

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

JANUARY 23, 2022 | 3RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME



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 4 ISSUE 4

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

DEACON ROBERT SGAMBELLURI

DEACON IRVIN LAWRENCE SMITH

VICKI DHABALT COMPTON
COORDINATOR OF FAITH FORMATION AND MISSION
VCOMPTON@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

HALEY DUTTON
COORDINATOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
HDUTTON@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

MARK GIFFORD
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC
MGIFFORD@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

KIM GUNTER
PARISH SECRETARY
KGUNTER@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

JAN SGAMBELLURI
BOOKKEEPER
JSGAMBELLURI@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

BILL VOGT
OFFICE AND PLANT MANAGER
BVOGT@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

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!

Diocesan Victim Assistance is available. For the Diocesan Victim Assistance Coordinator, please call 217-321-1155.
Please remember that if you or a loved one is in the hospital, a nursing home or homebound, to contact the Parish Office at 217-522-3342.



Keeping Holy the Lord's Day

When I was in college, I always looked forward to the weekends (as pretty much every college student does). Since I only worked during the week at the university library, I was free to do a variety of things that I could not do during the rest of the week. Two things in particular stand out as I think back on those weekends: 1) Since I lived at home with my parents, I would often help my dad with some project around the house or in the yard; 2) On Sundays in the Fall and Winter, there was always a Green Bay Packers game to watch. At that point in my life, unfortunately, I was not practicing my faith regularly, so I am sad to admit that I failed in observing the Third Commandment to keep the Lord's Day holy.

Now that I am a priest, I obviously practice my faith every day, especially on Sundays. I can be tempted to try to forget those years when I was lax in observing this commandment, but something stands out as I consider those times now at a distance of many years. The word that comes to mind when I look back to my time in college is that the weekend was different. The flow of the days was different, how I spent my time was different, and how I felt was often different. Several years later, having returned to the regular practice of the faith, I tried to be very intentional about making Sunday different from every other day. I was still tempted to let the different of the weekend extend over the two days of Saturday and Sunday, but as I thought and prayed about it, I knew that was not what the Lord was asking from me with this commandment. Although it fell during the weekend, I knew Sunday needed to be different from Saturday, and that different needed to focus much more intentionally on the Lord, not myself.

This is the fundamental outlook that we need to start with when it comes to our observance of this commandment to keep Sunday holy. The Lord's Day is about Him and we are invited to be particularly intentional about keeping our attention on Him and strengthening our relationship with Him. First and foremost, this means going to Mass. At the Last Supper, He instituted the celebration of the Eucharist, telling His Apostles to do this in memory of Him until He comes again in glory. This is a necessity when it comes to keeping the Lord's Day holy. But what about the rest of the day? How are you making it different? Perhaps you can make a list of things that need to get done, things like chores, errands, homework, etc. and really focus on getting them accomplished apart from Sunday. There is nothing sacred about grocery shopping on Sunday, so why not pick another day? I personally do my very best to avoid going to any store or restaurant on Sundays, reinforcing my intention to keep Sunday as different as possible. I recently heard a priest share that he does not look at his e-mail after Saturday afternoon until Monday morning to protect his keeping the Lord's Day holy. That would be hard for me, but perhaps I need to give it a shot! You can also make a list of things that unite you more closely with the Lord that you can choose for Sunday, such as extra time with the Scriptures, watching a religious movie, reading a spiritual book, or praying the Rosary. Since the Lord is a communion of persons, you can work on being more intentional about attending to the relationships with which God has blessed you, such as connecting with family and friends in person or via a phone call. Personally, I find Sunday to be a good day to call my parents.

Let me therefore invite you this week to consider how you can make the Lord's Day different than every other day of the week, obviously prioritizing going to Mass over everything else. Then, choose the activities that will most promote deepening your relationship with the Lord and those whom you love. And since God rested on the Sabbath, Sunday can be a good day to take a nice nap!

