

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

NOVEMBER 15, 2020 | THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



524 EAST LAWRENCE AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFICE: 217-522-3342
WWW.SPICATHEDRAL.ORG

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

Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 11

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

THE VERY REVEREND BRIAN C. ALFORD, V.E.
RECTOR

THE REVEREND PETER CHINEKE
PAROCHIAL VICAR

THE REVEREND DOMINIC RANKIN
IN RESIDENCE

THE REVEREND DOMINIC VAHLING
PAROCHIAL VICAR

DEACON IRVIN LAWRENCE SMITH

DEACON T. SCOTT KEEN

HALEY BENTEL
COORDINATOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
HBENTEL@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

VICKI DHABALT COMPTON
COORDINATOR OF FAITH FORMATION AND MISSION
VCOMPTON@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

LISA A. DUFFEY
PARISH SECRETARY
LDUFFEY@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

MARK GIFFORD
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
MGIFFORD@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

BILL VOGT
OFFICE AND PLANT MANAGER
BVOGT@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

SR. FRANCELLE VYVERMAN, O.P.
MINISTRY TO THE SICK
SFRANCELLE@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

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.



Our Citizenship is in Heaven

For the past several weeks, as we have experienced the roller coaster of the recent elections, the words of St. Paul have been ever present in my mind: "our citizenship is in Heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ." (Phil 3:20) Those words have brought me great peace in the midst of the uncertainty of what lies ahead for our country. Because of our baptism, we have been made members of the Body of Christ, the Church, which makes us citizens of His Heavenly city, the New Jerusalem. As opposed to the uncertainty we will always face when we focus on our earthly journey, there is no uncertainty or worry about what lies ahead for us as citizens of Heaven. As St. Paul reminds us, the hope for the final, eternal, perfect peace of Heaven will never leave us disappointed. (cf Rom. 5:5) On the contrary, when our hope is placed here, we are bound to be disappointed.

Please do not hear in the above words something I am not saying. Just because we are bound to be disappointed here on earth does not mean that we are not concerned about our lives here and our citizenship in the country and society in which we find ourselves. In that regard, I came across a helpful commentary on this passage that I would like to share:

The Christian community, too, included both citizens and noncitizens. Therefore, when Paul asserts that the citizenship of Christians truly is in heaven, he is not saying they do not have a life in Philippi, but rather that the source of their security and identity is the risen Messiah, whom they worship as Lord and Savior. If Jesus is Lord and Savior in the most absolute sense, then Caesar is not. So the point is not that the Philippian Christians are in exile but that, as members of the church, they live as a colony of heaven, not of the Roman Empire; their ultimate allegiance is to the Lord Christ, not to Lord Caesar. And they await a visitation not from the Roman savior but from the Savior Christ.

Dennis Hamm, Philippians, Colossians, Philemon, ed. Peter S. Williamson and Mary Healy, Catholic Commentary on Sacred Scripture (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Academic, 2013), 136.

Jesus never told us to withdraw from society, burying our heads in the sand. No, He uses images such as "salt", "light", and "leaven" to speak of the effect that we should have in the world around us. We are called to be instruments who draw people to Christ and His truth, so that they too can see in Him the sole hope for peace and lasting happiness. Again, because of our baptism, we can live with a real sense of joy, knowing that our security lies in Christ the King, who has already won the victory and we know that if we persevere in our faith in Him, we will share fully in that victory as well in Heaven. Let us recommit ourselves to being good citizens of Heaven, even here as we await the final victory that awaits.

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, November 16

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

Tuesday, November 17

7am - Deceased Members of the
CCCW (CCCW)
5:15pm - Cathy Furkin
(Amber Cervený)

Wednesday, November 18

7am - Dannie Roe
(LouAnn & Carl Corrigan)
5:15pm - Irene Doellman
(Blessed Sacrament Parish)

Thursday, November 19

7am - Ron Richards
(Donna Berte)
5:15pm - Special Intention for
Bianca (D. A. Drago)

Friday, November 20

7am - Dr. William Coughlin
(Linda Pierceall)
5:15pm - Lenn Family
(Lenn Family)

Saturday, November 21

8am - Helen Zeigler
(William & Debra Stonikas)
4pm - Madison Joy Rhoads
(Carol Morgan)

