

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

JUNE 12, 2022 | THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY TRINITY



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 24

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.



Praising the Trinity

There seems to be a common view among preachers that preaching on Trinity Sunday is one of the more daunting liturgies on which to preach. The Trinity is not the easiest concept to understand, and I think because of how sublime this mystery is, we can be hesitant to speak about it, fearing we might say something wrong, something that might not fully grasp this great mystery of who God is – Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the almighty Three in One.

Personally, I have not struggled too much with preaching on this topic and I think a reason for this is my focusing on one important aspect of the Trinity that is foundational – relationship. At its heart, the Trinity is about that perfect relationship between the three persons of the Trinity, the love that keeps them together in perfect unity. But this relationship is not something God desires to keep just to Himself. He desires to share that love with something outside of Himself, namely us who are made in His image and likeness. The very first paragraph of the Catechism of the Catholic Church expresses this beautifully:

God, infinitely perfect and blessed in himself, in a plan of sheer goodness freely created man to make him share in his own blessed life. For this reason, at every time and in every place, God draws close to man. He calls man to seek him, to know him, to love him with all his strength. (CCC 1)

Our life as Christians, more than anything else, is to seek to be in relationship with Him and to always live out of that relationship, rooted in His love for us and generously sharing that love in imitation of the one in whose image and likeness we have been made. Furthermore, the Trinity is a pattern for what all of our relationships should look like, united with one another in the love of God. To be sure, we will never fully realize either one of these relationships (with God or with others) fully in this life, but that does not mean that we should not seek to grow toward that ideal.

With that in mind, I invite us to turn to one of the prayers we learned when we were children as a way of increasing our desire and asking for the grace to grow in these relationships – with God and with others. It's the Glory Be. When we pray this prayer, we do a few things. First of all, we give praise and glory to who God is – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in perfect charity. We then praise Him for the act of sheer goodness in creating us so that we too can share in His blessed life. I like to see this prayer also as a way of asking the Lord to strengthen our relationship with Him and, at the same time, to strengthen our relationships with others. Understood in this way, this simple prayer can express so much about our belief in the Trinity and what that belief calls us to as His sons and daughters, brothers and sisters to one another. I therefore highly encourage you to renew your appreciation for the Glory Be prayer, and to pray it in a special way today with these thoughts in mind. Then, moving forward, may every time you pray it be an act of praise for this central mystery of our faith and a desire to live that mystery more fully in your lives.

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, June 13

7am - Pamela Harmon
(Lou Ann Mack & Carl Corrigan)
5:15pm - William F. Logan
(Lisa Logan & Lori Logan Motyka)

Tuesday, June 14

7am - Rick Weitzel
(Paul Steil)
5:15pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway
(Rob Gasaway)

Wednesday, June 15

7am - Tony Bartoletti
(Estate)
5:15pm - Delia Sinn
(Pamela Hargan)

Thursday, June 16

7am - John & Edith Bakalar
(John Busciacco)
5:15pm - Reetu M
(Ann Vaduk)

Friday, June 17

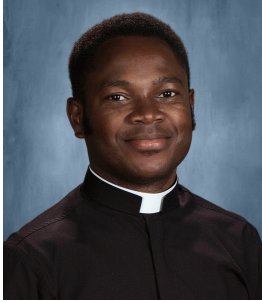
7am - Betty Lou Rogers
(Loretta Midden)
5:15pm - Special Intention for
Bianca (D.A. Drago)

Saturday, June 18

8am - Sophia Bartoletti
(Estate)
4pm - For the People

Sunday, June 19

7am - Jean Staab
(Rose Amon)
10am - Amabile Bartoletti
(Estate)
5pm - Raymond Ohl
(Angela Ohl-Marsters)



The Love That Binds Us Together, The Love We Bruise

This Trinity Sunday, we commemorate in a particular way the mysterious relationship that exists among the three persons of the Holy Trinity – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This relationship's love is that same love whose very essence could not but diffuse itself in the supernatural act of creation. The love that binds the three persons of the Holy Trinity is such a compassionate love whose very nature warrants a creation of beings in whose existence the essence of which (the creator) is extended. And to express the eternal togetherness of the persons in the trinity, they are present to each other wholly in their

respective roles in the history of salvation.

For example, in Genesis 1:26, God the Father said to both the Son and the Spirit, let us make man in our image and likeness. In Matthew 28:19, God the Son sent his disciples to go forth into the whole world and baptize everyone in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These and many similar verses across the scripture reveal how the three persons of the Holy Trinity love themselves so much that in all their activities from the creation, redemption, and sanctification of all that exists, they work together. The love that binds them into one indivisible being is the same love that incarnated itself by taking flesh to become man so that humanity may, in turn, allow that love to bind them together in Christ the incarnate love.

