

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

OCTOBER 24, 2021 | 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



THE SOCIETY
FOR THE PROPAGATION
OF THE FAITH
LA SOCIEDAD
PARA LA PROPAGACIÓN
DE LA FE



"WE CANNOT
BUT SPEAK ABOUT
WHAT WE HAVE SEEN
AND HEARD"
(ACTS 4:20)

"NO PODEMOS
DEJAR DE
HABLAR DE LO QUE
HEMOS VISTO
Y OÍDO"
(HCH 4,20)

WORLD
MISSION
SUNDAY

DOMINGO
MUNDIAL
DE LAS
MISIONES

2021

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

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

Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 43

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!



World Mission Sunday

October seems to be one of the most active months in the Church's year, apart from the liturgical seasons of Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas. As I have previously written, this is the month of the Rosary, in addition to being Respect Life Month. This Sunday, we add another important annual celebration – World Mission Sunday. It is worth sharing a portion of the letter that Bishop Paprocki wrote for our celebration 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.

Pope Francis's message for World Mission Sunday this year reflects on the theme: "We cannot but speak about what we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:20). He reminds us that, "as Christians, we cannot keep the Lord to ourselves," as we "recall with gratitude all those men and women who by their testimony of life help us to renew our baptismal commitment to be generous and joyful apostles of the Gospel."

Think of what our lives would be like if we did not have people who were willing to teach us and witness to our Catholic faith? We would be overwhelmed with all the worldly values and would be missing out on so many blessings that give meaning to our lives and true hope for our future. But thanks be to God, there have been people, many people, who have been like those first disciples and felt the obligation and opportunity to share the Good News with us as missionaries.

Perhaps on this World Mission Sunday, we can spend some time in prayer, calling to mind those missionaries who have been instruments of our receiving the faith. For me, I recall my mother in a special way, who taught me how to pray, and who made sure I was able to learn about my faith and to practice it by going to Mass. I know that she had this passed on from her mother and father, who likely received it from their parents as well. I think of the priests who served at my parish growing up. I think of my brother priests with whom I share the privilege of being a missionary sent to proclaim the Good News, how so many of them, by their word and example, have been a powerful witness to me. I also think of many of you who have shown me the love of God through the witness of your lives as disciples of Jesus.

Who are those missionaries in your life that have brought you to where you are now in your relationship with Christ? Bring them to the Lord and ask Him to bless them for their generosity in sharing this most beautiful gift with you. Then I invite you to ask the Lord for the grace to be willing to continue the chain, passing on this Good News to those you encounter in those places to which the Lord has sent you as a missionary – your families, your workplaces, this parish, and the community around you.

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 25

7am - Anna A. Eleyidath
(Augustine Eleyidath)
5:15pm - Jean Anne Staab
(Fred & Rita Greenwald)

Tuesday, October 26

7am - Kathy Jarvis
(Sharon Masterson)
5:15pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway
(Rob Gasaway)

Wednesday, October 27

7am - Mr. & Mrs. Leo Giannone
(Jeanette Giannone)
5:15pm - Richard Willaredt
(Janet, Stacie, & Darren)

Thursday, October 28

7am - Kathy Jarvis
(Della & George Laurenzana)
5:15pm - Puring Garde
(Family)

Friday, October 29

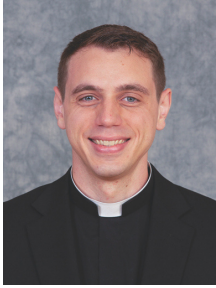
7am - Catherine Ponce
(Leonard & Paula Koliste)
5:15pm - Gregory Krisch
(Elaine & Angela Foreman)

Saturday, October 30

8am - Janet Segar
(Elmer & Sheila Wortham)
4pm - Tommy Regan
(Vick & Janet Burghart)

Sunday, October 31

7am - Tony Cilano
(Sharon Jordan)
10am - Fr. Eugene Prenoiville, OMI
(Becky & Woody Woodhull)
5pm - For the People)



My Body, My Choice?

For many years, the slogan “my body, my choice” has been used in defense of legal protection for abortion. The idea is that a woman should have complete autonomy over her own body because we live in a free country, and to put limits on abortion takes away a woman’s “right to choose.” More recently, this same slogan has been employed by people who, for various reasons, do not want to receive a Covid vaccine. This article is not about vaccine guidance, as our bishop has given very clear guidance on this for the past year or so in our Catholic Times. In addition, our Catholic Times also

publishes Fr. Tad Pacholczyk’s bioethics column, which recently has covered the topics of Covid and vaccine mandates.

