



THE SOCIETY FOR THE PROPAGATION OF THE FAITH

# World Mission Sunday

October 18, 2020



## HERE I AM, SEND ME



THE PONTIFICAL MISSION SOCIETIES IN THE UNITED STATES

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# *Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception*

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## **Sunday Masses**

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

## **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!

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.



## Season of Stewardship

Over the next few weeks, you will be receiving some information from Bishop Paprocki and myself regarding a diocesan initiative known as the Season of Stewardship. The immediate reaction many have when we hear the word “stewardship” is that it is a nuanced way of asking for your money. And while stewardship does include a financial element, to limit it to that is a failure on our part to grasp the beauty of this important concept which is so important to us as people of faith.

If you recall our Fourth Diocesan Synod, we placed a lot of emphasis on our call to discipleship. In my mind, that is the key takeaway from the whole Synod, that we are called to embrace a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, out of which will flow everything else that is talked about in the Synod. An intentional disciple is one who recognizes first that he or she is loved as a child of God. An awareness of being known and loved personally by Our Lord can make a profound impact on our lives. I love the following quote from Father Pedro Arrupe, SJ on this idea:

*Nothing is more practical than finding God,  
than falling in Love in a quite absolute, final way.  
What you are in love with, what seizes your imagination,  
will affect everything.  
It will decide what will get you out of bed in the morning,  
what you do with your evenings,  
how you spend your weekends,  
what you read, whom you know, what breaks your heart,  
and what amazes you with joy and gratitude.  
Fall in Love, stay in love, and it will decide everything.*

Part of our faith formation topic for this month is: God is the source of all life. As we embark on this Season of Stewardship together, we are invited to hear this theme as it applies to each of us in a particular way, and so we might reword the topic this way: God is the source of my life. Each of us can and should ask ourselves: “Does this statement reflect the reality of my life? Do I recognize that everything I have is from Him and belongs to Him?” When we come to the realization that God is the source and center of our lives, our response is one of gratitude, a gratitude that translates into a response of giving ourselves back to Him with everything – our time, our talent, our treasure – our entire lives.

May the Lord bless each of you with an awareness of God’s personal love for you as His beloved son or daughter, an awareness that will decide everything in your lives.

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

### Stewardship of Treasure - October 10th and 11th

Envelopes:	\$6,729.00
Loose:	\$2,710.00
Maintenance:	\$265.00
Total:	\$9,704.00

September EFT: \$23,522.40

Online Giving: If you would like to extend a special gift to the Cathedral, please visit our website. Our parish is grateful for your continued support. Thank you!





## Sacraments of Desire

I have often heard that “God is bound to the Sacraments, but he is not bound by the Sacraments.” This means that whenever a Sacrament is celebrated worthily according to the rite of the Church, he gives sacramental grace every time. He has bound himself by the covenant with his people which was sealed by his blood. However, God is free to give grace outside the sacraments, even to those who are not Christians.

Is baptism necessary to go to heaven? Strictly speaking, the answer is “no.” There are billions of people in the world who have never been baptized, through no fault of their own, yet we can still have hope of their salvation. Christ died for all. However, the effect of baptism is necessary for salvation. Baptism forgives Original Sin (and all other sins for adults) and restores the life of God, sanctifying grace, in the soul. This effect can be received through a baptism of desire. This means that as long as a person is open to God’s grace, God will give this grace even without a person being physically baptized. One example of this is the Catechumens of the Church. Catechumens are seeking baptism and initiation into the Catholic Church. What happens if a Catechumen were to sadly pass away before his or her baptism? The Church has always believed that because of the Catechumen’s desire for baptism, God has already given this grace to their souls. Thus, they would be given a Catholic funeral with great hope that they are on their way to heaven.

