



Cathedral WEEKLY

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

OMNIA IN BONUM | FR. BRIAN ALFORD

Cathedral WEEKLY

THE MOST REVEREND THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
NINTH BISHOP
OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS

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PAROCHIAL VICAR

THE REVEREND DOMINIC VAHLING
PAROCHIAL VICAR

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524 East Lawrence Springfield, IL 62703
Cathedral Parish Office: 217-522-3342
Website: www.spicathedral.org

Mass Times: 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

Diocesan Victim Assistance is available. For the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, please call 217-321-1155.

Please remember that if you or a loved one is in the hospital, a nursing home or home-bound, to contact the Parish Office or Sr. Francella at 217-522-3342 x 142.

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!



Omnia in Bonum

“We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.” (Rom 8:28)

These words from the Second Reading for this 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time are wonderfully encouraging words for us as Christians to hear. They remind us of the beautiful truth that the Lord is always working for our good, even when the circumstances of our lives seem to contradict that truth.

I do not intend to try to explain the theology of God's unchanging providential will and how our free will relates to that plan. Just thinking about that can drive even the most astute theologian crazy! Rather, I would like to propose that we reflect on this truth as it has unfolded in our lives. Every one of us has encountered struggles, and while we may have not enjoyed them at the time, we usually come away from those experiences having learned some valuable lessons, lessons which help us as we move on in our lives. This is a basic proof for the validity of the words I referenced above from St. Paul.

As Christians, we are invited to have this belief not just after the fact, but before and during the events of our lives. In other words, when we anticipate something difficult that lies ahead for us, we should be reminded of this promise and know that no matter how difficult the future may be, God can use that in our lives for our good. And when we are in the midst of trials, we can face them with that supernatural perspective that we who love God believe that He has not abandoned us and that He can and will lead us to a place of good.

In all of this, we must remember that the good the Lord brings about is not necessarily according to our definition of good. The good of which St. Paul speaks is the good of our growing in holiness, which sometimes requires purification of our sinfulness. That can be painful, but it is always directed toward helping us to be more like Christ. Even when our trials mean suffering and possibly even death, our faith invites us to be reminded that our greatest good is not to be found here in this life, but it awaits us in the glory of Heaven. It was from that supernatural outlook that led St. Paul to write earlier in this same chapter of his Letter to the Romans: “I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us.” (Rom 8:18)

So as we face the ups and downs of life this week, maybe we could have these words in our hearts: “All things work for the good...*omnia in bonum*”, serving as an act of faith that helps us to be reminded that God our loving Father is always aware of our circumstances and is preparing good gifts for us, His beloved children.

Father Alford is the Rector of the Cathedral and serves in the diocesan curia as the Vicar for Clergy, Consecrated Life, and Vocations.

Stewardship Activity

Stewardship of Prayer

Gracious and Holy Father,
grant us the intellect to understand You,
reason to discern You, diligence to seek You,
wisdom to find You, a spirit to know You
and a heart to meditate on You.
May our ears hear You, may our eyes behold You
and may our tongues proclaim You.
Give us grace that our way of life may be pleasing to You,
that we may have the patience to wait for You
and the perseverance to look for You.
Grant us a perfect end, Your holy presence,
a blessed resurrection and life everlasting.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Mass Intentions

Monday - July 27

7am - John Vogt, Sr.
(Bill Vogt)
5:15pm - Richiusa & Leo Families
(Family)

Tuesday - July 28

7am - Justine Ford
(Jeannette Giannone)
5:15pm - Alexander J. Contreras
(Betty & Glen Rogers)

Wednesday - July 29

7am - Patrick Gibson
(Chuck Morris)
5:15pm - Mary Ann O'Shea
(McGee Family)

Thursday - July 30

7am - Anna A. Eleyidath
(Augustine Eleyidath)
5:15pm - Mary & Jim Mermin
(Lenn Family)

Friday - July 31

7am - Mary Priester
(Family)
5:15pm - Barbara McGee
(McGee Family)

Saturday - August 1

8am - George Ziegler
(William & Debra Stonikas)
4pm - Bredgetta Lenn
(Lenn Family)

Sunday - August 2

7am - For the People
10am - Charles & Mercedes Nesbitt
(Kathy Frank)
5pm - Bart Rotherham
(Betty Rotherham)

Stewardship of Treasure - July 19th & 20th

Envelopes:	\$5,050.00
Loose:	\$1,797.00
Maintenance:	\$190.00
Total:	\$7,037.00

June EFT: \$25,536.85

Did you know you can make a gift online? If you would like to extend a special gift to the Cathedral, please visit <https://spicathedral.org/give-online/>. We appreciate your generosity!