In the first reading today, Jesus, who is the father's wisdom, explained that he was not only present throughout the work of creation. But that he also found delight in the human race – the crown of creation. Jesus's delight in humanity does not necessarily concern the beauty of creation that humanity pinnacles. However, it is mainly about the graciousness of his father, whose goodness diffuses itself, and the result is creation.

Surprisingly, this love binds the three persons of the trinity; this love that diffused itself and resulted in creation; this same love condescended to fleshy existence, suffered, and died to redeem humanity. It is the same love that has been abused, bruised, scorned, and rejected by many.

Last week here in Nigeria, a group of Fulani Islamic terrorists entered a Catholic Church during Mass on the feast of Pentecost and massacred more than seventy people. The love that brought these innocent faithful to the Church on this fateful day is the same love that binds the three persons of the Holy Trinity whom we celebrate today. And it was this same love that was abused, bruised, scorned, and rejected in the butchering of these poor souls.

These Fulani Islamic terrorists committed these mass murders and continue to do so almost daily in many parts of Nigeria. This has been going on for well over ten years. We continue to pray and ask God for a lasting solution to the killings of Christians in Nigeria. We may also take this opportunity to reflect on our personal lives and see how we participate in abusing, bruising, scorning, and rejecting the love that we celebrate today. That love that binds the persons of the trinity is the same love infused into us in baptism to make us one in Christ.

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 June 4th and 5th

Envelopes:	\$5,737.00
Loose:	\$2,630.00
Maintenance:	\$740.00
Total:	\$9,107.00
May EFT:	\$20,731.00

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!

My husband and I like saving Catholic art from thrift stores. My question is, how do we know if they have been blessed and if we need to have them blessed again? Any overall advice regarding items being blessed would be most appreciated! – Barbara Burrows

Blessings are sacramentals, meaning that they are part of the treasury of prayers, symbols, gestures, and objects which the Church gives us to more readily receive the grace of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives and in the celebration of the seven sacraments. When an object is blessed, it is set apart in a special way for the service of God. This is usually done by means of a prayer, sprinkling with holy water, and making the sign of the cross over it (when done by a priest or deacon). In fact, pretty much anything can be blessed, because we are supposed to offer all aspects of our lives to God! The Catechism quotes Vatican II and says, “For well-disposed members of the faithful, the liturgy of the sacraments and sacramentals sanctifies almost every event of their lives with the divine grace which flows from the Paschal mystery of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Christ. From this source all sacraments and sacramentals draw their power. There is scarcely any proper use of material things which cannot be thus directed toward the sanctification of men and the praise of God” (CCC 1669).

To answer your question, it is impossible to know whether an object has been blessed just by looking at it. In rare cases, some holy people have a special gift of the Holy Spirit to sense what has been blessed, and what has not been. (On a side note, when somebody is especially influenced by evil, he or she can also tell whether an object is blessed, but for the opposite reason!) To avoid confusion on what has been blessed, and to remember the blessing, I would recommend making some sort of note on objects that are substantial. For example, on the back of a painting or bottom of a statue, you could use a marker to write, “Blessed by Fr. John, 2022.” Then, in the future, the person who ends up with the statue will always know that it was blessed and by whom. With things like rosaries or medals, this is not possible.

This leads to a more challenging problem that you bring up in your question – what to do about holy objects that are just “out there” in the world, like at thrift stores? There is no ideal solution to this. Hopefully, these blessed objects will eventually end up in a “good home” and be used for their intended purpose as a devotional item. If you have reason to believe that an object will be used for something irreverent, or God forbid, sacrilegious, it would be best to try to acquire the item yourself to save it from disrespect. The best way to solve this problem happens one step before it gets to a thrift store. Items that have been blessed should generally not be bought or sold. This principle might come into play in the situation of an estate being closed or a moving sale. Blessed objects such as statues or rosaries should be given away, and not put on the auction block. However, if an object ends up at an antique store, it would not be sinful for the owner to sell it, as long as they are not selling it because it is blessed.

In the case where it is time to dispose of a blessed object, burning or burying are the two traditional ways to respectfully do this. There may be times when neither of these are possible, in which case a different method of respectful destruction or disposal may be carried out. When an object loses its integrity, meaning that it has become something else through destruction or decomposition, it is generally understood that the blessing no longer applies to the physical matter.

If it is unknown whether an object is blessed, there is no harm in getting it blessed again. Also, some things that are blessed, like cars or houses, are not specifically set apart for sacred use, so there is no problem with buying and selling them, even when they are blessed. Blessings are one of many ways that God’s grace can enter our lives. Thanks for your question, and thanks for the special care that you show for holy objects out in the world!

