

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

JUNE 26, 2022 | 13TH SUNDAY IN 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 26

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!



Planning for Vacation

At the end of this week, I will be leaving for a week of vacation in Wisconsin with my family. My parents spend the summer months there as a way of escaping the intense heat and humidity of Houston, Texas where they live for the rest of the year. I am excited that all of my siblings will be able to be together for a few days, something which has become rare in recent years with everybody living in different parts of the country. Going on vacation is always a relaxing experience for me, but planning for vacation is not always relaxing! Most of my planning this year has revolved around retooling my fishing tackle to target walleye which are (hopefully) abundant in the waters of Central Wisconsin.

One aspect of planning for vacation that has become a lot less stressful over the past 11 years is figuring out how to get to Mass while on vacation. As a priest, I am privileged to be able to celebrate Mass without having to figure out a time and place. I realize that most Catholics do not have this luxury, but I bring it up as something that all Catholics should keep in mind, especially as many of us may be making plans for our summer vacations. If it is not already on your list, please put a priority on making sure you know when and where Mass is available so that you can continue to fulfill your Sunday obligation. The obligation to attend Mass on Sunday and Holy Days of Obligation is not lifted just because we are on vacation. We had a saying in the seminary when we would be off for a break, such as Thanksgiving or Christmas. The saying was: don't take a vacation from your vocation. This was meant to encourage us to continue to take time for prayer each day and to attend Mass, daily if possible, as was our practice in the seminary. Every Christian has the common vocation to holiness, so we must be very attentive to living out this vocation, even while on vacation. As I mentioned, this means first and foremost planning ahead so as to find a time and place for Mass. There is really no room for excuses, as I have seen how people on vacation are able to navigate some pretty tricky logistics, like figuring out how to make reservations for parks or other venues, making reservations for shows or dinners, and arranging various other activities while away from home. Finding a Catholic Church and figuring out their Sunday Mass times is not very difficult, especially with the Internet. You may also be aware of a handy website that lists Mass times all over the place - <https://masstimes.org/>

In addition to attending Mass on Sunday (or more frequently if you desire) while on vacation, think about those other practices that can help you to live your Christian vocation while on vacation. If you are driving for vacation, consider praying a family Rosary together. Bring along your Bible or another spiritual book to read. As you may know, our parish has a subscription to FORMED, which has a mobile app that gives you access to a ton of great Catholic content. The Augustine Institute, which is host of FORMED, also has the Amen app which has a variety of prayers. There is also another great app called Hallow which has a lot of great Catholic content, even with the free plan. Catholic radio is also accessible through their mobile apps, such as EWTN and Relevant Radio. It has never been easier to access great Catholic content!

Now, I am not suggesting that you need to spend all your time listening to Catholic materials while on vacation, but why not spend some of your time being fed with these great resources that strengthen our faith, which will, in the end, make for a better vacation, and a better life. So as you plan an upcoming vacation, heed that good advice shared with me – don't take a vacation from your vocation!

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 27

7am - Burghart Family
(Victor Burghart)
5:15pm - Marilyn
(Family)

Tuesday, June 28

7am - Sophia Bartoletti
(Estate)
5:15pm - Edward Sivak
(John Sivak)

Wednesday, June 29

7am - Peter Albanese
(Michael & Lily Layden)
5:15pm - 20th anniversary for
Michael & Lily Layden (Michael &
Lily Layden)

Thursday, June 30

7am - Lenn Family
(Joann Lenn)
5:15pm - Etta Sloan
(Mimi & Papa)

Friday, July 1

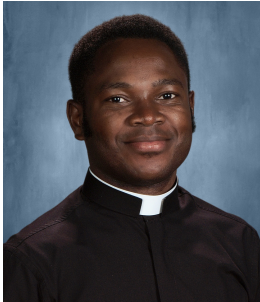
7am - Steil Family
(Thomas Steil)
5:15pm - George Jacoby
(Julie Berberet)

Saturday, July 2

8am - Mary Frances Coffey
(Lou Ann Mack & Carl Corrigan)
4pm - Cornelius McGee Family
(Tom McGee)

Sunday, July 3

7am - Norma Bartoletti
(Estate)
10am - For the People
5pm - Felicula Acuna
(Family)



What If the Unthinkable Happens Now?

