

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

OCTOBER 17, 2021 | 29TH 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 42

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

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

THE REVEREND DOMINIC RANKIN
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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!



Why Can't We Love Them Both?

Last week, I shared with you a practice that I have when praying with the mysteries of the Rosary, asking Mary to help me better understand what she wants me to see from each decade. I had also mentioned how I often use the final two Glorious Mysteries (the Assumption of Mary and the Coronation of Mary) to ask for the grace to strengthen my desire for eternal life, the final destination to which all of God's children are called.

As I continue to reflect on the Rosary during this month of October (the month of the Rosary), I think of the many different places and times where I have prayed the Rosary. One set of memories sticks out in a special

way during this month of October which is also Respect Life Month in the Church. While I was in seminary in St. Louis, a group of seminarians would travel across the river to Granite City every Saturday morning to pray in front of the Hope Abortion Clinic. The first time I went, I had no idea what to expect. There were a few different groups around the building and we joined a group of Catholics who were peacefully praying the Rosary. The group would pray all 20 mysteries of the Rosary, something I had never done before. They used a little booklet of Pro-Life Rosary meditations to introduce each decade, giving the group something to consider as we prayed each decade. Those meditations often come to mind as I pray the Rosary now, and the meditation introducing the Assumption is one that I have found particularly powerful:

The Blessed Virgin Mary was taken body and soul into Heaven because she is the Mother of God. Mother and child are united. The Assumption reminds us that they belong together. We pray that society will see that it cannot love women while killing their children, and cannot save children without helping their mothers. We pray that people will be touched by the pro-life question, "Why can't we love them both?"

That question would often sit in my mind as I prayed the Rosary, especially as I saw women entering the clinic for an abortion. For each woman, there was a story, often a very sad story such that they felt as though they had no option but to go through with the pregnancy. While some on the sidewalks tried to appeal to the mothers that there was a human life in their womb and that they needed to turn back from having the child in their womb taken, this often did not register. As one woman told me who had done much counselling for women faced with an unplanned pregnancy, those appeals almost never worked, because the women were so sacred about what this pregnancy meant to themselves. The counsellor said that what these women needed most was to be loved, to be encountered with love, not defined by the action they were about to take. Those women who encountered somebody on the sidewalk who loved them and appealed to them, not just the baby in their womb, were those most likely to reconsider because they were able to reassess their own value and dignity, which opened their hearts to move beyond the fears and to finally recognize the gift they had been given with the child in their womb.

As we pray the Rosary during this Respect Life Month, perhaps we can ask our Blessed Mother to touch the hearts of all the good people who work to build a culture of life, that as we undertake our various efforts, we may always be motivated by an authentic and generous love not just for the unborn children in the womb, but especially for the women who carry that gift of life. May we one day have a culture in which these women will find in us a loving encounter with Christ, for being touched by His love for them will be the most effective means for them to choose life.

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

Mass Intentions

Monday, October 18

7am - Stephanie Sandidage
(Sue Sandidage)
5:15pm - Jean Greenwald
(Fred & Rita Greenwald)

Tuesday, October 19

7am - Albert Crispì, Sr.
(John Busciacco)
5:15pm - Thomas & Betty Rapps
(Nancy Rapps)

Wednesday, October 20

7am - Paul & Alma Bergschneider
(Shana Gray)
5:15pm - Jean Anne Staab
(Vincent & Amma Fanale)

Thursday, October 21

7am - Anna A. Eleyidath
(Augustine Eleyidath)
5:15pm - Special Intention for Ellen
Mattox (Shana Gray)

Friday, October 22

7am - Vincenzo & Jennie Darrigo
(Jeannette Giannone)
5:15pm - Kathleen & Jeff Porter &
Family (Kay & Richard King)

Saturday, October 23

8am - Kathy Jarvis
(Della & George Laurenzana)
4pm - Richard & Valeria
Shaughnessy (Mr. & Mrs.
Shaughnessy & Family)

Sunday, October 24

7am - Mary Anne Midden
(William Midden)
10am - For the People
5pm - Special Intention for
Paul Palazzolo (Donna Hopwood)



St. Luke: Beloved, and Physician, and Friend

Feast Day: October 18th

We learn a lot about someone when we get to know their friends. For our saint this week, I would like to get to know St. Luke, the man entrusted by God to craft the third Gospel of His Son. Our story begins with St. Paul, who sits in a prison in Ephesus. He had been working there for a few years, zealously proclaiming the Gospel and building the local Church alongside of his close friends (and roommates of a fashion) Aquila and Prisca, but it seems that he got in trouble with the synagogue leaders, or perhaps the roman officials thought he was causing too much trouble, and so, in the mid-50s, there he sits in prison writing letters to the communities he had founded elsewhere.

