

# *Cathedral* OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

OCTOBER 25, 2020 | THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



524 EAST LAWRENCE AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703  
CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFICE: 217-522-3342  
[WWW.SPICATHEDRAL.ORG](http://WWW.SPICATHEDRAL.ORG)

FOUNDED IN 1839 | DEDICATED IN 1928 | BUILT ON FAITH, RENEWED IN HOPE IN 2009

# *Cathedral Weekly*

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 8

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

THE VERY REVEREND BRIAN C. ALFORD, V.E.  
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THE REVEREND PETER CHINEKE  
PAROCHIAL VICAR

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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.



## Sacramental Worldview

I recently completed reading from a book-length essay on the topic of Pastoral Strategies for an Apostolic Age. On more than one occasion, the author brings up the concept of the sacramental worldview, a view which looks beyond what it seen to what is unseen but still is very much real. In fact, those unseen realities hold the first place in the Christian vision, things such as God, angels, human souls, and Heaven. Unfortunately, the author notes that the predominant modern vision is just the opposite – all that really matters is what is seen, what we can grasp in the here and now. Resulting from this is an overemphasis on physical appearance, comfort, success, reputation, and having as many fun and interesting experiences as possible.

If this is true (and I think we can probably agree that it is), then we should not be surprised by recent survey results that report that a large percentage of Catholics do not believe in the Real Presence of the Eucharist. If we do not look at the Eucharist through a sacramental worldview, believing that behind what we see is something much greater, then all we see is a symbol. And if all we see is a symbol with no deeper reality, then what is the big deal about going to Mass? It can turn into only seeking that which is seen (or heard), and we judge our experience of the Mass on those things. If the homily was too long, or uninteresting, we walk away disappointed. If the temperature in the church was not to our liking, we walk away disappointed. Never mind that the greatest miracle possible has just taken place in front of us, namely, Jesus Christ taking flesh in the form of bread and wine! Not only that, He allows us to consume His very being as we receive Him in Holy Communion. If we truly approached Mass with that sacramental worldview, I can guarantee that we would not be disappointed, because the Lord will always satisfy our deepest longings if we but open the eyes of our soul.

While our focus is not necessarily the Eucharist this month, I wanted to use it as an example of how a sacramental worldview (or lack thereof) has an impact on our lives. All of the sacraments demand that worldview, to see beyond just the symbol and to grasp in faith the powerful working of Jesus in an invisible, though very real way. While there is progress to be made, there are real signs of hope in our Cathedral parish. As you may know, October is a month when we count the number of people at each Mass. I have been pleasantly surprised to see that number increasing from week to week, a trend which I hope will continue. We have also seen a consistent stream of penitents coming to the Sacrament of Reconciliation to seek God's pardon and peace. I know that I speak for all of the priests here that this brings us great joy, for to witness the powerful gift of God's mercy in a person's life is a true blessing, one we are privileged to be a part of as Christ's human instruments.

Let us all pray that the Lord will open the eyes and ears of our souls to grasp the beauty of His working in us and through us in the sacraments, and indeed in every aspect of our lives.

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

## Mass Intentions

### Monday, October 26

7am - Anna A. Eleyidath  
(Augustine Eleyidath)  
5:15pm - Glenn Brandt  
(LouAnn & Carl Corrigan)

### Tuesday, October 27

7am - Albert Crispi, Jr.  
(John Busciacco)  
5:15pm - Kim Howard  
(Friends & Family)

### Wednesday, October 28

7am - Stephen Richard  
(Donna Berte)  
5:15pm - Puring Garde  
(Family)

### Thursday, October 29

7am - John Noak  
(Cinda Noak)  
5:15pm - Irene Doellman  
(Blessed Sacrament Parish)

### Friday, October 30

7am - Deceased Members of  
the CCCW (CCCW)  
5:15pm - Karen Howard  
(Dick & Kay King)

### Saturday, October 31

8am - Rev. Samuel Kothapalli  
(Lenn Family)  
4pm - George Zeigler  
(William & Debra Stonikas)