It is 2:41 AM Nigerian time and 8:41 AM Central Time now. Most people in Nigeria are sleeping, and many people in Illinois, like Father Alford, are already sleeping. Here on the plane, the lights are out, and I can tell that most people on board this flight are sleeping. I hope the pilot is not! And feeling calmer and mentally more productive at night, I am awake doing some readings and reflecting on my two-week vacation in Nigeria, which just ended.

I witnessed the wedding of one of my closest high school friends and baptized the first child of another high school friend. I spent time with my mom, siblings, nieces and nephews, and some friends who visited. I hung out with some old-time friends and had a good time in the rectory of a great priest-friend. I had the honor of giving a recollection to a group of teenagers. I was also blessed to be served some of my favorite meals almost daily. My mind is passionately ruminating on these things as a thought flashed through my mind....what if the unthinkable happens now?

What unthinkable am I even talking about? Sitting beside the window and looking out into the space, I notice that our flight is about thirty-four thousand feet above sea level on top of the Atlantic Ocean. What if an accident happens now and this flight begins to descend unto the Atlantic Ocean hopelessly and explosively? That would be the "unthinkable." And the fact that my earthly existence and that of the rest of the people on board, including the pilot, would come to a quick end is hard to think about.

So, what if the unthinkable happens now? Where will I go? Will I be happily welcomed by a host of angels and saints into the communion of the elect? Or will I proceed to purgatory, where I still hope to join the communion of saints after some period of purifying torments? Or will I see myself in a place of endless torments and tortures, with unimaginable pains day and night with no hope of redemption?

While it may be weird to imagine such ugly situations, we know that they do happen. Planes have disappeared from space in the past, and all passengers died and were buried in the bottomless oceans somewhere in the world. Road accidents where people die miserably on the spot are not uncommon. Disasters have happened, and people lose their lives abruptly. People do suffer sudden heart attacks and die immediately. Innocent people have lost their lives to terrorist attacks, gunshots, and natural calamities. We see, read, or hear about these unthinkable things very often. So, we might as well see the need to think about these things and ask the ultimate questions.

Maybe, when we think about these things, the desire to be in a better place when the unthinkable happens will grow. And to be realistic, dying a natural death or being a victim of any of the "unthinkable" does not change one's destination hereafter. What changes one's destination in the next life is the conscious decisions we make to choose God and godly lifestyles and the relentless efforts we make in staying true to those choices even in the most complex and challenging situations.

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

As you already know, I will be leaving the Cathedral parish this Wednesday, June 29, 2022, to move on to another assignment. It has been announced that I will be going to Washington DC, to study Canon Law at the Catholic University of America in the fall. But before I leave for this mission around the middle of August, the Bishop has asked me to be a parochial administrator for the three Churches in Benld, Gillespie, and Carlinville (all in our diocese) for the month of July. So, I will take up residence at the rectory in Gillespie from where I will take care of these three Churches for one month before their new pastor arrives from prior commitments and before I leave for my studies in Washington DC.

My mailing address remains the Cathedral until further notice.

Please keep me in your prayers as I go through these transitions. You will all be in my thoughts and prayers. Best wishes!

Fr. Peter

Stewardship of Treasure June 18th and 19th

Envelopes:	\$7,114.00
Loose:	\$4,850.00
Maintenance:	\$380.00
Total:	\$12,344.00

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!

Sacraments Marriages

John McCarthy IV & Beverley Watson
Married on June 11, 2022



St. Cyril of Alexandria

Feast Day: June 27th | Patron of Alexandria, Called the Doctor of the Incarnation, Pillar of Faith, and Seal of the All the Fathers | Often pictured in the vestments of a bishop, with a book, pen, or scroll, and alongside the Blessed Virgin holding the Child Jesus.