The Apostle to the Gentiles first crafts the unique, personal, letter to Philemon to be delivered by Onesimus, Philemon's runaway-slave, and then he dictates a communal letter to the Colossians (speaking at length on the topic of slavery, something that seems to have been in his mind both having just encountered Onesimus, but also now himself being "a slave of Christ Jesus", to steal his opening line from his letter to the Romans, when he is "in chains" a different time). As Paul concludes that letter, he mentions all the others who also send their greetings, and in this list (almost the same as mentioned in that letter to Philemon), we get a glimpse into those who have remained close to the imprisoned-apostle:

"Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas ... and ... Justus. These are the only men of the circumcision among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me. Epaphras, who is one of yourselves, a servant of Christ Jesus ... Luke the beloved physician and Demas greet you." [Colossians 5:10-14]

Luke, Loukas, a Greek/gentile name we immediately notice (and Paul emphasizes it), is not only faithful to Paul in the sticky spot he finds himself, but he is also described as "beloved" (agapetos, notice the root "agape", which indicates a close brotherhood), and "physician" (iatros, literally one-who-heals, a doctor). Like the best of doctors in our day Luke, we learn, combines both a tender-hearted concern for those around him (Paul included), and, as we quickly find once we flip to the Gospel "according to Luke", also a man concerned with precision and an "orderly account" [Luke 1:3], in this case of the life of Christ. In his Gospel, many more times than any other, we find that same root-word "iaomai" occur again and again as Jesus is shown as a healer, a physician of sorts Himself, showing His love on the ignored and degraded. And to that second characteristic, Luke's Gospel is the one most focused on historical and informative details of Christ's life. Where the other evangelists skip straight to stories or parables, Luke takes time to explain to his gentile audience, throughout both Luke and Acts, the historical dates and persons engaged in the scenes he relates as well as the nuances of Jewish practices that they may not understand.

Isn't it amazing that, through the eyes of Paul in prison, we get to know the young man who risks a visit to him?! And there, as Paul is encouraged by the compassion and courage of Luke, we can also see Luke's eyes catch the same fire that had captured Paul. Was it here, in a dingy dungeon in Ephesus, that Luke heard story after story of Jesus' birth, preaching, healings, and sufferings, and found in his own heart God's invitation to write it all down? And ... to not stop the story with Jesus' resurrection, but to write an entire second book, recounting how the early Church was also born, and preached, and healed, and suffered?! (And so the Church continues to this day!)

Fr. Rankin's closest friends are all ones who have brought him close to Jesus. I have been taught and formed by brother priests – much like Paul did for Luke, telling him the stories and teachings of Jesus. My classmates and friends from seminary – much like Mark – have been brothers in the journey and have offered countless insights into what a relationship with Jesus is like. And so many families and friends around my assignments, and in my family, have been to me like Aquila and Priscilla and Mary and John were to Luke. The question this week: am I not only the kind of friend that stands by when suffering strikes, but also, am I the kind of friend who gives the greatest gift I can to those I love: the gift of a relationship with Jesus?

Do we know why Jesus asked the people he healed and those who witnessed many of his miracles to not talk about them? And it seems that most, if not all, ignored him. What can we conclude about why he wanted people to keep quiet about this aspect of his ministry, and about the seemingly willful disregard of his requests? I know that a big part of Christ's passion is that things were foreordained to play out the way they did, but did 'the blabbers' make things worse? Make things happen more quickly? What lessons from all of this are here for us, today?

– Marcel Pacatte, Cathedral Parishioner

Part II

Last week I tried to answer most of this question, so please see last week's Weekly for the meat of why Jesus told his disciples to not talk about his miracles. This week, I hope to address the second part of this question: what effect did the disciples' disobedience have on Jesus' ministry? One clear effect of the word being spread was that Jesus was not able to enter some towns openly, as he had before. Mark tells us: "The man [cleansed leper] went away and began to publicize the whole matter. He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly. He remained outside in deserted places, and people kept coming to him from everywhere" (Mark 1:45). This was at the very beginning of the Gospel, and it's hard to know what effect this had on Jesus' ministry. He could not enter a town openly, but we see him at the beginning of chapter 2 entering Capernaum with no visible problems or crazy crowds. I would guess that towards the beginning, "not entering a town" was a mild inconvenience, while later on Jesus' fame could have spread between towns and become a serious burden to his work.