### Sunday, November 1

7am - For the People  
10am - Charles & Mercedes  
Nesbitt (Kathy Frank)  
5pm - Carol Ann Rapp  
(Iris Miranda-Kirschner)





## The Great Sculptor

Michelangelo is probably the most well-known sculptor of all time. His Pieta has moved countless generations of Christians as we see Mary hold the dead body of Jesus in her arms. This is one of the greatest expressions of human suffering, seemingly captured in the beautiful white marble. Similarly, the statue of David depicts the ruddy youth ready for battle with Goliath, down to the finest detail of his artery bulging in his neck as he braces for battle. Surprisingly, these sculptures by Michelangelo have a lot to teach us about the sacraments as we celebrate our last Sunday focusing on this in our articles.

How does God use the sacraments to confer grace to his people? This was the topic of debate for some time in the Church. Some thought that the sacraments were simply an occasion for God to give grace directly from heaven, and the celebration of the sacrament was only asking God to do so. However, the sacraments are a more direct cause of our sanctification than this! We can say that the sacraments are an instrumental cause that God uses to give us grace. As odd as this might sound, God uses the sacraments as instruments of his grace, just like a sculptor uses a chisel as an instrument of his mind and hands. We know that the sacraments “work,” so to speak, whenever they are celebrated properly. Even if the priest is only half-heartedly saying the prayer of the Mass, or the formula for a baptism, the sacraments are still effective as instruments of God’s grace.

A chisel by itself has no power to make a magnificent sculpture. Left to itself, a chisel will sit on the shelf where someone puts it, until the end of the world! This is because it is only an instrument and has no power without someone holding it. The same is true for any other instruments or tools that we use – they are only as effective as they are made to be by someone with the power of mind and will. By itself, the pouring of water has no power to forgive original sin. Every baby had water poured over his or her head during their first bath! But by itself, this washing does not have the power to forgive sin. The power of Jesus Christ comes from his Incarnation, Passion, Death, and Resurrection. This is what makes the sacraments powerful instruments of God’s love and saving grace. As the chisel was Michelangelo’s tool of choice, the sacraments are God’s tool of choice. He uses them to save us. When writing about Baptism and the story of Noah’s Ark, St. Peter said, “This prefigured baptism, which saves you now. It is not a removal of dirt from the body but an appeal to God for a clear conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ” (NAB). In the simplicity of water poured, oil smeared, and a few words spoken, God’s saving action is taking place in the sacraments. What a masterpiece God is making out of us!



*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.*

## Stewardship of Treasure - October 17th and 18th

Envelopes:	\$3,606.00
Loose:	\$1,002.00
Maintenance:	\$1,150.00
Total:	\$5,758.00

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!



## All the Saints: Count Them If You Can!

**Feast Day: November 1st**

I know ... the feast of All Saints is next Sunday, so why write on them this soon? Well, for most solemn feast days (solemnities), we begin to celebrate them the evening before, and since this particular evening has the title, "All Hallows Evening", shortened in our day to "Halloween", it seems something we should talk about before its upon us!

Our story begins in Rome, Italy, with Pope Boniface IV, who on May 13th, 609 consecrated the greatest of Rome's pagan temples, the Pantheon, previously dedicated to a whole pantheon of gods (Jupiter, Venus, and Mars), instead as a Christian Church, dedicated to "St. Mary and All the Martyrs." And so began the Christian celebration of all the saints on May 13th. Gregory III, moved the celebration to November 1st, because in 741 AD he built a chapel St. Peter's Basilica to house the relics of countless saints, a feast day that was expanded to the whole Church by Gregory IV another century later.

Some say that Pope Boniface chose the original date of May 13th because a Roman, pagan, festival of ghosts (Lemuria) happened on that day. Problem: the Roman festival also happened on May 9th and May 11th, so it does not match perfectly, and there were deep Christian precedence for a late-spring feast for all the saints already. By the 3rd or 4th century, you have St. Ephrem celebrating All Saints on May 13th, Christians in Syria did so on the Friday after Easter, those in Antioch on the Sunday after Pentecost, which was the day chosen in Germany as well. In other words, pretty much as soon as Christians were not persecuted anymore, and now that they had far too many martyrs to give each their own feast day, they started celebrating all the Saints on one big feast, about the time that it was warm enough outside to party.

