

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

JUNE 20, 2021 | 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



524 EAST LAWRENCE AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
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WWW.SPICATHEDRAL.ORG

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

Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 25

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

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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!



Litany of the Sacred Heart

As I mentioned two weeks ago, I was introduced to the devotion to the Sacred Heart by one of my pastors who would have the congregation join in praying the Litany of the Sacred Heart every First Friday. Over the years, I have found praying this litany and meditating on the various invocations of the litany to be one of the best means of deepening my love for the Sacred Heart of Jesus. This past Monday, I received a copy of an out-of-print book that has a collection of Angelus Meditations offered by Pope St. John Paul II on the Litany of the Sacred Heart.

In his introductory meditation from June 27, 1982, the Holy Father said the following about the litany in general:

It in a marvelous prayer, totally concentrated on the interior mystery of Christ, the God-Man. The Litany to the Heart of Jesus draws abundantly from biblical sources, and at the same time reflects the deepest experiences of human hearts...This prayer, recited and meditated, becomes a true school of the interior life, the school of the Christian.

In the Litany, there are 33 invocations that start with the words: "Heart of Jesus", followed by some aspect related to His Sacred Heart, to which those praying respond: "Have mercy on us." Some of my favorite invocations are: "burning furnace of charity, king and center of all hearts, in whom the Father was well pleased, and source of all consolation." And as beautiful as each of these invocations are, I find that I am most drawn to the final petition after the 33 invocations, which goes as follows: "Jesus, meek and humble of heart. Make our hearts like unto thine." I pray this petition almost daily, asking for the grace to have my heart be a little more like His heart, which overflows with love and mercy for those around Him.

I would invite all of you who are reading this to consider looking up and praying this beautiful litany, or to take a few of the titles to your time of personal prayer. As Pope St. John Paul says, doing so becomes a school for our interior life, where we learn the consoling lesson of His personal, intimate love for each and every one of us, and how He desires for us to be channels of His love and mercy in our daily lives.

On a different note, we are pleased to welcome to our parish for the summer Mr. Jayke White, one of the seminarians studying for our diocese. Jayke has graciously provided a brief biography for you to get to know him a little better. Please feel free to introduce yourself to him when you see him around the parish. Please keep Jayke in your prayers this summer that his time with us will be fruitful for him and for the parish.

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, June 21

7am - Anna A. Eleyidath
(Augustine Eleyidath)
5:15pm - Mary Theresa Drake
(Brenda Capranica)

Tuesday, June 22

7am - Justine Ford
(Jeannette Giannone)
5:15pm - Jean Anne Staab
(LouAnn & Carl Corrigan)

Wednesday, June 23

7am - Ben & Monique Gaston
(Marie Fleck)
5:15pm - Betty Bundy
(Fred & Rita Greenwald)

Thursday, June 24

7am - Edith June Hackenmueller
(Harry Hackenmueller)
5:15pm - Alice Bates
(Bates Family)

Friday, June 25

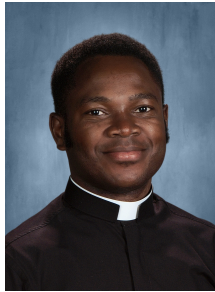
7am - Jean Reno Greenwald
(Janet Zimmerman)
5:15pm - Richard Willaredt
(Bart Alsop & Family)

Saturday, June 26

8am - L. Mae Nicoud
(Tim Nicoud)
4pm - Jean Reno Greenwald
(McGee Family)

Sunday, June 27

7am - Angeline Sherman
(Hattie Pinski)
10am - Tom & Melba Daley
(Becky & Woody Woodhull)
5pm - Truman & Mary Platt
(Phil Platt)



First Anniversary of Priesthood

This weekend, my seven classmates in the diocese and I will celebrate our first anniversary as Catholic priests. Dave Beagles, Michael Berndt, Peter Kosk, Paul Luczak, Michael Meinhart, Michael Trummer, Dominic Vahling, and I – Peter Chineke, were ordained to the sacred priesthood of Christ last June 19, 2020, by Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. That day was the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. After the ordination, we all began our ministries in various parishes and schools across the diocese beginning officially on July 1, 2020. Father Dominic Vahling and I have been working here at the Cathedral parish with Father Brian Alford as our pastor. We also work full-time as co-Chaplains at the Sacred Heart-Griffin High School here in town.

Looking back to my first year as a priest in our diocese, working as a parochial vicar here at the Cathedral and as a Chaplain at the SHG, I have had many amazing experiences. I have also encountered people whose lives and faith inspire, encourage, and strengthens me. Some of these people include our Cathedral parishioners and the staff and students at Sacred Heart-Griffin High School. While space will not permit me to mention some of these beautiful people, I will briefly summarize some of the highlights of my ministry this past year.