One of the mysteries of Christ's passion is how the free decisions of many people worked together toward a result that was predicted in the Old Testament and by Jesus himself. Judas' betrayal and locating of Jesus on the night after the Last Supper was a necessary part of the story, but we still believe that he was totally free to choose to betray Jesus or not betray Jesus. I don't know whether 'the blabbers' specifically had an impact on the Passion, but whatever happened, God used even their disobedience to bring about Christ's salvific death.

We can learn about obedience from those who did not obey Jesus' directions to tell no one about his miracles. It must have been baffling to those who witnessed Jesus' actions that he would ask them to tell no one what they had seen. It is natural to want to share with others something that we observed which was extraordinary or even miraculous. Jesus could have been more forceful in his commands, and he could have added a brief explanation, such as, "Don't tell anybody about this because I have many more things to accomplish, and if people know right now, it's going to be more difficult for me to do good work." But God doesn't always tell us the whole plan, and even if we hear the whole plan, it may not even make a difference. Sometimes little children want an explanation for their parents' decisions, and even when a parent patiently and logically explains why they can't have a cookie before dinner, it is not a compelling argument to a child. Sometimes God's plan for our lives is unexpected, and if we knew about it before it happened, it would only make things worse.

We see in the Gospels that when the Apostles dropped everything to follow Jesus, he did not tell them what would happen or how most of them would die. He only asked them to take one step at a time in following him. May God give us the grace to trust him and be obedience, whatever our current situation in life!

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

Stewardship of Treasure October 9th & 10th

Envelopes:	\$6,222.00
Loose:	\$2,243.00
Maintenance:	\$295.00
Total:	\$8,760.00

September EFT: \$23,178.40

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!

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

Grief Share

Cathedral parish will be hosting Grief Share, a weekly, faith-based, grief support group. If you, or someone you know, would like help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend, please join us beginning Wednesday, October 27, 1:00-3:00pm in the Cathedral School Library. (Enter through the atrium doors off 5th street parking lot) Grief Share runs for 14 weeks, but guests may join the series at any point and can pick up content they missed during the next cycle. For more information go to <https://www.griefshare.org/> or contact Berni Ely @ 899-6637 or jackandberni96@yahoo.com To register call 217/522-3342 or email Vicki at vcompton@cathedral.dio.org All adults, of any or no faith background, are welcome.

All Soul's Day Mass

Join us in praying for those who have died over the past year and for all souls in purgatory. Members of our parish, and loved ones of our parishioners will be remembered in a special way at this Mass. If you have lost a family member in the past 12 months, please call the parish office so they can be recognized. Tuesday, Nov 2 @ 7:00pm.

Encountering Christ in the Word

You are invited to deepen your love of Sacred Scripture and enhance your encounter with our Lord by gathering twice monthly to break open the Scriptures for the upcoming Sunday liturgy. We will be reading and praying together as a parish community to see what insights God is revealing to us and to prepare well to hear the proclamation of the Word on Sunday. We will meet in the atrium on October 19 from 7:00-8:00pm and hope you will join us.

RCIA Introductions

Over the next couple of weekends, we will be introducing those who are currently going through RCIA here at the Cathedral. Please keep them in your prayers, as they embark on the journey of Christian Initiation, and that they may welcome into their hearts the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus, with joy, peace and hope.

Meet Rebecca Barnett

Rebecca (Becky) Barnett is married to Jason Barnett with two children, Christian (15) and Lydia (7). Becky enjoys camping with her family, drawing, painting and playing with their family dog, Colbie (border collie). She's excited to join the Cathedral family and continue learning. She's currently enrolled in the RCIA and FOF programs.

Cookbooks For Sale

Get part of your Christmas shopping done early for the cook who has everything! The Catholic War Veterans are still selling cookbooks with proceeds going toward the support of Catholic veterans. Cookbooks are available for purchase in the Parish Office. Call 217-522-3342 or stop by to purchase one.

Cathedral Merchandise Sale

Cathedral has partnered with Primo Designs to help you show off your Cathedral pride! Merchandise offered is long and short sleeve T-shirts, polos, sweatshirts and quarter zips. Order and pay online at https://shop.primodesigns.net/Cathedral_of_immaculate/shop/home Merchandise can be picked up at Primo or the Cathedral or shipped to your home. The online store closes on October 18 at midnight so don't delay!

First Friday Concerts

Sacred Sounds, Sacred Spaces at the Cathedral will host a First Friday Concert on November 1st, 2021 at 7PM featuring Featuring Good Vibes in the Atrium with Damien Kaplan, Vibraphone & Mark Gifford, Piano! This concert is free and open to the public.