Sunday, November 22

7am - For the People
10am - Larry DeWitt
(10AM Ushers)
5pm - Kyle Buckman
(Mom)



Baptism Foreshadowed by Noah's Ark

Bishop Paprocki has confirmed hundreds, probably thousands of young Catholics in our diocese since he arrived in Springfield nearly a decade ago. He always has the Confirmandi (those to be confirmed) fill out a short survey asking questions about their faith life which he often integrates into the homily. One of the questions on this survey is, "What is your favorite Bible passage and why?" Bishop Paprocki has told me that one of the most popular responses to this question is "Noah's ark is my favorite story because it shows that God loves animals." While this is technically true, and God does indeed love animals because he made them, it seems to miss the point of the overall story of Noah's ark.

The reason that Noah made the ark, which was needed to save the animals and a handful of humans, was because the world was full of wickedness. This is actually a pretty terrifying story to read in full, because it shows the depths of the sinfulness in our human race, but also offers a great sense of hope. The book of Genesis even goes so far as to say that God "regretted that he had made man on the earth, and his heart was grieved" (Genesis 6:6). As always, this passage needs to be properly understood in light of the whole Bible, and it brings my mind to the scene in the gospels when Jesus wept over Jerusalem because nobody recognized God among them.

St. Peter, the first pope, made the connection between the story of Noah's Ark and the sacrament of Baptism in his first letter. Peter focused on the cleansing action of the flood over the entire world, which wiped out most of creation, including all but eight people. This gave Noah's family and the whole human race a fresh start. "God patiently waited in the days of Noah during the building of the ark, in which a few persons, eight in all, were saved through water. 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" (1 Peter 3:20-21). Water had the power of destruction at the time of Noah, as it does today. Every spring, the rivers in our part of the country rise and sometimes even overflow their banks, with destructive consequences for the communities involved.

In Baptism, water is given the power of cleansing from sin as it was at the time of Noah, but without being destructive at the same time. Water clearly has a central place in the baptismal liturgy, and the blessing of the water to be used during the baptism is actually a couple pages long. This beautiful prayer traces the history of how God has used water throughout the history of salvation. In creation, the Holy Spirit hovered over the water and made it holy. In flood, the water symbolized the end of sin. In the great Exodus story, the Israelites walked through the water, making it a symbol of freedom from the tyranny of sin. In Jesus' own baptism, he sanctified all the waters of the world, and on the cross, water came out from his side along with blood to wash the whole world of its sins. Water is beautiful in its simplicity, but even in this simplicity, God has given it a great power – to wash away sin!

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 - November 7th & November 8th

Envelopes:	\$7,050.00
Loose:	\$2,598.50
<u>Maintenance:</u>	<u>\$485.00</u>
Total:	\$10,133.50

October EFT: \$21,797.40

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!



St. Rose Philippine Duchesne

Feast Day: November 18

It was the 35th Holy Thursday that she had lived through. Most of them were far more difficult than this one. The still-youthful sister, baptized with the names of a great apostle, St. Philip, and the lovely first saint of the Americas, St. Rose of Lima, had overcome the refusal of her family to enter religious life at the age of 18. But soon after, she would endure the disbanding of her monastery during, and in the aftermath, of the French Revolution. The year was now 1804, and though Christianity was no longer blatantly destroyed once Napoleon reigned over France, her beloved community of St. Marie, was just as obliterated as the remnants that remained of their convent.

Rose was bent in adoration on that Holy Thursday evening, in prayer with the few sisters that remained, all of them remaining before the Blessed Sacrament. And then, in the midst of that contemplation that had so captured her heart when she first found this monastery, she writes that Christ drew her gaze beyond the monstrosity, out of that dilapidated chapel, across the cold waves of the Atlantic to a far-away continent called America. *"I spent the entire night in the new World ... carrying the Blessed Sacrament to all parts of the land ... I had all my sacrifices to offer: a mother, sisters, family, my mountain! When you say to me 'now I send you', I will respond quickly 'I go.'"*

She wrote those words to a Mother Madeleine Sophie Barat, the foundress of a new congregation, the Society of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, an active order of sisters, who were bent on the task of bringing the Gospel to the world. This letter would bring together the two groups, melding not only their communities, but also their mission: adoring Christ, but also carrying that Adoration out to the world. As she put it so well "carrying the Blessed Sacrament to all parts of the land".