Whenever the slogan, “my body, my choice” comes into play, it usually indicates a lack of understanding of what freedom is. Our Catechism gives a good definition of freedom in paragraph 1731: “Freedom is the power, rooted in reason and will, to act or not to act, to do this or that, and so to perform deliberate action on one’s own responsibility.” Free will can be used for good or evil. God made us in his image and likeness, giving us the ability to think (reason) and choose (will), which ultimately gives us the unique ability to love as God loves.

Human freedom is the reason that our society has laws, even laws against certain types of actions which only affect our own bodies. We are not able to just walk into a pharmacy and buy any type of medication for ourselves because some substances can be harmful if used in the wrong way. We need a doctor’s prescription to buy and take certain drugs, because doctors are trained to know what is good for our bodies and what is bad for our bodies. Drugs such as heroine and cocaine are illegal because they are bad for people and bad for society. As I wrote recently, this is grounded in at least a basic understanding of the natural law: human beings are designed to flourish and grow in relationship, which can be perceived by any clear thinker.

Recently the Speaker of the House of Representatives and fellow Catholic Nancy Pelosi made an interesting but shockingly immature statement about freedom regarding abortion. She said, “I believe that God has given us free will to honor our responsibilities.” For this reason, she supports the legalization of abortion so that everybody can have the freedom to choose abortion and utilize their God-given free will. Speaker Pelosi does not have a basic understanding of what the Church means by “freedom.” Of course, God made us free, but the whole reason for having a legislative system is because people can use their freedom to make evil decisions, and as a society we need to prevent that from happening when we can, or punish people when they make gravely evil decisions. I would be interested to hear Speaker Pelosi give her thoughts on why our government exists, since her understanding of freedom seems to mean that nothing should be illegal.

As Catholics, we should not use the phrase, “my body, my choice” because it misrepresents why God made us. A better slogan would be “my body, God’s gift” because none of us are totally autonomous or independent. (Or maybe we just shouldn’t use slogans...) We depend on God for our existence, and we depend on other people in many ways. God has given us the gift of community because he made us as one human family and he wants us to grow, love, and suffer in union with each other. One person’s actions can have an impact, for better or worse, on that person’s family and community. May we all seek true freedom, which is ultimately found through a relationship with God, who made us in his image and likeness.

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 16th & 17th

Envelopes:	\$5,470.00
Loose:	\$2,845.00
Maintenance:	\$135.00
Total:	\$8,450.00

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!



Saints Simon and Jude

Feast Day: October 28th

The apostles Simon and Jude are given the same feast-day because tradition holds that they were martyred together in Persia or Armenia, having carried the Gospel with great success to the pagan peoples north of Israel. We know precious little of what took place between Galilee and Armenia, but this, I think, points us back to the middle of their story, and asks a profound question: how were they changed by getting to know Jesus?

We are introduced to Simon and Jude early in the Gospels, at the point where Jesus chooses the 12 men called into particularly close relationship with him. There, at the end of the list, before Judas Iscariot is listed, we are told that Jesus named as apostles "*Simon who was called the Zealot, and Judas the son of James.*" [Luke 6:15-16; Acts 1:13 names them both in this same fashion].

Simon, we are told, is a "zealot", a term that will, in a few decades, go down in infamy as the name of the violent revolutionaries who tried to kick the Romans out of Israel, and upon whom the anger (and might) of Rome was levied, destroying Jerusalem, the Temple, and hundreds of thousands of Jews finding refuge there in 70AD. Those terrible days were far in the future when Simon stood out of the crowd of Jesus' followers and was named an apostle, yet this is the word that Luke uses to describe him when he gets to writing down his Gospel account of that morning.

Something in Simon's character called to mind the zealous Maccabees who had revolted against their Hellenistic despots a century before Christ. (It is enlightening to recall that two of the Maccabean brothers were themselves named "Simon" and "Judas", so our two apostles have popular names associated with the great heroes of a century before.) "Zeal" is the word also used to describe Paul's fiery temperament, originally directed against those who believed Christ to be the Messiah, and after his own encounter with Christ, transformed into a fiery love for the Body of Christ, His Church.

In Paul, we get to witness the moment of that transformation, and though we do not get a similar scene for Simon, as he began to follow Jesus, his zeal as well was redirected and captured for the sake of Christ. We get the briefest glimpses of this process in the Gospels. On the one hand, Jesus offers all the apostles an example of true, God-like, zeal. On the Passover, in the Temple, seeing the money-changers he overturns the tables, looses the animals, and drives the merchants out of the house of God. The apostles can only have watched wide-eyed as their meek rabbi and miracle-worker tore through the temple precincts. One word came to mind: zeal. They recall Psalm 69:9 "*Zeal for your house will consume me.*"

