



The MESSAGE

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Cathedral moving Mass to Woodward Center for nearly two weeks

Special to the Message

Masses for St. Benedict Cathedral Parish in Evansville will move from the Cathedral to the Woodward Center from July 8-19 to accommodate installation of the Gallery organ.

St. Benedict Cathedral Rector and Diocesan Vicar General Father Alex Zenthoefler announced during the weekend Masses June 29 and June 30 that all parish Masses will be held in the Woodward Center beginning July 8 and running through July 19. The weekday and weekend Masses over those dates will move to the Woodward Center.

Daily Masses will remain at 9 a.m. Confessions will still be heard at their normal times. Signs outside the Woodward Center will indicate the location.

If it becomes possible to return Masses to the Cathedral sooner, they will place signs on the doors of the Woodward Center and make an announcement on Facebook.

All Saints to celebrate anniversary of building dedication

Special to The Message

All Saints Parish is preparing to celebrate the history of one of its church buildings: St. Joseph Catholic Church on Virginia Street in Evansville. This August marks 100 years since the building was completed and dedicated.

The cornerstone of the current church was laid May 20, 1923, and construction was completed in the summer of 1924. The church was designed in neo-Romanesque style. The architecture is highlighted by its round arches, stately limestone columns and exquisite marble sanctuary furnishings donated by Francis Joseph Reitz in memory of his sister, Mathilda Reitz. Italian artisans came to install all of the marble pieces including statues, side altars, com-

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Submitted photo

A dedication for the cornerstone of the current church was held over 100 years ago on May 20, 1923.



Bishop Burbidge reflects on anniversary of Dobbs decision

By **MOST REVEREND MICHAEL F. BURBIDGE**,
BISHOP OF ARLINGTON
Chairman, USCCB Committee
on Pro-Life Activities

On June 24, 2024, we celebrated the second anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, ending

the tragic reign of *Roe v. Wade*. It is a day for thanksgiving to God for answering our prayers and blessing the many years of hard work. This anniversary calls us to reflect on where we have been and where we are going.

The reversal of *Roe v. Wade* brought new opportunities to protect innocent human life. While some states have done this, others have enacted extreme abortion policies. Children have been left vulnerable to abortion until the moment of birth. Kansas, Michigan and Ohio drastically expanded access to abortion. This fall, as many as 10 additional states will have abortion referenda on their ballots, allowing voters to enshrine "abortion rights" and override existing pro-life safeguards.

At the same time, Congress has been promoting many pro-abortion policies while largely ignoring our calls to prioritize maternal health and support for children and families in need. In the spirit of faithful citizenship, I urge Catholics to engage their elected officials on all issues endangering life.

As we navigate this shifting political landscape, I cannot help but think the Holy Spirit has inspired our National Eucharistic Revival for such a time as this. Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist has the power to transform our own hearts and the heart of our culture. Even now, Catholics across the country are processing with Christ in the Eucharist from city to city, with their journeys culminating in the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis.

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Nebraska bishop shares mental illness story, offers message of hope

By **KATE QUIÑONES**
Catholic News Agency

After seven years of heading the Diocese of Lincoln, Nebraska, Bishop James Conley found himself "buckling" under all of his duties and experiencing severe anxiety, insomnia and depression.

Several years later, after addressing his mental health needs, the bishop shared his reflections on mental health and Christ in a May 16 pastoral letter in which he emphasized the importance of support from his friends, family, medical professionals — and his golden retriever, Stella.

"I was overwhelmed by my responsibilities as bishop and relying too much on my own strength," Conley wrote in a May 17 introduction to his pastoral letter in the Southern Nebraska Register. "As I received good professional care, I learned that weakness is part of the human condition, but the more we rely exclusively on ourselves, the more those weaknesses are exacerbated."

Mental health is a growing concern in the United States. The percentage of U.S. adults diagnosed with depression has risen almost 10 percent since 2015, reaching 29 percent according to a 2023 Gallup poll, and data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shows that almost half of U.S. teens report experiencing persistent sadness and hopelessness.

The Catholic Church is taking steps to prioritize support and

resources for those struggling with mental illness and challenges. From Phoenix to Washington, D.C., dioceses are offering Masses and retreats for people struggling with mental illness, while the Association of Catholic Mental Health Ministers (CMHM) is establishing mental health resources in parishes worldwide.

A bishop's healing

In his pastoral letter, Conley shared about how stress, overwork and self-reliance led to the deterioration of his mental, physical and spiritual health. The road to wellness would be a long one, but when Conley shared why he was taking a leave of absence, he received overwhelming support from the people of his diocese.

"About seven years after becoming bishop of Lincoln I started buckling under my episcopal duties," Conley wrote in the May 16 letter. "The people of this diocese have a beautiful faith, and I wanted to be the strong, invincible leader I thought they deserved. Day in and day out, I tried to fix the problems brought to me instead of surrendering them to the Lord."

Overwhelmed by the work, Conley noted that over time, he "slackened in taking care of my own physical and mental well-being."

"The first thing to go was my sleep because my brain would run nonstop," Conley wrote. "All night I would lie in bed rehashing the day's events, wrongly believing everything depended on

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