Ok, so what about November 1st? Some claim that Gregory III was just co-opting the Gaelic feast of Samheim to a more wholesome purpose. They point to the bonfires, costumes, various foods, and recollection of dead ancestors that all eventually became part of that pagan feast. But, it is a bit of a stretch since the Celts had similar feasts every quarter of the year, and furthermore, Samheim actually falls on October 31st. The simpler explanation is that both pagans and Christians were equally apt to choose times of the year when there was both sufficient food, and still nice weather, to have a feast, and so we have November 1st.

Our story now takes us to France, where in 998 AD, St. Odilo (an important abbot) added a feast on November 2nd to pray for the souls in purgatory: All Souls Day. Five centuries later, as the Black Plague devastates Europe, there in France in particular, first in art and then in real life, they begin to dress up as various characters at different points between birth and death. Humor in the midst of horrors is far better than hopelessness, or hatred.

Meanwhile, in Ireland, instead of costumes, we find households making various baked-goods, ostensibly placed outside for the dead, but soon enough, attracting the surrounding youngsters, who began to go door-to-door begging for treats. It would be many more centuries before hollowed-out pumpkins/guards/squashes would be carved into ghoulish faces and lit from within, but perhaps autumn + baking + the need for light + the recollection of the dead started them in that direction.

Now we go to England, where on November 5th, 1605, a crazy Catholic named Guy Fawkes tried to blow up the (newly Anglican) British Parliament. He was foiled. The Anglicans were mad. And so November 5th became a day when revelers would put on masks, and head to the nearest Catholic's home demanding beer and cakes ... or else.

And then, all those fine folks came to the USA, and the costumes, candies, and trick-or-treating melded into Halloween ... and the Holy-Ones for whom all those festivities were intended meanwhile have been forgotten.

Don't forget them this Saturday evening. Sanctity is more exhilarating than sugar, and the sacraments are more sustaining than sweets.

*Fr. Dominic Rankin has been a baptized Christian for 27 years, a communicant for 21 years, a confirmed Catholic for 14 years, and an ordained priest for 2 years. He is working on receiving canonization, and would love for you to join him, but it could take a while.*



"All Saints", by Tracy L. Christianson,  
<https://www.etsy.com/shop/PortraitsOfSaints>.

# 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

### The Second Vatican Council

Join us on Monday, October 26th for our last discussion of the Second Vatican Council with Fr. Dominic! Come learn more about 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.

### CCCW Clothing Sale - November 13 & 14

The CCCW has rescheduled its Clothing Sale for Friday November 13, from 7a-12p, and 4p-6p, and Saturday, November 14 from 8a-12p! The sale will be held in the Cathedral School Hall, and men's, women's, junior's, and kid's, clothing, shoes, purses, jewelry, and boutique items will be available for purchase. COVID-19 protocols will be followed and masks are required.

### It's Socktober!

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!

### Grief Share - Bereavement Ministry

Cathedral will begin hosting another cycle of Grief Share, a weekly, faith-based, grief support group. If you, or someone you know, would like help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend, please join us in the Cathedral School Library. Grief Share runs for 14 weeks, but guests may join the series at any point and can pick up content they missed during the next cycle. For more information contact Berni Ely @ 899-6637 or jackandberni96@yahoo.com. Join us in the Cathedral School Library, beginning Thursday, November 5th, 1:00-3:00pm, please RSVP if you can, 217-522-3342 or vcompton@cathedral.dio.org

### CCCW Gift Card Raffle - Need Donations!

The CCCW is having a \$500 gift card raffle and is in need of gift card donations! If you have any spare gift cards you don't plan on using, or would like to purchase and donate gift cards for this raffle, please drop them off at the Parish Office (524 E. Lawrence Ave). Any questions, please call Sandy Bloom at 217-638-7703.