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, January 24

7am - John Aaron Hergett
(Aunt Ann Johnson)
5:15pm - Mary & Bud Boehn &
Family (E. John & Debra Beltramea)

Tuesday, January 25

7am - Cathy Furkin
(Family)
5:15pm - Sophia Bartoletti & Family
(Estate of Sophia Bartoletti)

Wednesday, January 26

7am - Anna A. Eleyidath
(Augustine Eleyidath)
5:15pm - Dorothy Huber
(Family)

Thursday, January 27

7am - Sophia Bartoletti & Family
(Estate of Norma Bartoletti)
5:15pm - George J. Nicoud, Sr.
(Tim Nicoud)

Friday, January 28

7am - Erin Danaher
(Chris Sommer)
5:15pm - John & Edith Bakalar
(John Busciacco)

Saturday, January 29

8am - Mercedes & Charles Nesbitt
(Kathy Frank)
4pm - For the People

Sunday, January 30

7am - Russell Carriere
(Rebecca Logerquist)
10am - John (Jack) McCarthy
(Family)
5pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway
(Rob Gasaway)



The Sabbath was Made for Man

This past week on Tuesday, our daily readings addressed the question of the Sabbath and what role it plays in the life of faith. The passage that we read is Mark 2:23-28. The Gospels depict Jesus and his disciples walking through a field of grain (maybe wheat or barley) on a Saturday, the Jewish Sabbath. As they walked, they picked some of the grain from the stalks, and I assume that they ate it too. The Pharisees criticized Jesus and said that what his disciples were doing was unlawful. They were referring to the Third Commandment in which God commanded his people to keep holy the Lord's Day. The Lord's Day was a day of rest, but the question was how far that rest should extend. Some like the Pharisees took a very strict interpretation, and these people criticized Jesus for picking grain or even offering healing on the Sabbath.

This Gospel scene is a good one for us to focus on as we discuss the role of the Lord's Day in our life as Christians. In response to the criticisms of the Pharisees, Jesus called them to reflect on the meaning of the Lord's Day and why it exists in the first place. Profoundly and succinctly, he said, "The sabbath was made for man, not man for the sabbath." As Jesus often does, he calls us to think about how God made things "from the beginning." This was his strategy when it came to teaching on marriage, as he points us to Genesis for the true meaning of marriage. In the same way, we can look to Genesis for the meaning of the Sabbath.

The creation story in Genesis says that on the seventh day, God rested. The number seven is always significant in scripture, symbolizing completion or harmony. Seven is also the number of a covenant. To make a covenant official, the word used in Hebrew is similar to the number seven (so I'm told). So, giving the seventh day of each week to God was a sign of their covenant with him. This covenant was renewed every Sabbath by prayer and rest.

The Sabbath was made for man. The Jewish people, and later the Church, have always recognized the importance of keeping holy the Lord's Day. With the beginning of the New Covenant, the covenant day has been transferred from Saturday to Sunday. This is to honor the resurrection of Jesus, and in keeping with the traditions of the earliest Christians. The primary way that Catholics can keep the Lord's Day holy is by attending Mass. To voluntarily not attend Mass is a way of breaking the covenant that we have with God. We need to go to Mass each Sunday (or Saturday evening) to renew that covenant relationship and be sustained with the Body and Blood of Jesus. For those in our parish who cannot attend Mass because of being homebound or quarantined, it is good to watch Mass if possible (although not required), or at least set some time apart during the day to pray with the Sunday readings.

However, attending Mass is not the only way that we should keep Sunday holy. The Lord's Day should still be a day of rest for us as Christians. This does not necessarily mean physically resting (although that is good too), but it is primarily a sort of spiritual rest. The day should be marked and set apart from the other six days in the week by some family prayer time or visits to the homebound. Sunday is a good day to study a spiritual book or renew connections with family and friends. Keeping Sunday as a day of rest is a reminder to us that we are made for more than work. In heaven, there will be no more work to do, and we will be able to enter into the rest that is eternal with our heavenly Father. The Sabbath was made for man, because we need rest and renewal in God's merciful love.

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 January 15th & 16th

Envelopes:	\$2,816.00
Loose:	\$1,840.00
Maintenance:	\$25.00
Total:	\$4,681.00

December EFT: \$23,867.40

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!