Here at the Cathedral, we live as a community with the four of us (Fathers Alford, Rankin, Vahling, and I) and the Bishop. Although we live on a separate floor from the Bishop, we do many things in common. These include community prayers, Masses, meals, movies, and some outdoor exercises. This community life as a priest with these holy men of God is a rare privilege. In most cases, diocesan priests live alone in their parish rectories and sometimes in pairs for those who have parochial vicars. Our community life here in the Cathedral rectory has helped me to know these three of my brother priests and our Bishop better than I could have known them. Living with them since after my ordination has also made my transition from seminary life to priesthood smoother and more enjoyable.



The eight priests of our Diocese who were ordained on June 19, 2020, and Bishop Paprocki.

As a parochial vicar in our Cathedral parish, I have enjoyed the opportunities to celebrate the sacraments and do many other ministries. Celebrating the Eucharist, preaching at Masses, visiting the nursing homes, baptizing new babies, hearing Confessions, attending dinner/lunch invitations, visiting the sick, and our home-bound parishioners are among my favorite ministries this past year. I hardly let go of any opportunity to do these ministries because I find so much joy and life in them.

Another experience that has made my first year of priesthood awesome is my chaplaincy ministry at the Sacred Heart-Griffin High School here in town. It has been an incredible experience getting to know some of these students and their teachers as a Chaplain. I have had many fantastic opportunities to hear Confessions, celebrate Masses, and preach homilies for these young students. Getting to know them and accompanying them in their faith journey have been among the highlights of my ministry this first year in the priesthood of Christ.

Father Peter Chineke serves as parochial vicar at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and as co-chaplain of Sacred Heart-Griffin High School.



Welcome Seminaryman Jayke White!

Howdy! My name is Jayke White. I'm currently 24 years old and studying to become a priest for the diocese of Springfield, IL. I go to school at St. Meinrad Seminary and School of Theology in Saint Meinrad, IN. I'm the son of Leon and Tami White of Glen Carbon, Illinois and a member of St. Mary's parish in Edwardsville, IL. I have one

younger sister who is currently working as an accountant and a little brother who is entering his senior year of high school. I enjoy reading, walking, and listening to music (if you ever want to chat about Taylor Swift, hit me up!) I haven't spent much time in Springfield before so I look forward to getting to know everyone here in the parish! It's an honor to serve God's people here in the center of our wonderful diocese.

Stewardship of Treasure June 12th & 13th

Envelopes:	\$5,842.00
Loose:	\$3,816.58
Maintenance:	\$90.00
Total:	\$9,748

May EFT: \$22,060.40

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!



The Baptist's Birthday

Feast Day: June 24th (6 months until Christmas!)

We have so many options for saints to study the bible with this week, but I have chosen our upcoming feast of the Nativity of St. John the Baptist's because it directs our attention directly to a scriptural text:

Luke 1: 57 Now the time came for Elizabeth to be delivered, and she gave birth to a son. 58 And her neighbors and kinsfolk heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. 59 And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they would have named him Zechariah after his father, 60 but his mother said, "Not so; he shall be called John." 61 And they said to her, "None of your kindred is called by this name." 62 And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he would have him called. 63 And he asked for a writing tablet, and wrote, "His name is John." And they all marveled. 64 And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. 65 And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea; 66 and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child be?"
For the hand of the Lord was with him.

Luke's theme of God's mercy, especially for the lowly (remember Mary's Magnificat, which came just verses prior to the scene we have here), comes to the forefront right off the bat. "The Lord had shown great mercy to her..." Why are we always surprised by God's mercy? He always shows great mercy. He offers it before we ask, and when we don't deserve it. But just as the entire people of Israel had to struggle to believe in God's mercy, so must Elizabeth and Zechariah, and their neighbors and kinsfolk, and so much we. How much easier it is to see God as angry or unhappy: Who stomps off in a huff when we turn our backs on Him? That would be much more like ourselves, but it is not the way that God offers His love again, and again, to His people.

How, here, does God show mercy? It is by the birth of a son for Elizabeth and Zechariah. There is no greater gift that God can give. Here His mercy is bundled up in the little baby John, but God seems to delight in giving His greatest gifts along, and within, the gift of a new human life. He sent salvation in the Christ-child; freedom in the birth of Moses; joy in the gift of Isaac; a nation in the double-gift of Esau and Jacob; and even Eve was drawn out of Adam, as He was created from the dust. It seems that God loves to bring life into barrenness. All His love is summed up in the gift of a child.

