

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

AUGUST 1, 2021 | 18TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



524 EAST LAWRENCE AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
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FOUNDED IN 1839 | DEDICATED IN 1928 | BUILT ON FAITH, RENEWED IN HOPE IN 2009

Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 31

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
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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!



Eucharist as Medicine for the Sick

As we continue our papal reflections on the Eucharist, I would like to take us back to the time just before the calling of the Second Vatican Council. Pope St. John XXIII was elected to become pope on October 20, 1958. Thought by many to be a leader who would keep the status quo and not advance many new initiatives due to his advance age, John XXIII surprised the Church by announcing a few months after his election that he would convoke an ecumenical council, only the 21st time it had been done in the 1900 year history of the Church. History therefore remembers him mostly for this historic decision. However, there was much that this pope contributed to the life of the Church apart from calling the Council.

One of those contributions came in the form of an encyclical that he wrote in his first year as pope to commemorate the 100th anniversary of great priest St. John Vianney's entrance into his heavenly reward. The name of the document was *Sacerdotii nostri primordia* and today marks its anniversary of promulgation (August 1, 1959).

St. John Vianney is known for his humility and zeal for souls. He is perhaps best remembered as one who would spend long hours (sometimes more than 15 hours) each day in the confessional, reconciling sinners to Christ and His Church. He also found time for teaching and preaching to his people and he was considered very effective in these efforts, no doubt an overflow of his deep interior life. Pope St. John XXIII, in reflecting on this great priest, noted how the center of his efforts was to be found in one place – the Eucharist:

The devotion to prayer of St. John M. Vianney, who was to spend almost the whole of the last thirty years of his life in Church caring for the crowds of penitents who flocked to him, had one special characteristic—it was specially directed toward the Eucharist...He did everything that there was to be done to stir up the reverence and love of the faithful for Christ hidden in the Sacrament of the Eucharist and to bring them to share in the riches of the divine Synaxis.
(§45, §47)

While the Second Vatican Council would use the words “source and summit” to describe the Eucharist, St. John Vianney witnessed to this reality in his life as a priest. Many souls who witnessed his love for the Eucharist and his reverence at Mass were profoundly impacted, thus deepening their love for this great gift. His influence continues to make a difference in the lives of the faithful as they read about this great saint. In particular, priests look to this man, their Patron, hoping to imitate his holiness and love for souls, particularly his love for the Eucharist.

Toward the end of the encyclical, the Holy Father invites the faithful to pray for priests, words which I think are very appropriate to repeat today as they are ever timely, especially as we prepare to celebrate St. John Vianney's feast day on August 4:

On the occasion of this centenary celebration, We would also like to exhort paternally all of the faithful to offer constant prayers to God for their priests, so that each in his own way may help them attain holiness. Those who are more fervent and devout are turning their eyes and their minds to the priest with a great deal of hope and expectation. For, at a time when you find flourishing everywhere the power of money, the allure of pleasures of the senses, and too great an esteem for technical achievements, they want to see in him a man who speaks in the name of God, who is animated by a firm faith, and who gives no thought to himself, but burns with intense charity. (§107)

Please ask the intercession of St. John Vianney for the priests of our diocese in general, and those of the Cathedral in particular, that we might more perfectly imitate his love for the Eucharist, which will enable us to serve all of you with greater zeal and to lead all of us to a deeper love for greatest gift we can offer to you in the Holy Eucharist.

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, August 2

7am - Anna A. Eleyidath
(Augustine Eleyidath)
5:15pm - John Rath
(Brenda Capranica)

Tuesday, August 3

7am - Albert Crispi, Sr.
(John Busciacco)
5:15pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway
(Rob Gasaway)

Wednesday, August 4

7am - Richard Willaredt
(John Konarcik)
5:15pm - Karen Bucari
(Alan Bucari)

Thursday, August 5

7am - Barbara Litzelman
(Fran, Elaine, & Doug)
5:15pm - Repose of the Soul of
Joseph Kohlrus, Sr. (Friends)

Friday, August 6

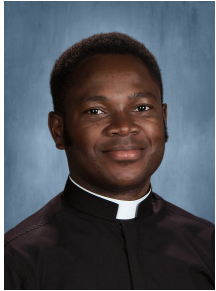
7am - Betty & Gene Barish
(Family)
5:15pm - Emil Neubauer
(Pat & Mary Davis)

Saturday, August 7

8am - Betty & Gene Barish
(Family)
4pm - For the People

Sunday, August 8

7am - Mary Ann Midden
(William Midden)
10am - Special Intention for
Bishop Thomas John Paprocki
(Chris Sommer)
5pm - Rita DesMarteau
(Nancy Schrenk & Harvey)



You Shall Not Kill!

In the July 11, 2021, edition of our Cathedral bulletin, I reflected in my column on the fourth commandment, “honor your father and your mother.” This fourth commandment begins the second part of the decalogue (the ten commandments). The first part of the decalogue includes the first three commandments. In these three, God reveals his will for our relationship with Him. The second section consists of the last seven commandments in which God makes known his will for our relationships with one another. This week, I want us to reflect on the fifth commandment – YOU SHALL NOT KILL.

In several places in the Pentateuch (the first five books of the bible), Moses made the law against killing very clear (Exodus 20:13, 21:12; Deuteronomy 5:17). But in the Gospel, Jesus goes further to explain this commandment in detail. After stating that whoever kills is liable to death, Jesus expanded the notion of killing to include any actions that attack the human life's dignity and sacredness (Matthew 5:21-26).

Killing is evil. The Church condemns it in the strongest terms, especially with Pope Francis's recent abolition of the death penalty as an act that is “morally inadmissible.” While this is so, one may not easily deny the near-justifiability of some killings – specifically, those imposed by states as legal punishments for some heinous crimes.

In reflecting on the fifth commandment that openly condemns killing, I want us to ruminate over another action that involves a deadlier form of killing. One that comes to mind readily is grudges. In many ways, living with grudges has become natural to our human condition. While living with grudges is a moral error and one that we must always endeavor to confess, it is a sin that primarily attacks the dignity and sacredness of the bearer's life. Bearing grudges against others negatively affects those people in some ways. And, the fact of living with grudges destroys the bearer spiritually and emotionally.

One who bears grudges has a high propensity to self-hate, passive aggression, and unforgiveness. These sins deny the bearer of grudges the ‘peace of mind’ that disposes one to good and charitable actions towards self and others. When this happens, the spiritual strength of the soul begins to deteriorate, and one's ability to make moral judgments starts to decline. Sometimes, these happen even while we carry ourselves around as good and devout Christians.

Moving forward, let us keep in mind that living with grudges is a form of killing – not just killing the ‘other’ but also killing oneself. When the scripture tells us that we shall not kill, it does not say we shall not kill others but ourselves. So, let us do well to pay closer attention to this commandment by staying away from actions and inactions that directly or indirectly attack the dignity and inviolability of the human person.

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

Stewardship of Treasure

Collection numbers from this past weekend were unavailable at the time of printing. Please check back next weekend for the collection numbers for the weekend of July 24th and 25th.

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 Transfiguration

Feast Day: August 6th

This Friday (in 2021), we celebrate the feast day of the Transfiguration. We hear this story every year on the 2nd Sunday of Lent (a fitting preparation, as it was in Jesus' life, for His going up to Jerusalem and entering His Passion and Resurrection), and, on August 6th each year. Resuming our "bible study" that I wanted to do during these summer months, today I want to turn to this marvelous scene. Changing up things slightly, I want to just invite all of us together into a prayerful meditation on this passage.

During my mission trip to Costa Rica in July, each day we did a Holy Hour together and joined in meditating on a consecutive scene from Jesus' life. This kind of prayer offered profound insight into Our Lord, and His continued friendship with us, and was a source of tremendous joy as, each evening, we shared with each other the graces of the day. So, don't just read the below lines these week, pray them. The prayers below are my own. Yours does not have to be the same. Take what strikes your heart, speak to God as He moves You to speak, and simply remain with Him.

Jesus, I know that You are with me. [Take a deep breath. Give yourself space, and peace, and quiet.] Right now, Jesus, I turn to You and recognize Your promised presence with me. I do not come to get anything, or to receive any answer, or to fix any problem ... I just want to be with You. I want to grow in intimacy with You. I want to receive Your love. And, I want to love You in return. [Take another deep breath. Let Jesus love you.]