God can give grace however he would like to. After all, grace is his free gift to begin with! A common tradition in our Church is to receive a spiritual Communion. One blessing about our recent pandemic is that this tradition of spiritual communion has been popularized once again because many people still are not able to receive Communion at Mass. A spiritual communion involves making one’s desire for Holy Communion known to God. We believe that when we make this prayer in good faith, God gives us the graces that would ordinarily be given to us through reception of the Eucharist. There are several formulas floating around for this prayer, but here is a simple example: “Lord Jesus, I cannot at this time receive you in the Eucharist. However, I desire for you to come into my heart right now because I love you and desire to be with you.” We can have faith that God will always answer this prayer because he loves us! We can make this act of spiritual communion at any time, not just while watching a livestreamed Mass!

One more “sacrament of desire” that it would be helpful to know about is the Sacrament of Penance. The only ordinary way in the Church to have our serious sins forgiven is through Confession. However, it is of the utmost importance that if we do happen to commit a serious sin, we turn to prayer immediately and express our love for God and sorrow for our sin. This is called an act of “perfect” contrition. This does not mean that we are perfect by any means, but it entails sorrow for our sins because of how they offend God and his love for us. When we do this, we can know that God has already forgiven our sin. However, we should still seek out Reconciliation at the first available opportunity, and we should not receive the Eucharist until we have done so. This practice of making an act of perfect contrition can give us a great sense of peace and avoid despair when we have fallen into sin.

God is so loving and as our Father in heaven, he gives us all that we need. When we desire his grace, he will answer this desire of our heart every time!

*Father Dominic Vahling is a newly ordained priest. He serves as parochial vicar at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and as co-chaplain of Sacred Heart-Griffin High School.*

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, October 19

7am - Alice Lucasey  
(Family)  
5:15pm - William Minder  
(LouAnn & Carl Corrigan)

### Tuesday, October 20

7am - Vincenzo Giannone  
(Jeannette Giannone)  
5:15pm - Deceased Members  
of the CCCW (CCCW)

### Wednesday, October 21

7am - Lawrence Bussard  
(Connie Bussard)  
5:15pm - Richiusa & Leo  
Families (Family)

### Thursday, October 22

7am - Dorothy Huber  
(Huber Family)  
5:15pm - Kathleen Porter  
(Dick & Kay King)

### Friday, October 23

7am - Anna A. Eleyidath  
(Augustine Eleyidath)  
5:15pm - Frances Klein  
(Andrew & Cheryl Klein  
Family)

### Saturday, October 24

8am - Edward Hergenrother  
(Thomas Hergenrother)  
4pm - Lawrence Bussard  
(Connie Bussard)

### Sunday, October 25

7am - Mary Ann Midden  
(William Midden)  
10am - Charlotte Cullin  
(Sue Warner)  
5pm - For the People



## St. Isaac Jogues: A Eucharistic Life and Death

**Feast Day: October 19th**

North of Albany, NY and South of Montreal, Quebec lies a little lake nestled at the foot of the Adirondack mountains. It has long had the nickname “the Queen of American Lakes” because of its picturesque and tranquil waters, surrounded every autumn by glorious orange and red foliage. On the southern tip of this lake in 1755, English forces built Fort William Henry as an important step in their wresting control of the region from French control, a crucial move in the outcome of the

French and Indian war (The Last of the Mohicans describes an event later in that struggle). The English would eventually take control of the Northern part of the lake as well, including its waterway up to Lake Champlain, building the famous Fort Ticonderoga on that spot, and cementing the lake’s name as “Lake George” (after King George II). Twenty years later, that fort would be the location of the first American offensive against the British of the Revolutionary War, and it would be the cannons the Green Mountain Boys captured from that fort that would later help lift the siege of Boston and turn the course of the war in the colonists favor. But something greater than military victory was here.

That spot, between Lake George and Lake Champlain, a hundred years earlier, was the passage taken by a dozen canoes, carrying a few French Missionaries and a number of Huron Indians, returning with medical supplies from Quebec in 1642. The Huron men and women trusted the white man in the black robe who guided the lead canoe downstream. Ondessonk, they called him, “Bird of Prey”. Who could have said that the cultured boy with a decent upbringing in France would find himself at 35 years of age surrounded so far from home by such a flock. It had taken countless hours to grow accustomed to the uncomfortable crouch in that canoe, weeks to become the first white-man to hike over the Adirondacks and see Lake Superior, months to learn the languages and customs of these people he loved so dearly, and all of those prior 6 years to earn their trust.