Sacraments Baptisms

Noah Wayne Harney
Child of Garrett & Alicia Harney
Baptized on 01/09/2022



St. Angela Merici

Feast Day: January 27th

Sometimes the Lord's call comes amidst a constellation of positive elements – talents, affinities, capacities, charisms – that come together in one particular person. Think of the boldness combined with theological acumen of St. Paul, or the fervor and energy and love for the Gospel of St. Ignatius Loyola, or the patient and merciful character of Mother Teresa. This is not simply “following your heart”,

for we all know how far our instincts and character can carry us far from the Lord and living out of His love, yet at the same time, God's call often does fit with some of our own inclinations and proclivities.

Other times, our vocation, our call, grows from a place of pain and loss. Here still, God does not call us to something that is disingenuous from who we are, but He can often surprise and transform us by His graces of conversion, conviction, or consolation. Notice that this fits as well with the examples above: St. Paul – who's life was turned upside down on the way to Damascus; St. Ignatius Loyola, who was moved to turn aside from the glorious life of the battlefield; and St. Mother Teresa, who lost much in leaving her family and religious community to serve the poorest of the poor.

This second means seems to be the one that we see especially operative in the life of St. Angela Merici. Born of Italian farmers in 1474, she lost both her parents by the age of ten, after which she and her older sister Giana were raised by an uncle, but sadly, she lost that older sister a few years later, and by the time Angela was 20, she also lost her uncle. Of course, we only have a sketch of her story – we don't know the waves of grief and struggles with responsibility that may have swept over this young woman – and yet by this time in her life she had already grown to a deep level of intimacy with the Lord. From Him she received the consolation that her sister had entered heaven (she died without receiving the Last Rites, and so had no chance to prepare to meet her Judge) as well as the first urgings to devote her life to the Lord, choosing to become a third-order Franciscan.

She was a beautiful young lady and worked hard to dislodge from her heart any of the many temptations towards vanity that were offered to her. She felt no call towards the contemplative life and ended moving back to her hometown where her brothers still worked the land. How did she feel walking through her childhood home again? Did the weight of those losses crash down on her anew? What was happening in her heart as she contemplated her future? We fruitfully ask these questions because they are the same questions that we confront in our own lives sometimes.

Perhaps she could not see the Lord at work right then, but we can because it was there, back home, that she came to know many young girls poor, stuck without education, not knowing Jesus, and she began to invite them into that home, to care, and teach, and love them. And it was there, over the years to come, that other women joined her in that mission of helping to raise and restore those hurting girls. They dedicated themselves to prayer and penance and charity in their homes, and entrusted themselves to the patroness of St. Ursula. Eventually Angela would more formally establish the group with a rule, working towards becoming a religious order, the Ursuline Nuns, in the decades to come. Her mission stemmed from her own early suffering: “disorder in society is the result of disorder in the family”, she would say. The Ursulines would be the first nuns to set foot in our country in 1719, and came to our diocese in 1857 at the request of Bp. Juncker, where they would establish multiple different schools and educate many thousands of young-people over a century and a half.

Fr. Dominic Rankin visited the Holy Land during Christmas break 2015-2016. It was moving to see all the actual places where so much of the Bible happened. St. Angela Merici also was able to go on pilgrimage to the land of Jesus (in 1524).

She did not get to see any of it though because she was struck with a fluke episode of blindness during the entire trip (being spontaneously healed on her journey back). Like so much of her life, she astonishingly took it as another cross to carry with Jesus, and came back with greater faith and love than when she left.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

A Resolution to Serve Our Parish

How are you serving your parish? Are you involved in liturgical ministry as a lector? Extraordinary Minister of Communion? Usher or Greeter? If not, please prayerfully consider how you can serve your faith community in this new year. We need all our parishioners to help with these vital ministries. Contact Vicki for a brief training session when you have decided how you'd like to contribute to your parish community. vcompton@cathedral.dio.org or 217-522-3342 Thank you!

