

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

AUGUST 29, 2021 | 22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



524 EAST LAWRENCE AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFICE: 217-522-3342
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FOUNDED IN 1839 | DEDICATED IN 1928 | BUILT ON FAITH, RENEWED IN HOPE IN 2009

Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 35

THE MOST REVEREND THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
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PAROCHIAL VICAR

THE REVEREND DOMINIC RANKIN
IN RESIDENCE

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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!



Being Nourished by the Word

In the Second Reading for Mass the Sunday, we hear St. James speaking about the importance of the Word of God, that we should "humbly welcome the word that has been planted in you and is able to save your souls." (Jas 1:21) He then gives us an important challenge: "Be doers of the word and not hearers only." (Jas 1:22) For the past few weeks, we have been focusing on the importance of the Eucharist in our lives as Catholics. But we must also bear in mind the important role the Word of God in Sacred Scripture also plays in our lives. The Second Vatican Council provides a beautiful summary of how these two are related, especially at Mass:

The Church has always venerated the divine Scriptures just as she venerates the body of the Lord, since, especially in the sacred liturgy, she unceasingly receives and offers to the faithful the bread of life from the table both of God's word and of Christ's body.
(*Dei Verbum*, 21)

In a document he wrote on the Word of God, Pope Benedict XVI also highlights how deepening our love for the Word of God is at the service of a fuller encounter with the Lord when we are at Mass:

Just as the adoration of the Eucharist prepares for, accompanies and follows the liturgy of the Eucharist, so too prayerful reading, personal and communal, prepares for, accompanies and deepens what the Church celebrates when she proclaims the word in a liturgical setting. (*Verbum Domini*, 86)

Praying with the Word of God, especially with the readings given to us each day by the Church, is a practice that has grown in recent decades in the Church. Thankfully, we have more resources than ever to facilitate this encounter with the Word of God, both written and electronic. For example, beginning this weekend, you will find copies of *The Word Among Us*, a monthly publication that includes the daily Mass readings, along with daily reflections on those readings and a few other articles. Feel free to pick one up to help you in deepening your commitment to being nourished by the Word of God. Another popular publication that many use is *Magnificat*. You can also find the daily readings online at <https://bible.usccb.org>.

In the above quote from Pope Benedict, he points out that the prayerful reading of the Word of God is encouraged on both the personal and the communal level. When we invite others into our prayer with the Word of God, we are exposed to the unique ways that God speaks to each of us and we are blessed by the sharing of those insights with one another, insights we might not have encountered if our prayer only remains in the personal realm.

With that in mind, we would like to make the communal reading and praying with the Word of God an opportunity for our parish. Beginning Tuesday, September 21, continuing every other Tuesday evening at 6:30 pm, we will gather together to break open the Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday liturgy. Joining us will be the candidates who are in the process of discerning entrance into the Catholic Church. Please consider coming to join us for any of these evenings. I think you will find that doing so will deepen your love of Sacred Scripture and enhance your overall encounter with the Lord at Mass as He feeds us with His very self in Word and Sacrament.

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 30

7am - Kathy Jarvis
(Kenneth & Michelle Campbell)
5:15pm - Richard Willaredt
(Margaret Barth)

Tuesday, August 31

7am - Richard J. Scharf
(Martha Pasquier)
5:15pm - Luella W. Stutzman
(Marlene Mulford)

Wednesday, September 1

7am - Warren Bequette
(Larry & Sue Ruder)
5:15pm - Gregory Krisch
(Dan & Cheryl Folkerts)

Thursday, September 2

7am - Anna A. Eleyidath
(Augustine Eleyidath)
5:15pm - Dannie Roe
(Kathryn Roe)

Friday, September 3

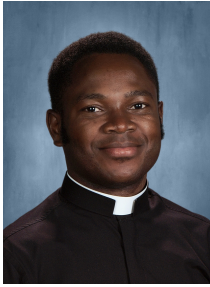
7am - Janet Segar
(Dorothy & Matt Kromraj)
5:15pm - Tony Cilano
(Sharon Jordan)

Saturday, September 4

8am - Helen "Bobbi" McCarthy
(Family)
4pm - John Montgomery
(John Busciacco)

Sunday, September 5

7am - For the People
10am - Charles & Mercedes Nesbitt
(Kathy Frank)
5pm - Jean Anne Staab
(Mary & Patty Fulgenzi)



St. Monica – A Model for Christian Wives and Mothers

In the early fourth century, somewhere in northern Africa, in the town of Tagaste (the modern-day Souk Ahras), there lived a woman named Monica. Tagaste, a city that holds a notable place in the history of western civilization, was one of the cultural and socio-economic hubs of the civilization championed and shaped by Christianity. In this city, Monica was born, raised, and given in marriage to a pagan man – Patritius.

Already a Catholic before her marriage to Patritius, Monica devoted herself to the conversion of her pagan husband. To do this, Monica lived a holy and prayerful life. She was also very loyal and affectionate to her husband. Persevering in these virtues, Monica was blessed to have her husband voluntarily convert to the Catholic faith about a year before his death.

Around this time, Augustine left the faith as a young adult. He became wayward and openly scornful of the Catholic faith. Augustine engaged in various kinds of sinful behaviors that both severed his relationship with his mother and endangered his life. “He went astray in faith and manners” so much that his mother cried and prayed relentlessly for his conversion.

Monica’s motherly love for Augustine, like most mothers for their children, was boundless. She prayed unstoppably and would always approach any priests and bishops she met to ask for prayers for her son. As we all know that God does not fail, Monica’s prayers were answered superabundantly. Through the instrumentality of St. Ambrose, then bishop of Milan, whom Monica had asked to pray for Augustine, the young man converted to the faith. He later became a priest and later a bishop. Today, Augustine is one of the most influential figures in Christian theology and philosophy, Catholicism, and a Saint for all times.

What a perfect model for Christian wives and mothers! We all can agree that there would not be any St. Augustine today without St. Monica. How inspiring!

Today, we live in a world and culture where most adults who grew up Catholic no longer practice the faith. Many of these people have left the Church and have become very hateful of the Church and its teachings. Some of these people grew up in homes where faith was never an essential part of family life. However, a good number of the people who have left the Catholic faith were raised in good practicing Catholic homes. Like in the case of the young Augustine, it is evident that he grew up in a practicing Catholic home but still left the faith. But his mother did not abandon him or give up on doing the needful. She prayed for Augustine relentlessly and would ask for prayers and counsels from priests and bishops.

Are you a wife and your husband is not serious with his faith or has left the faith entirely? Be like St. Monica! Are you a mother, and your children have left the faith or are not serious with it? Be like St. Monica!

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 August 21st & 22nd

Envelopes:	\$5,949.00
Loose:	\$2,633.77
Maintenance:	\$42.00
Total:	\$8,624.77

July EFT: \$20,888.40

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!

I need clarification about where our soul goes when our earthly bodies die. It was my understanding that Jesus would judge us immediately, and our souls would either go to Heaven, Hell, or Purgatory. But several passages in the Bible make it sound like we (our souls) are waiting until the Last Day. A fellow peer in a Bible study group (in which I am participating) said that God's "raising us up on the last day" may be referring to the souls in Purgatory. This made sense to me, but every time I read something more in Scripture pertaining to this, I become confused again. HELP!

- Sharon Sexson, Parishioner of the Cathedral

Questions involving the resurrection interest many Catholics, myself included. This is a good thing, because “belief in the resurrection of the dead has been an essential element of the Christian faith from its beginnings” (CCC 991). Your initial understanding is correct. When we die, we face Jesus in judgment and our souls go to heaven, hell, or purgatory (in preparation for heaven). However, our bodies experience decomposition on this earth, which means that our bodies and souls are divided from the point of death until our own resurrection.

The Last Day is also known as the Second Coming of Christ, or the Parousia, which is a Greek word. On the Last Day, Jesus will return in glory, and the bodies of the dead will be raised, “those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of judgment” (John 5:29). At this point, our bodies and souls will be reunited, either in heaven or in hell. Before the final resurrection, our souls already experience the goodness of God in heaven. Our bodies will be glorified like Jesus’ was after his Resurrection: able to walk through walls, not subject to destruction, etc.

On the Last Day, there will be another judgment after the resurrection of the dead, called the general judgment or final judgment. In this judgment, “We shall know the ultimate meaning of the whole work of creation and of the entire economy of salvation and understand the marvelous ways by which his Providence led everything towards its final end. The Last Judgment will reveal that God’s justice triumphs over all the injustices committed by his creatures and that God’s love is stronger than death” (CCC 1040). In a person’s individual or particular judgment, God judges the person based on his or her decision to love God or not love God. In the final judgment, the consequences of people’s actions will be manifest to the whole world. Mother Teresa’s actions of love are still reverberating around the world, while some people’s historical actions are still causing negative consequences to this day. These will all be made known on the Last Day.