Then the silence of oars slipping in and out of the stream was split by bloodthirsty cries as Mohawk warriors rushed on them from the woods. Isaac was the priest’s name, Isaac Jogues, and like his namesake, the son of Abraham, he could have escaped this sacrifice. He was in the lead boat, he was strong and capable from those 6 arduous years, and he was already hidden from the sight of the attacking braves, but his love was not for himself but for his friends who had been captured, and his enemies who had captured them. He had made the vow years before to give himself utterly to the call of Christ, and so he did not hesitate to sacrifice himself as a father for his children. He would endure beatings, mockings, burns, frostbite, malnourishment, flogging, and the agonizing loss of his fingernails and thumb in the months to come. Yet he still chose love. Love continuously offered to his fellow prisoners – giving them the solace, natural and supernatural, that he could – as well as love and patience for his captors – gathering wood, offering them baptism, saving the life of a pregnant mother from drowning.

Many months later, he was freed, smuggled out of the Mohawk camp and all the way back to Europe. It was Christmas, 1643, when the bedraggled, battered, missionary arrived at the Jesuit residence in Rennes, France. The Rector plied this stranger with questions about the missions of the new world, asking hesitantly “what about Fr. Isaac Jogues?” Ondessonk must have smirked as he replied: “He is at liberty and it is he, Reverend Father, who speaks to you.” The “living martyr” would receive accolades from the Pope, and permission to continue to celebrate the Eucharist despite his inability to follow all the rubrics of the Mass (because of his mangled hand). But he would give all that up to return to the Iroquois, an ambassador of peace.

3 years before he had merely faced a hard trek up to Quebec as he transversed those hills; now he faced likely death in ministering to the Mohawks. It was the day before Corpus Christi as he stood on the banks of that beautiful lake once again, and so he named it “Lac du Saint Sacrement”, “The Lake of the Most Blessed Sacrament”. For a man described as a “soul glued to the Blessed Sacrament”, who cried upon losing his hands, not from pain but from the seeming impossibility of ever again celebrating the Mass, the coming hardships were nothing compared to going without Holy Communion. ...*It is this for which I beg Your Reverence to entreat Our Lord, and especially to remember at the altar a poor priest, who is about to remain 8 or 9 months without mass. It will be to me an increase of obligation to be, more than ever, my Reverend Father, your very humble and obedient servant in God* [Isaac Jogues, Letter from Montreal, September 12, 1646]

Yet he went anyway. And though without the Eucharist for all those months, he lived in his own body and blood the same sacrifice that he hungered constantly to be united to. His bravery was that of the ondessonk, his sacrifice that of the pelican, his consecration unwavering like Christ. *I shall depart in 2 or 3 days for the Iroquois journey. Still, for life, all in Our Lord.* [Isaac Jogues, Letter from 3 Rivers, September 21, 1646]

May we all give our lives as courageously, as lovingly, and as Eucharistically, as did St. Isaac Jogues.

*Fr. Dominic Rankin is a priest after Jesus Christ, seeking to be more like Him each day.*



(Mosaic of St. Isaac Jogues, from Saints Who Spread Catholicism in America, at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, Hildreth Meière, 1949)

# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Around the Cathedral

### The Sacrament of Baptism

Baptism has been called "the door of the Church", for receiving this sacrament introduces us into the Body of Christ, which is the Church. During this session, Father Peter Chineke will unpack some of the great images of the baptismal liturgy, and reflect on how an awareness of our baptismal dignity can renew our appreciation for this gift and inspire us to draw from the graces of this gift in our daily lives.