It's SOCTOBER!

The Cathedral Council of Catholic Women is collecting new (or gently used) socks, hats and gloves for men, women & children in area shelters for distribution throughout the winter months. Area social service agencies and nursing homes have been very appreciative of the generosity of Cathedral parishioners in the last three years as our donations have benefitted many people of all ages. Please place donated items in the White baskets placed in the Atrium. Thanks so much for your generosity to the most vulnerable in our community!



SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

40th Annual Little Flower Holiday Craft Bazaar

The Little Flower Parent Teacher Club is hosting the 40th Annual Holiday Craft Bazaar on November 13th and 14th of this year. This event is a great opportunity to purchase hand-crafted items for yourself or others from over 45 vendors. A concession stand will be available. Join us on November 13 from 9a-4p, or on November 14 from 10a-2p.

Springfield DCCW Meeting - November 3

The Springfield Deanery Council of Catholic Women will meet on Wed., Nov. 3, 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., at St. Joseph the Worker Church, 700 East Spruce St., Chatham, IL. The theme of the meeting is "2021 Year of St. Joseph." Brunch will be served at 10:00 a.m. followed by the meeting. All women of the Springfield Deanery are invited to participate. This gathering will give all the opportunity to get to know women from other parishes, learn more about the mission of the Council of Catholic Women, share what is happening in your parish and further our devotion to St. Joseph. Please bring your face mask. If you plan to attend, contact Janet Zimmerman, President of the Springfield Deanery: janetzim14@yahoo.com or 217-494-4743. Thank you!

Scholarships Available at Quincy University

Quincy University recently celebrated 160 years of providing an exceptional educational experience that prepares students for lives of purpose and service to others, guided and shaped by Franciscans encouraging Catholic students to consider QU among their college options and ultimately enroll. **The Bishop's Scholarship** is a \$10,000 scholarship awarded to one student on the recommendation of the Bishop of Springfield. To be eligible for consideration, a candidate must belong to a parish in the Diocese of Springfield, apply to Quincy University and receive admission by December 15, 2021, and choose to enroll and submit a statement describing their involvement in their local parish, the Diocese, or the Catholic Church by January 15, 2022. **The Diocesan Scholarship** is a \$500 scholarship awarded to any student who is a member of a parish in the Diocese of Springfield. To receive this scholarship, candidates must belong to a parish in the Diocese of Springfield, apply to Quincy University and receive admission by March 15, 2022, and choose to enroll and submit a letter from a parish official confirming membership by April 15, 2022. For more information on these scholarships and other financial aid information at Quincy University, please visit www.quincy.edu/apply

Trunk or Treat!

St. Joseph's KC Council 17229 invites everyone to join us for Trunk or Trunk, Saturday, October 23, right after 4:30 Mass until 7:30 pm in the Parish parking lot. Anyone is welcome to come trick or treat. We also encourage everyone to come and decorate the trunk of your vehicle and pass out candy to the kids. Adults please feel free to dress up. There will be judging for top three decorated vehicles with prizes. Come celebrate Halloween with us! Questions please contact Grand Knight Mike Geist. 217-741-8370.

Second Collection - World Mission Sunday (10/24)

World Mission Sunday - the annual, worldwide Eucharistic celebration for the Missions of the Church - will be on October 24 this year. World Mission Sunday joins all Catholics of the world into one community of faith. At Mass that Sunday, we recommit ourselves to our common vocation, through Baptism to be missionaries, through prayer, participation in the Eucharist, and by giving generously to the collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. As we pray and respond here at home, we share in those celebrations taking place in every parish and school throughout the world. Together, through our prayers and financial support, we bring the Lord's mercy and concrete help to the most vulnerable communities in the Pope's missions. In a world where so many things divide us, World Mission Sunday rejoices in our unity as missionaries by our Baptism, as it offers each one of us an opportunity to support the life-giving presence of the Church among the poor and marginalized in more than 1,111 mission dioceses.

Sacred Heart-Griffin Mega Raffle Drawing

Tickets are on sale now for SHG's 27th annual Mega Raffle Drawing! Tickets are \$100 each and only 4200 tickets are sold. There are 70 cash prizes available including the GRAND PRIZE of \$100,000! An Early Bird drawing will be held on October 15th with (20) \$500 cash prizes given away. The raffle concludes on October 30th with a LIVE drawing at the KC Hall on Meadowbrook. Purchase your tickets by calling 217-787-9732 or online at shg.org. Each Springfield Catholic grade school will receive \$1000 from the raffle proceeds. Thank you in advance for supporting SHG!