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest.” It is the story of the Diocese thus far. The story speaks to who we are, what we think, and what we have done. There is little analysis and interpretation provided. You are invited into a prayerful process of discernment for nominees and the Diocese. Ultimately God provides the interpretation of and insight into our story.

We want to extend thanks to the hundreds of you who have helped in the creation of this profile during the Listening Phase of the election process. Seven hundred seventy-seven (777) of you responded to the survey, just over one hundred people commented using the anonymous comment box on the diocesan website, and nearly one hundred took part in the mix of online and in-person listening sessions. Your feedback and insights are much of what is contained within the profile.

Nominations for the 12th Bishop of Springfield will close on June 30, 2021. The Diocese of Springfield uses a uniquely transparent process for electing a bishop. There is no search committee that assembles a slate; instead, delegates to our Nominating Synod will choose the final nominees from among all those who complete the nomination process and pass the required reference and background checks. Between now and mid-September, the Election Committee will be busy vetting the submitted nominations and planning and preparing for the Nominating Synod, which will be held October 16th, in conjunction with the Annual Diocesan Synod October 15-16, 2021.

In the meantime, we ask that you continue to pray for potential nominees, those who will choose a bishop for this Diocese, and the faithful of the diocese.

*Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese, that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. -BCP page 818, #13*

Rod Matthews  
Chair, Election Committee

### **FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

Great thanks are due to the Election Committee, who will soon release the profile of our diocese and open nominations for our 12th Bishop. Please stay on the lookout for their email announcement. We are especially grateful to Mother Sherry Black as she steps down to do her own work of discernment, and to Rod Matthews as he transitions from Co-Chair to Chair. Please pray that all the nominees Our Lord wishes to participate in this process will hear his call, and consider whether he is inviting you to put someone's name forward! Nominations close June 30th.

We are also pleased to announce that beginning August 1, Bishop Paul Lambert, retired Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese of Dallas, will become our Assisting Bishop for the time preceding the 12th Bishop's

arrival in the Diocese of Springfield. Bishop Lambert will be in the diocese roughly one week a month, and looks forward to getting to know our churches and people. Early in his time with us he will hold three area meetings for clergy (two deaneries per meeting), which will replace the November clergy conference due to the fall's heavy meeting schedule including two Synods plus walkabouts. The Bishop will also be available for confirmations, clergy discipline, pastoral care, and other specifically episcopal functions. Watch for a fuller letter of introduction from Bishop Lambert in the summer Current. We look forward to having him with us!

## **COMPANION DIOCESE**

Below is a portion of an email we recently received from Bishop Elias in Tanzania:

*Our Diocesan convention is scheduled to take place on 20th to 24th June 2021. It is a very short notice but we pray that God will provide according to our needs. Brother in Africa we have countless needs but for this humble appeal is about our general convention to cater for accommodation and meal for our representatives from all over the diocese. May God bless you as you pray for us.*

*+Elias*

*The Rt. Rev. Dr. Elias M. Chakupewa*

*Bishop of Tabora Diocese*

Bishop Elias is asking for \$3,000 so his people can gather and the Standing Committee agreed to send aid. Without funds from the Diocese of Tabora, many attendees to their convention cannot afford to be present. As we exit our own time of isolation, perhaps a way to give thanks is to help our brothers and sisters in the Diocese of Tabora meet together and greet each other in the Name of the Lord at their convention.

To make a gift, please write a check to 'Bishop's Discretionary Fund' with 'Tabora' in the memo line and send it to the Diocesan Office 821 S. Second St. Springfield, IL 62704.

Thank you for giving!

## **MINISTRIES**

### **CURSILLO**

Cursillo Springfield is excited to announce the date of their next weekend retreat will be July 28-31, 2022. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information!

## **AROUND THE DIOCESE**

Congratulations and best wishes to our recent Nashotah House graduates! May their ministry moving forward be fruitful. Please keep David Knox and Richard Armidon in your prayers as they begin the next part of their journey.



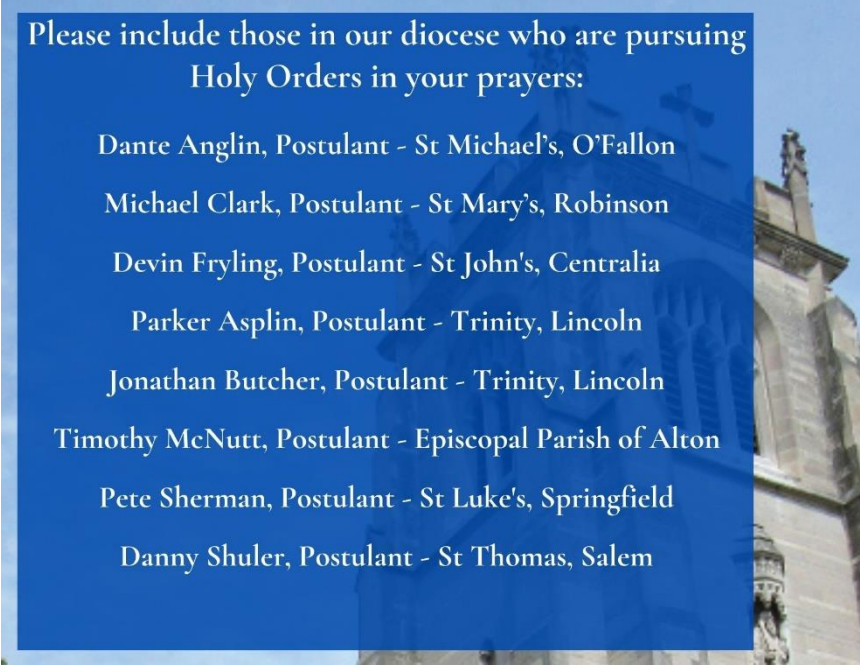
From left to right: Robert Armidon, Mother Hannah Armidon, Danté Anglin, Deacon David Knox, Dean Andy Hook, Canon Mark Evans, Fr Dave Wells, Bishop Martins, Brenda Martins.

photo by Bishop Martins



All are invited to a Gala Banquet in honor of Bishop and Brenda Martins on Sunday, June 27th at 5:00pm at the Inn at 835 in Springfield. Your RSVP is requested no later than June 12. The RSVP form is attached to this email.

On that same day, the Cathedral Church of St Paul will sponsor an Evensong in honor of the Bishop at 4:00pm. If you have questions about this service, please contact the Cathedral.



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

Dante Anglin, Postulant - St Michael's, O'Fallon

Michael Clark, Postulant - St Mary's, Robinson

Devin Fryling, Postulant - St John's, Centralia

Parker Asplin, Postulant - Trinity, Lincoln

Jonathan Butcher, Postulant - Trinity, Lincoln

Timothy McNutt, Postulant - Episcopal Parish of Alton

Pete Sherman, Postulant - St Luke's, Springfield

Danny Shuler, Postulant - St Thomas, Salem

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