It would take 12 more Holy Thursday's before that dream became reality. Only in 1818 was Philippine finally invited to take a group of sisters across to America, and after a brief stint in New Orleans, they took the steamboat up the Mississippi, and set up shop just north of St. Louis, which had recently been made the capital of the Missouri Territory (created after the return of Lewis and Clark's exploration of the Louisiana Purchase just 12 years before). They passed up the bustling town of almost 4000 people, soon to request statehood from the United States government, and settled in St. Charles.

The log cabin that acted as convent and school was miserably cold in the winter; they had no funds yet provided the schooling for free; and Rose could barely speak English. Yet she toiled on, founding 5 more houses in the next 10 years, and then in the 1840s, was finally able to open a school for the Potawatomi tribe in Sugar Creek, Kansas. The struggles redoubled as she grew older, yet perhaps her energy was spent well: she received the nickname Quah-kah-ka-num-ad, "the woman who prays always". Her life, and death, maintained that tremendous balance of both adoration and action, worship and work, contemplation and construction...

And perhaps that is what we should learn from her life. We've been baptized into the same duality: grace and nature, spirit and water, love of God and love of neighbor. Whatever vocation we have been entrusted with, can we engage it with the same passion that Rose did in hers? *"We cultivate a very small field for Christ, but we love it, knowing that God does not require great achievements but a heart that holds back nothing for self."*

Fr. Dominic Rankin traveled one third of the way around the globe to visit the tombs of Sts. Peter and Paul (as well as to study theology and become a priest...), and the other third of the way around to visit the tomb of St. Thomas (as well as to work in Calcutta with the Missionaries of Charity...), but he has lived approximately 100 miles from the tomb of St. Rose Philippine Duchesne most of his life, yet has never visited her. Anybody want to go?



Mosaic of St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, from Saints Who Spread Catholicism in America, at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, Hildreth Meière, 1949.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

Volunteers Needed!

A new digital video system is being installed so that Cathedral can live stream Mass and other special events. This is an exciting opportunity for us but it cannot happen without you. We need a cadre of technicians who can take turns running the equipment each time we livestream an event. If you, adult or teen, have an interest in technology and would like to serve your parish, and the diocese, in this way, please let us know. Call 217-522-3342 or contact Vicki Compton at vcompton@cathedral.dio.org for more information or to volunteer

KofC's Keep Christ in Christmas Poster Challenge

Do you have a young artist in your family? Cathedral's Father Augustine Tolton Knights of Columbus Council would love to have them show their skills in the KofC's annual Keep Christ in Christmas poster challenge! Children between five and fourteen will have until December 1st to design their own poster celebrating the true meaning of Christmas. Winners in each of three age groups will receive a \$25 gift card and their entry will advance to the next level in this international contest. The Knights will have materials, information, and entry forms available in the Atrium through November. For more information call the rectory or email Larry Travis at Ltravisjr@gmail.com.

SOCTOBER Continues Through November

Due to increased need and decreased attendance at Masses (thank you Covid!) the collection of new (or gently used) socks, hats and gloves for men, women & children in area shelters will continue through November. 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!

2020 Thanksgiving Food Baskets

Dear Friends, please help a struggling family this Thanksgiving season. In a laundry basket, Rubbermaid type bin, or a cardboard box, please collect the below suggested menu items:

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 box of cereal | 1 box breakfast bars |
| 1 pancake mix & syrup | 2 cans vegetables |
| 1 drink mix (coffee, tea, kool aid, etc) | 1 can yams |
| 3 boxes macaroni & cheese | 1 bag or box of snacks |
| 2 cans baked beans | 1 bag or box of potatoes |
| 1 pkg muffin mix | 1 pkg cake mix |
| 1 box of stuffing | 2 cans of fruit |
| 1 pkg of cookies | 1 box of hot cocoa mix |
| 2 cans of pasta | 1 pkg of sugar (brown or regular) |
| 1 jar of peanut butter | 1 box of crackers |
| 1 jar of jelly | 2 cans of soup |
| 2 jello or pudding mixes | 1 package of spaghetti & sauce |

Any and all donations of food are very much appreciated. Completed baskets, or any items to fill the baskets, can be dropped off at Holy Family Food Pantry, 120 S. 11th St. (North delivery door, Washington Street/west end of building), Nov 4th thru Nov 20th between 11:00am and 1:00pm, or, placed in the basket in the Cathedral Atrium. If you need to make other arrangements for drop off, please call 217-523-4551. If you can provide a frozen turkey, margarine, sliced cheese, cake or pie, please take directly to the Holy Family Food Pantry during the dates/times listed above. May God bless all your efforts to help those less fortunate!