But let us return to the rejoicing throng around the home up in the hill country of Judah, for we learn another lesson about God as we watch this scene unfold. We see Elizabeth and Zechariah discerning the name for their son and are prompted away from the traditional names by the Holy Spirit, Who gives them the name "John". Y'hohanan or Yohanan in Hebrew name meaning "Graced by God" (you can see within it the root Y', which is an abbreviation of the Divine Name, the Tetragrammaton, followed by hanan, meaning "he favored" or "he graced"). The theme of mercy reappears! And praise God, that this name which trumpets His love, remains popular! There are approximately 12 million American men named John with about 100,000 new John's born to our country every year. (And there are plenty of women named Joan, Johna, Jeanne, Gianna, Joanne, Janet, or Hannah, to name a few female names from the same root.)

One final point. Upon this wondrous naming, after the miraculous birth, we are told that the people feared, marveled, were struck by awe. Do you or I ever let wonder take ahold of us? To wonder at something means you do not understand it, control it, or made it happen. Do we recognize those moments? Do we exult when God's grace breaks in, or do we miss those moments, or not want to call much attention to it? Is it easier to ignore God's mercy? Is it simpler to just let those gifts of Love slide by without making much of a fuss?

Fr. Dominic Rankin is very happy with his first name (and second name, and confirmation name, and last name now that I think about it), but this week he was struck by the power behind the name "John". Jesus chose John the Baptist as His precursor and forerunner, and John the Apostle as His beloved disciple. Both were entrusted to proclaim His love in a profound way. Both were graced to do it! (But, to clarify, you don't have to be named John to do that.)

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

Ask Father! Weekly Column

Have questions about your faith? Want to know more about a particular Catholic teaching? This summer, our priests are answering your questions! Submit your questions to Haley at hbentel@cathedral.dio.org or on our website at www.spicathedral.org/ask-father if you wish to remain anonymous. A new question will be answered each week!

Period of Inquiry

Exploring the beginnings of faith is the first part of the process in welcoming new members to the Catholic Church. Cathedral will begin an Inquiry course on Tuesday, June 22 @ 6:00pm. Please feel free to invite any friends or relatives who may be interested in becoming Catholic. Fliers are available at the atrium doors.

Please pray for those who will participate this year - both Seekers and team members. Contact Vicki for more information at vcompton@cathedral.dio.org or 217-522-3342.

CCCW Meeting - June 22

Join the women of the CCCW at their next meeting on Tuesday, June 22, beginning at 6pm. All women of the parish are welcome! CCCW Meetings are always held on the fourth Tuesday of the month following the 5:15 Mass.

Meals Needed

During the period of Inquiry of RCIA, we make our seekers feel especially welcome and comfortable by serving a simple meal to start each evening. Inquiry dates are June 22, July 6, July 20, Aug 3, Aug 17, Aug 31, and Sept. 7. If you are interested in providing a meal for 12-15 people on one of these dates, let us know. Meals have included soup and bread, pasta and salad, pizza delivery, sloppy joes and chips. Please contact Vicki at vcompton@cathedral.dio.org or 217-522-3342 for more information.

Mass Change and an Invitation

Due to the Permanent Diaconate Ordination, there will be no 8am Mass or 9am Confessions on Saturday, June 26. Rob Sgambelluri, a longtime Cathedral parishioner, is one of the six men who will be ordained to the Diaconate on Saturday, and will begin his ministry with us here at the Cathedral. All are welcome to attend the ordination, but it will also be livestreamed.

All are also welcome to attend a small reception following the 10am Mass on Sunday, June 27 in celebration of Rob's ordination, and as a farewell to Deacon Scott Keen. Deacon Keen will be moving to Christ the King Parish to continue serving as a deacon. Congratulations to Rob and all the men ordained on Saturday, and we wish Deacon Keen all the best on his new assignment! Please keep these men, along with all of the clergy of our diocese, in your prayers.

Blood Pressure Checks

The Cathedral Parish Nurse is back! She will be in the Atrium checking blood pressures on July 10 after the 4pm Mass and on July 11 after the 7am and 10am Mass. Please stop by!

CCCW Scholarship Recipients

The Cathedral Council of Catholic Women and the Knights of Columbus Council #16126 are pleased to announce the 2021 scholarship recipients:

Jacob Carstens, Ty Copelin, Rachel Holtgrave, Evie Humke, Mary Beth Kessler, Ava Southern, Thomas Southern, Connor Thompson, and Liam Thompson.

Congratulations to all the students that received scholarships for the 2021-2022 school year!