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 hdupton@cathedral.dio.org or on our website at www.spicathedral.org/ask-father if you wish to remain anonymous.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

For I was hungry and you fed me...

Now that the summer months are upon us, children are home from school and not receiving school lunches. Holy Family Food Pantry anticipates an increased demand for these food items.

Pancake mix, syrup, peanut butter, jelly, boxed cereal, spaghetti, spaghetti sauce

A collection bin is in the atrium. Thank you for your generosity!

National Eucharistic Revival

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops has announced that we will begin a National Eucharistic Revival on the Feast of Corpus Christi, June 19, 2022. This revival is a three-year effort to reinvigorate our devotion to the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The culmination of the revival will be a Eucharistic Congress held at the Lucas Oil Stadium in Indianapolis July 17 – 21, 2024 with the balance of the three-year revival focusing on going out on mission to share the Good News about Christ in the Eucharist. Details are posted on the USCCB website: eucharisticrevival.org.

Hygiene Items Collection for Holy Family Food Pantry

As warmer months approach, there is a growing need for hygiene items for clients at the Holy Family Food Pantry. Cathedral parishioner, Adam Wente, a member of the Blessed Sacrament Boy Scout troop is collecting personal hygiene items for his Eagle Scout Project. Donations of shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and laundry detergent have been requested by the Holy Family Food Pantry. Any donation will be greatly appreciated! Items will be collected through the weekend of June 18-19. Place your donations in the specially marked bin in the atrium. Thank you in advance for all your support!

Parish Directory

It's time for a new parish directory! When people come to our parish they are looking for a place to belong. A parish directory helps them connect with new relationships and helps us connect with those we haven't seen in a while. Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here on the Cathedral campus. You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finish and framing options AND have the opportunity to purchase portraits to give family and friends. Everyone who is photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8x10 portrait and a directory!

Our directory will not be complete without you! Schedule your appointment now.

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply visit www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login in on the right side, enter il218 in the Church Code field, and enter photos in the Church password field. Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family, please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday-Friday. Appointments will fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.

Please call the Parish Office at 217-522-3342 if you have any questions.

First Step Baby Bottles

Please return your baby bottles and donations as soon as possible. You can drop an envelope or a check in the collection basket. Thank you for your generosity!

Our Two New Priests - Two Great Stories!

The road to priesthood for Father Paul Lesupati and Father Zach Samples took different twists and turns, but hear what ultimately led them to say "yes" on Dive Deep, the official podcast of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois. Go to dio.org/podcast to listen or search "Dive Deep" on all the major podcast platforms.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

Career Opportunity in Financial Services for a Catholic Company

The Knights of Columbus is seeking an intelligent, financially motivated, entrepreneurial, and professional catholic man for a career opportunity representing their financial program in the area. We offer a complete benefits package (health, dental and life insurance, retirement pension program), expense allowance and professional training with this full-time position. In order to qualify, one must be eligible for membership in the Knights of Columbus. For more information, and/or an initial interview please contact, Jeff Niemeyer FICF, LUTCF, General Agent, at (618) 526-7991 ext. 301 or via email at Jeff.Niemeyer@kofc.org. Website: www.NiemeyerAgency.org

Employment Opportunity: Catholic Charities

Catholic Charities is searching for an experienced Office Manager to manage the Springfield office. Primary responsibilities include organizing the office, assisting with our community service programs, and assisting the Area Director with various tasks. If interested, please apply at cc.dio.org under the Employment tab.

Vessels: A Day of Reflection for Women

Join women from across the diocese to experience the power of Christ in Scripture and Sacrament. Elena Tejeda and Father Ervin Caliente will be presenting on Broken Vessels. This one day event will be hosted at Villa Maria Retreat Center in Springfield on July 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. The cost is \$35. To register for the event go to, www.dio.org/vessels.

Join the Adventures of Scouting!

Summer camp is just around the corner and we would like to invite more young people to be a part of the adventure! Cub Scout Pack 31 and Scouts BSA Troop 31 at Blessed Sacrament are gearing up for a summer of fun. Join us for outdoor adventures at Camp Illinek on Lake Springfield, hikes on trails in the local area and service projects that help the community. Pack 31 is organizing groups for day camps at Camp Illinek while Troop 31 is preparing for a weeklong camp at Camp Bunn near Carlinville. Scouts also learn more about themselves and how to grow closer to God through the many activities of the Troop and Pack. For more information, go to www.blessedsacramentscouts.com or email blessedsacramentpack31@gmail.com.