At the Last Day, we will experience the fullness of Christ’s resurrection as members of his Body. However, we as Christians have already begun to experience Christ’s Resurrection through our experience of the Sacraments. St. Paul said, “And you were buried with him in Baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead. If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God” (Colossians 2:12, 3:1). In the Creed, we pray together every Sunday, “I look forward to the resurrection of the dead.” This does not refer to Jesus’ body, but to our bodies which will be raised up on the Last Day.

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

Have a question about your faith? Want to know more about a particular Catholic teaching? 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.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

Catechesis for Our Children

The Rite of Baptism emphasizes that parents are the first teachers of their children in the ways of the faith. The Second Vatican Council calls the family the “domestic church” insisting that “parents, by word and example, are the first heralds of the faith with regard to their children” [cf. Lumen Gentium §11]. Given the emphasis placed on parents, we want to help parents to be what they are called to be in Christ: true heralds of the Gospel to their children. This is why the Cathedral has adopted A Family of Faith: Catechesis for the Whole Family, a family-based catechesis and formation opportunity meant to assist parents with the education of their children in the faith.

We are excited to launch Year 3, Life in Christ, in September. All our families with school aged children, Pre-K to gr. 8, are invited to join us, two Sundays a month for formation and fun. At the same time a separate program for our teens will be offered. We will be mailing registration packets to all families who have joined us in the past. If you are new to Family of Faith, please call the parish office to request a packet or visit www.spicathedral.org/family-of-faith. We hope you will join us!

Second Collection for Haiti

We will be having a Second Collection this weekend to support relief efforts in Haiti following the destruction from the recent earthquake and tropical storms. There are no special envelopes for this collection, so please either put your donation in a separate envelope or place your donation in the basket at the Second Collection this weekend. Thank you in advance for your support.

First Friday Concert – September 3, 2021

Sacred Sounds, Sacred Spaces at the Cathedral will host a First Friday Concert on September 3rd, 2021 at 7PM featuring Young Musicians - Local High School and College Musicians! This concert is free and open to the public.

Discovering Our Dignity - Study of Women of the Bible

Through their stories recorded in Scripture, women of the Bible reach out to touch our “present” in a tender, honest and loving way—woman to woman—with ancient wisdom, sage advice, and insights from sorrowful failures and emotional wounds.

Learn how God worked in the lives of Biblical women:

- Sisters Leah and Rachel overcame jealousy when they learned that God offered all that they really needed
- Abigail's faith was so strong she didn't despair, no matter how unpleasant life was with her husband
- Deborah had been given grace by God to act as His prophet, for the good of her people
- Mary the Blessed Mother's “yes” to God—her fiat—changed everything. How else did her words and deeds influence Jesus, and vice versa?

Thursdays at 10:00am and 1:00pm beginning October 7. Workbook is \$40. Register by contacting Vicki at vcompton@cathedral.dio.org or 217-522-3342.

It was so fulfilling spending a few hours a week with spiritual, fun, sincere, giving women! I will most definitely continue with another Bible Study with this amazing group.

- Pamela Hargan, Parishioner of the Cathedral

A Parish Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in LaCrosse, Wisconsin

Join Fr. Peter on an overnight Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in LaCrosse, Wisconsin, on Friday and Saturday, October 15-16, 2021! While seeking a deeper relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ through devotions to our Blessed Mother, Catholics from around the world make this pilgrimage. Achieving this spiritual goal, many of these pilgrims end up attracting countless miracles and blessings for themselves and their loved ones.

To register, please call the Parish Office at 217-522-3342. The payment will be \$270.00 for a private room with a standard king-size bed and \$230.00 to share a room with someone else. The payment will cover the transportation, hotel, bus tip, and shrine donation expenses. Payments will be accepted by checks, cash, or EFT and must be addressed to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Springfield, IL. The last day for registration with a full or half payment (\$150.00) will be Monday, August 30, 2021. For half-payments, complete payment will be due on Monday, September 27, 2021.

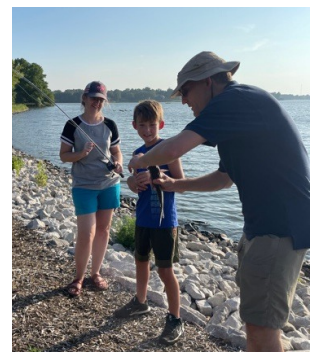
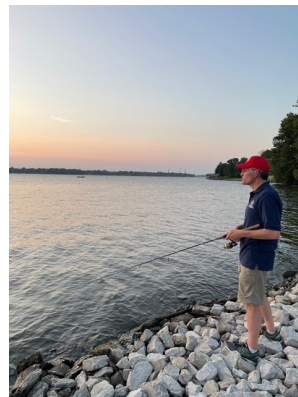
For any questions, clarifications, or inquiries about the pilgrimage, contact Fr. Peter Chineke at 217-522-3342 ext. 134 or by email at pchineke@dio.org.