Cathedral Atrium, Sunday, November 1st, 6:15pm-7:15pm

### Blood Drive at the Cathedral - November 7

We can't think of a better way to make a positive difference during these trying times than by giving back to our community through blood donation; which is why we are hosting a Blood Drive here at the Cathedral on November 7 from 9am-12:30pm in the School Hall! Each donation will make a huge impact; in fact, every donation has the potential to save 3 lives! Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, hundreds of blood drives have been cancelled, and the need for blood is constant and all blood types are needed! To thank you for your generosity, you will receive your choice of a retro t-shirt or a \$5 gift card. Appointments and masks are required. Register directly by visiting [www.bloodcenter.org](http://www.bloodcenter.org), and use the group sponsor code "60354" to locate the drive. You can also email Haley at [hbentel@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:hbentel@cathedral.dio.org) to register. If you have any questions regarding this blood drive, including eligibility requirements, please don't hesitate to reach out to Haley. Hope to see you there!

### Surviving the Holidays - A Grief Share Event

Wondering how you will survive the weeks surrounding Thanksgiving and Christmas? Are you dreading these holidays knowing everything has changed and that memories from past years can't be recreated? Our Surviving the Holidays seminar is especially for people who are grieving a loved one's death. You'll learn how to deal with the many emotions you'll face during the holidays, what to do about traditions and other coming changes, helpful tips for surviving social events, and how to discover hope for your future. Cathedral School Basement, Thursday, November 5 at 1:00pm and repeated at 6:00pm. Please RSVP if you can, 217-522-3342 or [vcompton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:vcompton@cathedral.dio.org)

### It's So October!

The Cathedral Council of Catholic Women is collecting new (or gently used) socks, hats and gloves for men, women & children in area shelters for distribution throughout the winter months. Area social service agencies and nursing homes have been very appreciative of the generosity of Cathedral parishioners in the last two years as our donations have benefitted many people of all ages. Please place donated items in the white baskets placed in the Atrium and 6th Street Entrance. Thanks so much for your generosity to the most vulnerable in our community!

### Special Novena to Our Blessed Mother

Throughout the history of the Church, Christians have always implored the Blessed Virgin Mary's help but especially in times of great need. Never was it known that anyone who called on our Blessed Mother with persistence, faith, and sincerity was left unaided. For the past several months, we have been plagued by the coronavirus pandemic. Considering the enormous challenges that this pandemic has brought upon us and the uncertainties and concerns surrounding the upcoming election, Fr. Peter Chineke is inviting everyone to join him in a Nine Day Special Novena Prayers and Fasting to implore the help of our Blessed Mother. Details are below:

- The Novena will begin on Friday, October 23, and end on Saturday, October 31. It will take place in the Cathedral Church in Springfield every morning following the 7am daily Mass.
- Fasting from food and drink (other than water) from 12am until 12pm is highly encouraged for those whose health allows them to do so. Holy Communion is allowed while fasting.
- There will be Five Decades of Rosary Prayers these nine days following the 7am daily Mass. The Rosary will conclude with the Litany of Loretto (Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary). On Saturdays, the Rosary will follow the 8am Daily Mass.

Come and Be Blessed as we pray with our Blessed Mother.

### The Second Vatican Council

Over fifty years ago, Pope John XXIII called together the bishops of the world to hold the twenty-first ecumenical council in Rome. This Council helped shape the Church and the world as we experience it today. During this series, join Fr. Dominic Vahling as he studies what an ecumenical council is and why Pope John called for Vatican II. Surveying several key documents from the Council, we will see the Church's vision for what it means to be a baptized member of the People of God and how the teachings of the Council affect our lives today. Cathedral Atrium, Mondays, October 12th, 19th, & 26th at 7:00pm

### All Soul's Day Memorial Mass

November is a time in the Church when we recall our beloved faithful departed. The Church invites us to offer special prayers for them to aid them on their journey toward eternal life. Over the past year, we have all been touched by the loss of somebody we have known, especially our family members. On November 2nd, at 7:00pm, we will celebrate an All Soul's Day Memorial Mass at the Cathedral. At this special Mass, we will remember those individuals by name in a special way and commend them to God's mercy. It will also be an opportunity for continued healing for those who grieve their loss. Please call the parish office or email [vcompton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:vcompton@cathedral.dio.org) to make sure your loved one is included.

# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Around the Diocese

### Adult Faith Formation at Christ the King Parish

#### Things Visible and Invisible: A Primer on Angelic & Demonic Powers

When we profess in the Creed that God is the maker of all things "visible and invisible," we are speaking of the Angelic powers. Join Fr. Chris House as he discusses the Church's understanding of the angels as God's messengers and servants, as well the reality of demonic powers at work in the world. All adult faith formation sessions are held in Roesch Hall in the parish center on Wednesdays with two opportunities to attend at 11AM or 7PM, unless otherwise noted. The sessions are free and all are welcome. COVID-19 protocols will be followed.

### SHG Virtual Alumni Series

NEW this fall!!! SHG'S Virtual Alumni Series featuring some of our very own alumni giving their expertise on various aspects of the pandemic: the history and science behind it, the social/emotional and psychological components, and ways to deal with the physical/mental stress of it all.

November series: Dialogues with the Docs - Wednesday, November 18th at 7pm; feeling overloaded and overwhelmed? You're not alone! Zoom in with us as Dr. Bill Moredock and Jenna Reid Yates, Ph.D. discuss the social, emotional and psychological effects the pandemic is having on our students, parents and families and ways you can deal with it.

Join us via ZOOM for these exciting and informative talks. Call the Advancement Office at 217-787-9732 to reserve your spot and for more information. Hope you will ZOOM with us!

### Here I Am, Send Me!

Today, on World Mission Sunday, we respond, "Here I Am, Send Me," to our baptismal call to mission, and we offer, at the Eucharistic celebration, our prayers and our generous financial support, through the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, to continue the mission of Jesus. Today we are "sent" out to witness to mission in the world through our prayers and sacrifices for our brothers and sisters around the world. As little as...

- \$25 helps support a catechist for a month in remote Latin America
- \$75 provides for the work of religious Sisters caring for orphaned children in Africa
- \$100 assists families in sending their children to schools in Asia

As always, your prayers are your most treasured gift to the Missions. Your prayers and financial help, offered today, World Mission Sunday, support mission priests, religious Sisters and Brothers, and lay catechists who are Christ's witnesses to a world so in need of His healing, love, and peace.

### SHG Mega Raffle

Tickets are now on sale for the 26th annual Mega-Raffle. SHG's Raffle will include 50 total cash prizes, including a grand prize of \$100,000 cash, a second prize of \$10,000 cash, and a third prize of \$3,000 cash. Only 4,200 tickets are available at \$100 each. The Final Drawing is Oct. 30. All proceeds from the Raffle benefit the school's operating budget. In addition, each of the Springfield area Catholic grade schools will receive \$1,000. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.shg.org](http://www.shg.org) or call 787-9732.

### iVote Catholic: Rights and Responsibilities

During this sixth week, we focus on Rights and Responsibilities. Human beings, created in the image and likeness of God, have basic rights which protect our dignity and ensure all can live a full human life. Because these rights are universal, we have the responsibility to help maintain and protect these rights, not just for ourselves, but for all. Under this principle fall issues such as access to quality education, healthy food, healthcare, safe and affordable housing, and nonviolent neighborhoods. Find out more at [www.iVoteCatholic.org](http://www.iVoteCatholic.org).

### Knights of Columbus Special Limited Time Membership Promotional Offer

In honor of Fr. McGivney's beatification on October 31st, the Illinois State Council is offering free online membership for new membership applications submitted September 1st through October 31st, 2020 (regular dues are \$30 per year). Visit [www.kofc.org/joinus](http://www.kofc.org/joinus) and enter the code ILKOFC today!

### 2020 Baby Bottle Boomerang for Respect Life Month

On your way out of the church, grab a bottle and support the Baby Bottle Boomerang, hosted by the First Step Women's Center! Over the next few weeks fill it up with cash and checks and change and return it to the Cathedral at the end of October. The Baby Bottle campaign funds the lifesaving work that First Step offers to others making difficult pregnancy decisions. Envelopes are also available if you prefer to drop your donation in the collection basket. You can also visit <http://www.fundeasy.com/m/4983461/> to be directed to our online fundraising page and click the green "Give" button to make a donation. Please help us offer the help that is needed.