### 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.

### Sorting It All Out Sundays

*What are you looking for?* Jesus asked this question to His first disciples, and today He offers it to you. What do you desire? Who do you want to be? Where is this all going? Why are you and I here? We all ask those questions, but how often do we have a place to look for answers together? Well, the next best thing after the Sea of Galilee is the See of Springfield, and the high-schoolers that Jesus is calling today aren't James and John, it's all of you! Come by the Cathedral for a chance to hang out, ask questions, share ideas, and have some fun. Bring yourself, and your enthusiasm. We'll bring the snacks, and a chance to solve the world's problems ... or just chill. Your call! (Seriously, we're literally going to ask you what you want out of these evenings, and that's what we're going to do.) If you're in high-school, you're invited. If it's the first Sunday of the Month, it's happening. If your name is preceded by "Father", you're the comic relief. Join us on November 1 from 6:15p-7:15p at the Cathedral!

### 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!

### Blood Drive at the Cathedral - November 7

There are still appointment slots open for our Blood Drive here at the Cathedral on November 7 from 9am-12:30pm in the School Hall! Join us, and give back to our community through blood donation. Every donation will make a huge impact, and could potentially save 3 lives! The need for blood is constant, and all blood types are needed! 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!

### CCCW Meeting - October 27

All women of the parish are invited to join the CCCW at their next meeting on Tuesday, October 27th in the Cathedral School Hall. A light meal will be served at 6pm, with the meeting following at 6:30pm. Please contact Patty Broyles with any questions at 217-691-6333 or [pattybroyles@yahoo.com](mailto:pattybroyles@yahoo.com). All are welcome!



# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Around the Diocese

### **Adult Faith Formation at Christ the King Parish** **Things Visible and Invisible: A Primer on Angelic & Demonic Powers - October 28**

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.

### **iVote Catholic: Care for God's Creation**

During this seventh week, we focus on Care for God's Creation. Beginning with Pope St. John Paul II through Pope Francis, care for creation has been an integral part of Catholic social teaching.

*"Everything is connected. Concern for the environment thus needs to be joined to a sincere love of our fellow human beings and an unwavering commitment to resolving the problems of society...we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures." (#92,93 Pope Francis)*

When we do things to protect the earth and care for it, we show reverence for God, the creator of all. Under this principle fall issues such as laws governing corporate and individual use of environmental resources - including land, water, and air - which impact all living things. Find out more at [www.iVoteCatholic.org](http://www.iVoteCatholic.org).

### **Thanks for Your Participation!**

Thank you for answering, "Here I Am, Send Me" to your baptismal call to witness for mission on World Mission Sunday! Your generous donations to the Society for the Propagation of the Faith for the missionary work of the Church are a real blessing for the Missions! Please continue to pray for missionaries, and for the people to whom they bring the "Good News" of Jesus. May God bless you for your generous missionary spirit!

### **St. Patrick's School Chicken Dinner Fundraiser**

Want a night off from cooking and dishes?? Help support St. Pat's on Thursday, November 12th from 4:30-6:30 and pick up a delicious meal from Nelson's Catering at SHG's West Campus. Dinner includes a grilled 1/2 chicken, green beans, mashed potatoes & gravy, and comes with roll & butter. Tickets are \$10 and are available at [nelsonscatering.com/st-patricks-school](http://nelsonscatering.com/st-patricks-school) or by sending a check payable to St. Patrick School, 1800 S. Grand Ave. East, Springfield, IL 62703. Orders must be placed by 12:00 PM, November 6th.

### **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.

### **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!

### **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.

### **March for Life 2021**

Due to Covid-19, the March for Life pilgrimage will look a little different this year. Tony Cerveny (Director of Youth and Sports Ministry) and Sister M. Veritas Wilks, FSGM (Director of Youth and Women's Ministry) from the Office of Ministry and Evangelization will be heading to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life. Teens accompanied by parents/guardians and other family members are invited to join us. We will be there to greet you, feed you, organize prayer and programming, and provide a place for the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois to gather. Sister M. Karolyn, FSGM (Vocations Director for the Sisters of St. Francis of the Martyr St. George, in Alton, IL) will be there to speak and lead us in games, prayer, and music. Bishop Paprocki will be there to greet us, and to celebrate Mass with us. Please click here to learn more and register! <https://www.dio.org/youthministry/mfl>