Open my mind Lord, to Your words that I will reflect upon today. Open my heart to Your love, especially as You show it in Your transfiguration. Open my eyes to see how You reveal Yourself in this passage. Come Holy Spirit. Come Holy Spirit. Come Holy Spirit. [Open your bible to Mark 9:2-8, and just let the lines wash over you. Below is the movements that Jesus brought about in my heart.]

Jesus ... led them up a high mountain. Jesus, I want to be invited close to You like that. Why just Peter, James, and John? Why not everybody else? Did You know their hearts, and knew which apostles would need that particular grace? Peter, who would deny You; John, who would see You crucified; James, who would be the first to be martyred for Your name. Of course, You knew what they would need! And You know me just the same!

Jesus ... was transfigured before them. You have shown Your glory and loveliness to me, haven't You?! Like last week during my Holy Hour: just Your gentle encouragement. Or on the mission trip, when You sustained me through that atrociously hot Eucharistic procession. Or, even here today, as I know Your Presence in the tabernacle: the host, white, gleaming, simple, but transcendent.

Peter said ... let us make three booths ... for they were exceedingly afraid. Oh, fear. I did not want to talk about fear today. Do we have to go there? Yes, of course, I should bring it to You, but it feels so wimpy to approach You with all my fears and uncertainties... Then again, I suppose that is why You came to us anyway, to be with us in our fears. To love us through them, not just despite them. So yeah, that meeting later today, and that liturgy with bishop ... there is a bit of fear there. What if I do not know what to say? What if I forget something? Then again, Your love is not going anywhere is it?

This is My beloved Son, listen to Him. I am so distracted Heavenly Father. There are so many things that fill my mind and heart, and it is so hard to hear Your Son's voice. I want to hear it. I yearn to hear it. I desire to hear it. How can I hear Him better? Ok, scripture is obvious. I can give myself more time to ponder Your words there. Oh, the words of the Mass. Of course, so many of Jesus' words are right there when I pray them; I can be more intentional. And, my friends, the best of them are the ones that constantly offer me glimpses of Jesus' voice, couldn't I stop and listen to them with more attentiveness?

And suddenly looking around they no longer saw anyone with them but Jesus only. And Who else would I need? If I have Your friendship Jesus, I can rest happy. If I know You, that is enough. If You love me, and if you are with me, what else matters?

Lord, I want some takeaway from my prayer today. Where are You inviting me? [Give Him time to speak to your heart.] Ah, resting in Your friendship. I can choose peace knowing Your love. Thank you Lord! [It could be a very different movement for you. That is good. Each of us is having a conversation with God, it should not look the same!]

Fr. Dominic Rankin has long since had a particular love for the transfiguration. It became his favorite mystery of the rosary when Pope St. John Paul II added it along with the other mysteries of light, to the traditional joyful, sorrowful, and glorious mysteries in 2002. Not discounting any of the other mysteries, but mountain tops, apparitions of saints, God's voice from heaven, and Jesus appearing in glory just had a way of capturing my 9 year old heart.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

First Friday Concerts at the Cathedral

First Friday Concerts are back! Join us on Friday, August 6 beginning at 7pm for a concert featuring Brass at the Cathedral; Brass Quintet, Timpani, and Organ! First Friday Concerts are free and are sponsored by Staab Funeral Homes. All are welcome!

Safe Families for Children

Safe Families for Children is a movement fueled by compassion to keep children safe and families intact. We rely upon host families, and a network of support, to open their arms, their hearts, and their homes. A representative from Safe Families will be in the Atrium following all the Masses during the weekend of July 31st and August 1st. Please stop by their table, or visit www.Safe-Families.org for more information.

Fishing With Father Alford

Join us on Wednesday, August 11 at 6:00pm at the Villa Maria for Fishing with Father! Pack a picnic supper, if you like, and grab your pole and tackle. We will provide bait and ice cream!