Single & Parenting - Hard Work, Real Hope

As a single parent, you know there aren't many people who truly understand the unique challenges you face. You deeply desire to do what's best for your kids, and you worry that you aren't. Sometimes, it's all you can do to survive from one day to the next. Single & Parenting is a special group that will bring practical help and hope to your life. Gather with other single parents to watch dynamic videos featuring single-parenting experts and enjoy small-group discussion. Single & Parenting meets on Thursdays, June 3-August 26 from 6:00pm-8:00pm in the Cathedral School Library. FREE child care will be available. For more information and to register, contact Vicki at 217/522-3342 or vcompton@cathedral.dio.org

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

Second Collection - Peter's Pence

[Jesus] journeyed from one town and village to another, preaching and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. Accompanying him were the Twelve ... and many others who provided for them out of their resources. (Lk 8:1, 3)

The Peter's Pence Collection allows participants to support the Universal Church and help the Holy Father as he shows mercy to the neediest people around the world, in recognition of the common humanity shared by peoples of all ethnicities and religious backgrounds.

In this spirit of mercy, Pope Francis helped the people of Iran when they suffered death and catastrophic damage from floods in March and April 2019. More than 10 million people suffered property damage, and the city of Ahwaz and numerous villages were evacuated. Two million people required immediate assistance.

Pope Francis donated €100,000 to direct relief efforts coordinated by the Iranian Red Crescent Society, in which Caritas Iran also participated.

By participating in the Peter's Pence Collection, you join the Holy Father's efforts to show mercy to all in two ways: you support the ongoing activities of the Holy See, and you contribute to the charitable works of the Holy Father on behalf of those who are most in need. Our Catholic tradition calls us to provide for the material needs of the Church, and the Peter's Pence Collection is one of the opportunities we have to do so. When you answer the call, you build up the Church so that it will continue to minister to all for generations to come.

Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's collection as an act of mercy and charity. Join our brothers and sisters in faith from around the globe to help Pope Francis in his ministry to the Universal Church and in reaching out to the most marginalized in our world. For more information, please visit www.peterspence.va/en.html. Thank you, and may God bless you abundantly.

Biking for Babies

Cyclists from Biking for Babies will be at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Friday, July 16th. While cycling across America these pro-life enthusiasts spread awareness of and collect donations for pregnancy resource centers. All are invited to attend 5:15 pm Mass, enjoy dinner with the cyclists, and hear their testimonies. To RSVP contact Vicki Compton at: 217/522-3342 or email . Biking for Babies is partnering with three pregnancy help centers within our diocese: First Step Women's Center (Springfield), Choices Pregnancy & Health (Charleston), Thrive Metro East (Godfrey). Donations can be made at: www.bikingforbabies.com/give.

Religious Freedom Week, June 22-29, 2021

Come join us:

- Bishop Paprocki celebrates Mass, Sunday, June 20, 10:00 am Mass, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.
- Go to our diocesan webpage to find out Why Christians Need to Talk about Religion and Politics: <https://www.dio.org/plasm/faithful-citizenship.html>
- Join Bishop Paprocki in praying the rosary for our country, on Wednesday, June 23, 12:00 pm, Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Come in person or participate through the diocesan Facebook page, YouTube page and dio.org/live

Called and Sent - High School Encounter

The Office for Youth and Young Adult Ministry and the Office of Vocations is hosting Called & Sent: a High School Encounter July 4-7 at the Villa Maria Retreat Center in Springfield. This encounter allows you to gain the skills and tactics necessary to practice your faith and have a deeper understanding of who Jesus Christ is. You will also explore how Jesus is calling you to live out your mission. You will gain tools and learn techniques that will help you strengthen and share your faith. This encounter will allow you to answer the call! Registration is \$250 and includes 3 nights' accommodation, 8 meals, lots of snacks, and program materials. Register online at www.dio.org/vocations/cas. Any questions, please email vocations@dio.org.

Pregnancy Care Center - Board of Directors

The Pregnancy Care Center of Springfield, Inc. is seeking new members for its Board of Directors. The Center is a non-profit, pro-life agency that has been assisting pregnant women and their families in Springfield and the surrounding communities for 42 years. Board meetings are held at the Center on the third Wednesday of each month at 12:15 p.m., with a virtual option for those who cannot meet at that time in person. This is a working Board and its primary duty includes fundraising to help keep the Center doors open and services free to clients. Board member terms are three years and begin in July. If you would like more information or are interested in filling out an application, please contact the Center at (217) 525-5630.

Fall 2021 Foundations of Faith Community Nursing Course

Faith Community Health is excited to announce the dates for the Fall 2021 Foundations of Faith Community Nursing program. The registration is currently open for Nurses that are interested in attending this program. Faith Community Nurses draw a closer link between communities of faith and the health system by acting as health educators and health counselors to fellow members of their faith community, as well as assisting with homebound, nursing home and/or hospitalized congregation members. For more information, or to register, please visit <https://carle.org/for-providers/Continuing-Education>