Come Watch The Chosen on Cathedral's Big Screen

The Chosen is an 8-part drama depicting the life of Jesus Christ as seen through the eyes of those who knew him. Join us in the atrium each Sunday afternoon, Feb 20-Apr 10, from 2:00-3:15 to watch and discuss and reflect. The Chosen is suitable for all ages and everyone is welcome.

February is Heart Month!

Throughout the month of February, the Faith Community Nurses will have heart smart informational poster displays each weekend. There will also be a heart smart poster and activities just for the kids too! Please stop by! If you have any questions regarding heart health, please don't hesitate to contact Adrienne or Angela (your Faith Community Nurses).

First Friday Concert at the Cathedral

Join us on Friday, February 4, 2022 at 7pm in the Cathedral for a First Friday Concert! February's concert will feature Leon Lewis-Nocol, Jazz Piano. The First Friday Concert Series is sponsored by the Staab Family, and is free and open to the public. All are welcome!

Lenten Scripture Reflection Series

You may recall that our Advent 2020 daily prayer resource was written by Cathedral parishioners and emailed to you daily. We received so many positive comments about the reflections and would like to repeat this process for Lent 2022. We need your help. Please prayerfully consider writing a short reflection based on the day's Mass readings, for one day during Lent. If you think you could help your fellow parishioners on their Lenten journey in this way, contact Vicki.

Meals Needed

During the period of Inquiry of RCIA, we make our seekers feel especially welcome and comfortable by serving a simple meal to start each evening. If you are interested in providing a meal for 8 people on any Tuesday between now until the end of February, please contact Vicki at vcompton@cathedral.dio.org or 217-522-3342. Meals have included sloppy soup and bread, pasta and salad, pizza delivery, sloppy joes and chips.



Join Us in the Three Hail Mary Pledge!

As Fr. Alford mentioned in his bulletin article a few weekends ago, we, as a Cathedral parish, invite you to say three Hail Mary's each day (one for the clergy of the Cathedral, one for yourself, and one for all members of the parish). You can clip this image and put it somewhere as a reminder to say your Hail Mary's each day. Jesus, Son of the Virgin Mary, have mercy on us!

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

Collection for the Church in Latin America

This weekend we take up the Collection for the Church in Latin America! Many people in Latin America and the Caribbean do not have access to church programs and ministries because of an increasingly secular culture, difficult terrain, and a shortage of priests, religious and lay ministers. Your generosity enables our neighbors to share in the life of the Church and grow closer to Christ. Please be generous in today's special collection. To learn more please visit www.usccb.org/latin-america

Join the Gospel Choir

The Diocesan Black Catholic Commission is planning to have a Gospel Mass February 27, 2022, St. Aloysius Church, Springfield. Those interested in singing in the Gospel Choir for this Mass should contact Donna Moore at dmoore@dio.org, or 217-321-1161.

Night of Healing

On Saturday, January 29th at 6:30pm, Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Decatur is hosting a healing service. Such an important part of Jesus' ministry was healing the sick. We often pray for healing privately or at a distance for someone, but there is a power when we gather together and pray for healing. The Night of Healing is a healing service that provides a much more powerful and intentional way to pray for healing. Prayer for healing will be prayed for in a large group, and there will also be an opportunity for prayer teams to pray over anyone wanting prayer for healing. If you or anyone needs prayers for healing, please feel free to come. There is no official end time, as prayer teams will stay as long as needed for individuals to receive prayer. Our prayer team members will be masked. Any questions can be emailed to Fr. Michael Trummer: mtrummer@dio.org

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 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/appl

Dominican Family Teach-In

On Saturday, January 29, 2022, from 9 to 2, Sacred Heart-Griffin High School is hosting "Dominican Family Teach-In", a day of spiritual reflection for future and current Sacred Heart-Griffin Parents to learn how to live the Four Pillars of the Dominican Order charism. Learn how to pray, study, live, and serve like a Dominican! Led by Springfield Dominican Sisters and Dominican Associates, \$20 registration donation includes lunch. Email carlson@shg.org to register today!

9 Days for Life Novena

Join others from across the country in praying the 9 Days for Life annual novena, January 19-27, 2022. The novena is for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. Sign up at: www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup