

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

JUNE 19, 2022 | THE SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST



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 25

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.



O Sacrament Most Holy

A few years ago, when my parents were preparing to move, my dad decided to covert some of our old home movies into a digital format so that it would be easier to preserve them and share them with my siblings and me. Watching some of those videos brought back some fond memories. Among the scenes in these videos were those that included my grandparents, all since deceased. It was a blessing to see and hear them as if they live.

Another video that my dad found was a video made of the Mass for my First Holy Communion. It was from that video that I learned that the date of my first Holy Communion was June 7, 1987, meaning that I recently celebrated the 35th Anniversary of that important day. As I watched the video, my heart was filled with joy as I saw our Pastor, Father Don Knuffman, celebrating this important occasion. Up to that point, I had just assumed that he was the one who gave me my First Communion, but as I watched the video, I found out that it was actually Father Pat Jakel, now Pastor of St. Paul Parish in Highland. His niece was a classmate of mine and he was there to concelebrate the Mass. I also discovered that among my classmates was a boy who would later become my best friend for a time, a boy named Tim. Tim's family moved away when we were in 7th grade and I lost track of him. On the day of my ordination to the priesthood in 2011, I was shocked to learn from a family friend that my old friend was also a Catholic priest, ordained a few years earlier and now serving in the Diocese of Marquette in Michigan. In addition to these surprises, it was nice to see the faces of classmates long forgotten and watching what was one of the first masses celebrated in the newly built St. Jerome Church in Troy. For all of these reasons mentioned above, the discovery of this video was truly a gift.

The greatest gift of discovering this video, however, was being able to watch as I received Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time. To watch it now, I laugh at how unnatural I looked! I received Jesus, placed Him into my mouth, and looked to my right to see what the boy in line next to me was doing. He looked at me, as if to say: "Now what?" After that awkward pause, we both turned and went back to our seats. I have no real recollection of what I was thinking as I received Jesus for the first time. It probably was not something profound, as you hear about some saints in their biographies. But I do know on that day, a seed was planted in my soul. I tasted the Lord for the first time, and that was the very beginning of a hunger that would grow, though almost imperceptibly for quite some time. Then, in 2005, by God's Providence, and through the powerful intercession of our Blessed Mother, I was led back to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and my hunger for the Eucharist was intensified. From that point on, nearly 18 years after my first Holy Communion, I began receiving the Eucharist with much greater devotion, certainly every Sunday, then a couple of times a week, then virtually every day for the past 17 years. This gift of the Eucharist is truly the source and center of my life, as a Catholic and as a priest, and it is my great joy (as it is for all of our priests) to offer this gift to you each day.

Continued on next page

Mass Intentions

Monday, June 20

7am - Barbara Conkrite
(Litina Carnes)
5:15pm - Carolyn
(Family)

Tuesday, June 21

7am - Karen Bucari
(Alan Bucari)
5:15pm - Sophia Bartoletti
(Estate)

Wednesday, June 22

7am - Mary Ann Frasco
(Lou Ann Mack & Carl Corrigan)
5:15pm - Fred Rovey
(Paul Steil)

Thursday, June 23

7am - June Hackenmueller
(Family)
5:15pm - Living & Deceased
Members of the Schmitz Family
(Family)

Friday, June 24

7am - Alice Bates
(The Bates Family)
5:15pm - Erma Bartoletti
(Estate)

Saturday, June 25

8am - Patti Jo Patton
(Lou Ann Mack & Carl Corrigan)
4pm - Deceased Members of the
CCCW (CCCW)

Sunday, June 26

7am - Pamela Rose Harmon
(Archie Harmon)
10am - Mercedes & Charles Nesbitt
(Kathy Frank)
5pm - For the People

Continued from previous page

I share this reflection today also as an encouragement to hope for parents and grandparents whose children and grandchildren may have wandered away from the practice of their Catholic faith. Perhaps they received their First Holy Communion before drifting away. Take consolation in knowing of the seed that was planted in their souls on that day, a seed which carries with it a hunger for the Lord, though that hunger may be imperceptible at the present time. Be patient, the Lord hungers for them to return, as does our Blessed Mother. Ask her to pray for them, that they, like me so many years ago, might return to the sacraments and so have that hunger for the Eucharist intensified.

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



Father Alford in 2nd Grade at his First Communion



Father Rankin's First Communion picture with his twin sister Nicole, now Sr. Mary Thomas of the Holy Name of Jesus, OP



Father Vahling with his cousin, Andrew, on their First Communion day

A Letter to the Entire Order (1225-1226)

"Kissing your feet, therefore, and with all the love of which I am capable, I implore all of you brothers to show all possible reverence and honor to the most holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in Whom that which is in heaven and on earth has been brought to peace and reconciled to almighty God . . . How holy, just and fitting must be he who touches with his hands, receives in his heart and mouth, and offers to others to be received the One Who is not about to die but Who is to conquer and be glorified, upon Whom the angels longed to gaze . . . Let everyone be struck with fear, let the whole world tremble, and let the heavens exult when Christ, the Son of the living God, is present on the altar in the hands of a priest! O wonderful loftiness and stupendous dignity! O sublime humility! O humble sublimity! The Lord of the universe, God and the Son of God, so humbles Himself that for our salvation He hides Himself under an ordinary piece of bread! Brothers, look at the humility of God, and pour out your hearts before Him! Humble yourselves that you may be exalted by Him! Hold back nothing of yourselves for yourselves, that He Who gives Himself totally to you may receive you totally! I admonish and exhort you in the Lord, therefore, to celebrate only one Mass a day according to the rite of the Holy Church in those places where the brothers dwell" (12-13, 22, 26-30).