Fast forward to a later Passover. This time Jesus has left the Temple and made his way to the upper room, this time it is not righteous anger, but sadness and compassion that fills his eyes. He takes off his robe, He washes their feet, He returns to the meal: "*he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him.*" And then Jude, the son of James, for the first and only time in the Gospels, speaks "*Lord, how is it that you will manifest yourself to us, and not to the world?*" How will you be made manifest? The people hailed you as Messiah and successor to David when you entered Jerusalem, do we now go the rest of the way and crown you king? When does the victory happen? What should our zeal look like? "*Jesus answered him, 'If a man loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me does not keep my words; and the word which you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.'*" [John 14:21-24]

In this answer, of course, both men are transformed. Of course, Simon's zeal had to be reordered from earth, to heaven. But his friend and companion, Jude, also had to reorder his own life, in his case his identity had to be reordered from earthly heritage, to heavenly. Both men encountered Jesus, and found in Him the fiery love that comes from His Heavenly Father. It is a zeal for God, and like God, and a love for God, and from Him.

Fr. Rankin, has only slowly befriended Simon and Jude. It's so much easier to relate to the more fleshed-out characters of Peter or John (or any of the many more recent saints we also know more about). But sometimes the Lord deepens our relationships with the saints simply on that spiritual level, without as many of the personal details we usually desire. Such was the case as He drew me close to St. Jude because my sister's convent is entrusted to his patronage, and St. Simon, in that wrestling match to give my zeal to the Lord.

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, November 2 @ 7:00pm.

Thank You from the Knights of Columbus

The Father Tolton Knights of Columbus Council would like to thank everyone who supported the 4th/5th annual Scholarship Dinner. It was a record breaking year. Special thanks to our sponsors, Staab Funeral Home, The Niemeyer Agency, Engrained Brewery & Restaurant, and Pease's Bunn Gourmet. PJ Staab was the winner of the Bourbon Lover's raffle.

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 again in the Atrium on November 16 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 Lisa Barnett

Lisa Barnett is originally from Kentucky but is now a Springfield resident that has worked for Illinois State government for over 25 years. She has been known to do some cake decorating and knit the occasional scarf. She loves to sing around the house and play with her two feisty kitties, Snuggles and Oliver. Lisa is very eager to learn more about the Catholic faith and be involved at Cathedral. She is currently attending RCIA, Encountering Christ in the Word and joining her sister-in-law, nephew and niece at Family of Faith.



Mass Intention Request Form

If you wish to have a Mass celebrated for a loved one, you may request Mass Intentions through our website by filling out an online form at www.spicathedral.org/mass-intention-submission or by navigating to the "Sunday News" tab, then "Submit a Mass Intention Request". Please call the Parish Office at 217-522-3342 with any questions.

Homebound Ministry

Sr. Francella continues to visit our homebound parishioners. If you or a loved one is in the hospital, a nursing home or homebound, please contact the Parish Office at 217-522-3342 and we will connect you with Sr. Francella.

First Friday Concerts

Sacred Sounds, Sacred Spaces at the Cathedral will host a First Friday Concert on November 5th, 2021 at 7PM featuring Good Vibes in the Atrium with Damien Kaplan, Vibraphone & Mark Gifford, Piano! This concert is free and open to the public.

Blood Pressure Checks

The parish nurses will be checking blood pressure after all Masses next weekend, October 30 and 31. Please stop by!

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 benefited 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.

Second Collection for World Mission Sunday

World Mission Sunday, our annual worldwide Eucharistic celebration for the Missions and missionaries of the world, is TODAY! Thank you for your generosity in providing for the building up of over one thousand local churches in Asia, Africa, the Pacific islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe. Through the work of these churches and their witness to Christ, the poor receive practical help and experience God's love, mercy, hope and peace. Please keep the Missions and missionaries in your prayers.

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

Women's Day of Recollection

There will be a Women's Day of Recollection this coming Thursday, October 28 at Sacred Heart Church (730 S. 12th St., Springfield), from 12:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. There will be two meditations given by a priest and a 30-minute period for silent Adoration between the meditations. The ladies may take advantage of the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and spiritual direction during this time, as well as following the Recollection. All women throughout the diocese are invited to attend. The spiritual guidance at the Recollection is entrusted to a priest of the Prelature Opus Dei.

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.

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!

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!

Pregnancy Care Center Event

The Pregnancy Care Center of Springfield, Inc. is celebrating 42 Years of serving our community! Don't miss out on the celebration at the 17th Annual Comedy in the City Event Sponsored by Hospital Sisters Health Systems on Friday, November 12th, 2021 at the Northfield Center. This year's entertainment will be provided by Ashton Wolf Dueling Pianos. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for the cash bar and silent auction. A formal dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. followed by a live auction before the entertainment. There is also a raffle for \$500 in restaurant gift cards. Tickets to the event are \$50 per person or \$400 for a table of 8. Reservations can be made by calling (217) 525-5630.