

**Homily for the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper
March 28, 2013**

**Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception
Springfield**

**+ Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois**

Dear brother priests and deacon[s], consecrated [men and] women, my dear brothers and sisters in Christ: since the election of our Holy Father Pope Francis, believers and unbelievers alike have been captivated by the simplicity of his way of life and the humility shown in his words and actions. It is a simplicity and a humility that we saw in his predecessor Benedict XVI, but is now being expressed or seen from a different angle in the Pope elected from the ends of the earth.

Such simplicity and humility is found in the desire to imitate Christ; it is gained in following the model he has given us, the model of self-giving love (cf. John 13:15). Such simplicity and humility is attractive because it points to God. Deep within our souls we know that Jesus is either the Son of God, or he is not; either he is the Savior, or is not.

In his recent book reflecting on this Year of Faith, Father Mitch Pacwa, S.J., reminds us that