Saint Francis of Assisi



St. Aloysius Gonzaga

Feast Day: June 21st | Patron Saint of Youth, Students, AIDS Patients and Caregivers, the Blind, and all those suffering from epidemics.

If you take a look at the list above of those that St. Aloysius is a particular patron of, you would already have in mind many of the things and people that he loved. As for those in their first decades of life, and in particular students, Aloysius (Luigi) was an intelligent, energetic, and blessed young man. At the age of 12, he had a life-changing encounter with God and the saints, and from then on desired to give his enthusiasm and talents to the service of God. Added to these positive experiences of his youth were the difficult ones, in particular the violent deaths

of two of his brothers, murdered by the sometimes brutal era that was 16th century Italy. All of these brought Aloysius to a fervent desire to join the Jesuits and give up everything for the sake of Christ. After long conversations with his parents – who, wanting what was best for him, strongly urged him to choose some occupation that would allow him a certain amount of worldly comfort and at least the ability to receive the inheritance they had worked many years to provide for him – he convinced them that it was for his good, and the world's, that he join the Society of Jesus, and he entered that order as a novice at the age of 17.

From there, his patronage for the ill and suffering began to come to the forefront. He suffered from various ailments of his own, including kidney disease, insomnia, various skin conditions, and headaches, and these became the impetus in his heart to give his time and love to those afflicted by disease and the rigors of age and the burdens of a hard life. His charity grew enormously during these months, to the point that when the plague broke out in Rome in 1591, he thought nothing of offering his young life in service to those suffering from the disease. He had already had a premonition of his immanent death after an encounter with the Archangel Gabriel, but each day he persevered in asking his superiors to give him permission to care for the ill, risking his own frail health to offer love and dignity to those who were hospitalized. Sure enough, he came down with the dreaded disease. He received the Sacrament of Anointing and rallied for a short while, but again succumbed to the plague, and received his final sacraments on the octave day of Corpus Christi.

He had received his first Communion from St. Charles Borromeo and his last sacraments from St. Robert Bellarmine. And this is the final love that I would like to emphasize throughout St. Aloysius's short life: in the statue we have of him in our cathedral (up the ramp on the right side of the sanctuary), he wears the cassock of a Jesuit, a surplice to serve at Mass, and holds a crucifix. St. Aloysius loved the youth, and he loved the sick, but above all he simply loved Jesus. As we celebrate Corpus Christ this weekend, even more than all our other loves, we should ask this saint's intercession so that our love for Jesus would increase! Aloysius, in his final minutes, wracked by the the plague, simply repeated the name of Jesus. Would I do the same? If I don't repeat frequently, with love and devotion, Jesus' name now, will I suddenly start when eternity looms?

Fr. Dominic Rankin did not receive his first Holy Communion from a cardinal, nor (yet) someone who has been canonized a saint. But my priest growing up was a lovely, humble, saintly priest named Fr. John Carberry, and nicknamed the "White Tornado". I do hope to emulate just a little of his energy, but even more of His tender and simple devotion to Jesus and Mary.

Stewardship of Treasure June 11th and 12th

Envelopes:	\$4,998.00
Loose:	\$3,788.00
Maintenance:	\$137.00
Total:	\$8,923.00

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!

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!

CCCW/K of C Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the recipients of the 2022 CCCW/K of C Scholarship:

Josephine Tozer - Christ the King School
Jacob Carstens - Sacred Heart Griffin High School
Thomas Southern - Sacred Heart Griffin High School

Pastoral Care for Cathedral's Sick & Elderly

If you, or someone you know from the Cathedral parish are homebound, hospitalized, or in a nursing care facility, please let the Cathedral Office know (217-522-3342). You may request to be put on the Cathedral Prayer Line or request a Pastoral Visit from Sr. Francella and her Cathedral volunteers.

Covenant Radiothon

Parishioners Marlene & Scott Mulford will be on air Thursday, June 23, at 1 p.m. as hosts for the Covenant Network Summer Radiothon! Please pray for them and support FM 88.9 WTTT Catholic Radio by calling (314) 752-7000 or (877) 305-1234 OurCatholicRadio.org.

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. 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

March for Life Dobbs Rally & March - July 9

The U.S. Supreme Court Dobbs decision will impact Roe v. Wade. Therefore, the March for Life Chicago added a special event this summer for Midwest pro-lifers to help communicate the message of life! To any outcome, pro-lifers must respond to communicate the message of life! The rally and march is taking place on Saturday, July 9, beginning at 2pm at the Federal Plaza, 50 W Adams, Chicago, IL. For more details or to RSVP, visit MarchforLifeChicago.org/Dobbs

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.

Second Collection - Peter's Pence Collection

The annual Peter's Pence Collection provides essential support for the Holy See's activities and help Pope Francis assist the victims of wars, oppression, and natural disaster around the world. Your contribution to Peter's Pence helps fund not only the activities of the Roman Curia that assist the pope in the exercise of his ministry but also solidarity projects that aid those most in need - like the outreach described above. Thank you and may God bless you abundantly.

Illinois Right to Life Annual Project Love Rise and Dine Breakfast

Illinois Right to Life cordially invites you to its Annual Project Love Rise and Dine Breakfast which will be held on Saturday, August 6th, 10:00 AM at Avalon Banquets in Elk Grove Village, IL. The Honorable Dan Lipinski will be receiving the Caritas Award. Tickets are available at <https://IllinoisRightToLife.Org/Breakfast/>

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.

St. Cabrini Parish's Altar & Rosary Society Garage Sale

St. Cabrini Parish's Altar & Rosary Society will be holding their garage sale July 14, 15, & 16 at the Parish Hall, 1020 N. Milton, Springfield. It will be from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 7:30 a.m. until noon on Saturday. Items to be donated can be dropped off Monday through Wednesday, July 11, 12, & 13.

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