Parish Party

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 25 for a Parish Party!! Watch the Weekly, website, and eWeeklys for more information to come!

Fishing with Father

Earlier this month, some of our families joined Father Alford at the Villa Maria for an evening of fishing fun!



SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

SDCCW 92nd Convention

The 92nd Convention of the Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (SDCCW) will be held on Wednesday, September 29, 2021 in Jacksonville, IL at Hamilton's South Ballroom, 110 North East Street from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Program begins at 9 a.m. Registration forms, Pot-of-Gold (50/50) and Quilt Raffle Tickets, (\$1, 6/\$5) will be available in the Atrium after Saturday, 4 pm and Sunday Masses. Please stop by and support this worthy cause which gives scholarships to Diocesan young women, contributes to the Seminary Fund and supports Right to Life, Catholic Relief Services Projects in addition to other charitable works.

Catholic Social Teaching – Care for God's Creation

A video on "Care for God's Creation" is one of a seven-part series on Catholic Social Teaching, designed to educate and have Catholics reflect on each of the social teachings. Pope Francis has declared September 1 as a day of prayer for creation. The video series is co-sponsored by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). All videos can be seen on the CRS YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/watch?v=wSnXuCiHXE.

Part-Time Cook/Server

The Villa Maria Catholic Life Center is looking for a few new people to join their staff! The Cook/Server assists with the preparation, cooking and serving of meals for small and large groups at the center. The cook/server is responsible for cleaning kitchen equipment and utensils, the dining room, and the buffet equipment after a service. The position also assists in keeping the kitchen clean, organized and prepped for the next service. Morning and evening shifts available. More about the position can be found at www.dio.org/jobs. To Apply: Please email resume and/or completed application to hr@dio.org or send to: Diocese of Springfield in Illinois Office for Human Resources, Attn: Erin Danaher, 1615 West Washington, Springfield, IL 62702

Riverton/Spaulding Fall Festival

It's time to re-open the Riverton/Spaulding communities with friends, families, festivities, and fun! Come out and join the Riverton Knights of Columbus Marian Council #3914 on Saturday, August 28 from 4:30pm-10:00pm at the Field of Dreams, 6237-6239 Riverton Road in Riverton, IL! Musical entertainment will be provided by DJ Brad Schroeder with karaoke, limbo, kids games, chicken dance, and much more! Food and refreshments will be available for purchase, and fireworks begin at dusk.

Coordinator of Restored Order Catechesis and Diocesan Liturgies

The Diocese of Springfield in Illinois is seeking a mission-driven, enthusiastic individual for the role of Coordinator of Restored Order Catechesis and Diocesan Liturgies. This position is responsible for organizing, directing, and fostering excitement and participation for the Diocesan-sponsored Masses at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield, IL. This position not only coordinates the liturgies and accompanying events, but also assists parishes and schools in catechizing students, parents, volunteers, and staff. The full job description can be found at www.dio.org/jobs. To Apply: Please email resume and/or completed application to hr@dio.org or send to: Diocese of Springfield in Illinois Office for Human Resources, Attn: Erin Danaher, 1615 West Washington, Springfield, IL 62702

Become a Dominican Associate

The Springfield Dominican Associates are called to embody the Dominican charism, hear and proclaim God's Word, and promote the dignity of all persons. Their lives are rooted in prayer, study, community, and ministry. Through diverse gifts, they strive to participate in the mission of the Church by putting into action our call to preach the Word with our lives. Those interested in becoming a Dominican Associate must complete a nine-month formation process in which they study dimensions of church and Dominican life. For more information, please visit www.springfieldop.org.

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.

Sacred Heart Church, Virden Annual Fried Chicken Dinner

Sacred Heart Church in Virden will be holding a "Drive-thru only" Annual Fried Chicken Dinner on Sunday, September 12, 2021 beginning at 11am and serving while supplies last at the K of C Hall. The packaged meal includes our signature fried chicken (1/2 chicken pieces), mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, and a cookie, all for \$10. 50/50 raffle tickets will be sold - \$5 each or 3 for \$10. Entrance into the parking lot secures your dinner order! Thank you for your support!