Beyond Canned Goods

The Holy Family Food Pantry is in need of common household items, other than food, such as paper products, cleaning supplies, toiletries, etc. Donations are accepted on weekends at the Holy Family Food Pantry. Thank you for your generosity!

Illinois Chamber Orchestra Concert

Please join us on Saturday, August 7th at 7pm for the Dvorak Serenade for Wind Instruments, presented by the Illinois Chamber Orchestra! This concert is free and all are welcome to attend.

CCCW Cathedral Clothing and Accessory Sale

The women of the CCCW are holding a clothing and accessory sale on Friday, August 6th and Saturday, August 7th from 8am-12pm at the Cathedral School! There will be clothing for everyone (men's, women's, youth, and children), shoes, purses, scarves, coats and more! Shoppers can fill a brown paper bag for \$5.00 with as many items that will fit. No credit cards will be accepted. Hope to see you there!

Cookbook To Benefit Catholic War Veterans

If you didn't have a chance to purchase a cookbook when the Catholic War Veterans were here, it's not too late. Copies are available in the parish office. Stop by to pick up a copy. Only \$14.50 each.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

A Scout's Duty to God

Duty to God is an important part of Scouting and all Scouts in 7th grade and up are invited to earn the Ad Altare Dei religious emblem from the Catholic Committee on Scouting. There will be an orientation session on Sunday, August 29 at 6:30 PM at the Catholic Pastoral Center in Springfield with group meetings following every 4th Sunday through May 2022. Scouts in a Scouts BSA or Venturing Crew who are in 7th grade and older are eligible. For more information, go to <https://scouts.dio.org> or contact the Diocesan Catholic Committee on Scouting at (217) 698-8500, ext. 154 or email scouting@dio.org.

Dive Deep: 12 Fun Things You Didn't Know About Catholicism

Groundhogs Day. Cappuccino. Lay Cardinals. The Easter Bunny. Dive Deep explores those things and more in this episode that will make you say, "I didn't know that about Catholicism!" Go to www.dio.org/podcast to listen and subscribe.

Job Posting: Parish Finance Administrator

The Diocese of Springfield in Illinois is seeking a highly qualified and enthusiastic individual to take on the role of Parish Finance Administrator. This role assists the Finance Officer in organizational management by interpreting and utilizing parish managerial accounting and financial information. This position oversees support of parishes through supervising parish audits, developing finance policies, establishing internal controls for parishes, and executing an accounting review program. For more information, please visit <https://www.dio.org/jobs/parish-finance-administrator-cpc-springfield.html> or email hr@dio.org.

Simply Give Campaign

Springfield Catholic Charities Holy Family Food Pantry is proud to be partnering with Meijer Foods during the Simply Give campaign, which runs from July 4th through October 2nd, to help feed those in need in our community. During the Simply Give campaign, customers are encouraged to purchase a \$10 Simply Give donation card upon checkout at the store or purchased as an add-on to orders when shopping online. Once purchased, the Simply Give cards are donated directly to the Holy Family Food Pantry in Springfield, and 100% of the donation will go towards grocery items, baby food, formula, diapers, and wipes. Take a card from the Simply Give board in the Cathedral Atrium to support this campaign.

Springfield Deanery Diocesan Counsel of Catholic Women Brunch

Women living in the Springfield Deanery, which now consists of Macon, Sangamon, Cass, Morgan, Menard, and Christian Counties, are invited to a brunch on Aug. 4. from 9:30 a.m. to noon at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield to learn about the mission of the Springfield Diocesan Counsel of Catholic Women, how to get involved, and the group's participation in the Water for Life Catholic Relief Services project. Father Peter Chineke, parochial vicar at the Cathedral and the Spiritual Advisor of the Springfield Deanery, will share his vocation story. Please RSVP to Janet Zimmerman, Springfield Deanery President, by July 27: or 217-494-4743.

Deliver a Difference

Volunteers are urgently needed to help with the delivery of hot, nutritious meals to our seniors of Central Illinois, Monday through Thursday, 10:00 – noon. Volunteers are provided with lunch and mileage reimbursement. If you can help the seniors in our community, please contact Autumn Osborne at Senior Services of Central Illinois 217/528-4035, ext. 123. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve God by serving His people!