CCCW Gift Card Raffle

The ladies of CCCW will be selling raffle tickets for \$500.00 worth of gift cards after all the masses for the next three weekends. Tickets are 6 chances for \$5.00 or 1 chance for \$1.00. Proceeds will be used for scholarships for continuing Catholic Education. We are also in need of a few more gift cards if you have any you would like to donate. Please call Sandy Bloom 638-7703 with any questions. As always, thank you for your support.

Novena in Honor of the Immaculate Conception

Beginning November 30th thru December 8th, the Cathedral will host the annual diocesan novena in honor of the Immaculate Conception, patroness of the United States, our diocese, and the Cathedral Parish. Each night a different preacher will offer a homily on a different aspect of Marian theology and devotion. November 30th thru December 7th - 7:00pm; Last Night and Closing Mass, December 8th - 5:15pm

Cathedral Cemetery

Five Guys is a burger joint. Two Guys (and A Truck) are a moving company. Eight guys are on a team in the Tour de France. Four guys are buried in our Cathedral sanctuary. Who are these characters? Why are they buried there? How did their lives impact our Cathedral, our Diocese, and our lives of faith today? These questions, their stories, along with dozens of amazing photographs, information from our diocesan archives, and tidbits of local and global history will all be woven together by two of our diocesan archivists, Katie and PJ Oubre, as well as Father Dominic Rankin over four spellbinding evenings. Join us in the Cathedral Atrium, and beyond, on Mondays, November 16th & 23rd at 7:00pm for a look back into the lives of the current residents of our own Cathedral "cemetery" during the month when we specifically pray for all the dead.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

Second Collection: Diocesan Campaign for Justice and Hope (DCJH) - November 21st-22nd

As Catholics, we are called upon to care for the weakest and most vulnerable among us. The Campaign for Justice and Hope gives all of us an opportunity to help our neighbors in need. Through your generosity, the money collected is distributed to organizations within our diocese that provide help and hope to the poor in accord with Catholic teaching.

As disciples of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us offer families living in poverty our prayer, action, and financial support. Giving generously brings hope and helps individuals break out of their cycle of poverty.

You can make a donation in one of the following ways:

Online: Make a one-time donation on the Cathedral's website at <https://spicathedral.org/give-online/>, and specify that your donation is for the DCJH Collection.

Envelopes: Include a separate check in your regular envelope and specify that the second check is for the DCJH Collection.

Mail: Send your donation to the Parish Office (524 E. Lawrence Ave, Springfield, IL 62703).

Adult Faith Formation at Christ the King Parish

The Holly and the Ivy: The Symbols and Theology of Advent & Christmas - December 2nd

At the beginning of Advent, join Fr. Chris to learn more about the history, theology, practices, and celebrations of the Advent and Christmas seasons. 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.

March for Life 2021

Due to Covid-19, the March for Life pilgrimage will look a little different this year. Tony Cervený (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 visit www.dio.org/youthministry/mfl to learn more and register!

Breadline Sunday

Due to COVID, Catholic Charities is not hosting Breadline Sunday this year. However, they are still taking donations during these trying times. \$60 will provide meals for one person for an entire month, but any donation is welcome. If you would like to make a donation, you may do so by placing it in an envelope marked "Breadline Sunday" and drop it in the collection basket after Mass. Thank you in advance for supporting the work of Catholic Charities!

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!

Baby Bottle Boomerang

Thanks to all of you who have returned your baby bottles filled with cash and checks to support the work of First Step Women's Center! If you forgot to return the bottle please do so soon. Each bottle costs \$1.14 so please return the bottle even if it's empty. You can also still make a donation on the website: <http://www.fundeasy.com/m/4983461/>. May God bless you for your concern for vulnerable women and babies!

Knights of Columbus Membership Promotional Offer

To honor of Fr. McGivney's dream of growing the Knights of Columbus, the Illinois State Council is offering free online membership for new membership applications submitted now until the end of the year. Visit www.kofc.org/joinus and enter the code MCGIVNEY2020 today!