If one were to run into a bishop called the “Pillar of Faith” and “Doctor of the Incarnation”, I suspect you would expect to meet a paragon of virtue, someone absolutely radiating the love of God. Thanks be to God, when you meet St. Cyril in heaven, he certainly will be shining with the glory of God, but that wasn’t always the case during his life here below.

Born most likely in Alexandria, Egypt, in the 370s, he received a good education and followed his maternal uncle into becoming patriarch (bishop) of that city in 412. These were the years after the great persecution of the Church had ceased and the great debates over the dogmas of our faith began. Especially in the debates over how to describe Christ, the cities of Alexandria and Antioch quickly became bitter rivals, and a similar contest on the political level existed between Alexandria and Constantinople. Saints-in-the-making certainly aren’t exempt from the mess of their society, but Cyril wasn’t even all that grace-ful in engaging it.

He was educated and erudite, essential qualities of a bishop during these tumultuous theological years. As patriarch, he wrote many letters to other theological schools, in particular to the monk, Nestorius, patriarch over in Constantinople, debating the nuances of Christology. Eventually he appealed to the Pope and presided over the ecumenical council of Ephesus in 431 that would uphold Christ’s true identity (and Mary’s), defining Our Lord, as having two natures [prosopon], divine and human, united in one divine person [hypostasis], and Mary, as truly the Mother-of-God [theo-tokos]. I use these Greek terms, as Cyril did, not to show off his command of those sorts of things, but to recognize that these are the terms that Cyril labored to standardize for the Church’s pronouncement and defense of the Gospel, and they remain essential to our faith down to this day.

But ... Cyril was also impulsive and violent. He participated in the synod that deposed St. John Chrysostom ... He didn’t hesitate to close churches with Novatian heretics (they required those who had abandoned the faith to be re-baptized) ... He expelled the Jewish community from Alexandria in retaliation for their attacks on Christians ... and, he was brutal in his theological take-down of Nestorius. Now, Nestorius, held that Jesus was a divine person and human person, joined by a moral bond (so Mary was just the mother of his human personhood [christotokos], not the mother of God [theotokos]). This was not just mincing unimportant Greek words, if we get Jesus wrong, we loose our relationship with our Heavenly Father, and Cyril knew it. But, that doesn’t negate his theologically unleashing on the monk from Constantinople. So, it was a messy time, and on plenty of occasions Cyril did act with moderation and patience towards others, and fervently in defense of the Truth. (I should make mention of the Patriarch John of Antioch, who convened a rival council across town in Ephesus to uphold his buddy Nestorius, but whom Cyril worked hard to reconcile with and bring the entire Antiochian school back into union with the larger Church afterwards.)

What do we do with this? We have theological brilliance, but also theological brashness. We have episcopal competence, along with episcopal carelessness. Our answer must be Christ’s: to extend mercy where it is needed, and praise where it is warranted. Cyril was a “good and faithful servant” in many crucial ways through his defense of Christ’s identity, and in all those ways that he fell short of sanctity, he turned his sins over to his Savior, Whom he knew had not just come close to us, but truly become one of us to bring our human nature within the Love of God.

Fr. Dominic Rankin was going to put here a favorite line from St. Cyril, but in researching for this column came across a new favorite quotation, and one that shows where Cyril went when he wasn’t the saint he was called to be: “If the poison of pride is swelling up in you, turn to the Eucharist; and that Bread, Which is your God humbling and disguising Himself, will teach you humility. If the fever of selfish greed rages in you, feed on this Bread; and you will learn generosity. If the cold wind of coveting withers you, hasten to the Bread of Angels; and charity will come to blossom in your heart. If you feel the itch of intemperance, nourish yourself with the Flesh and Blood of Christ, Who practiced heroic self-control during His earthly life; and you will become temperate. If you are lazy and sluggish about spiritual things, strengthen yourself with this heavenly Food; and you will grow fervent. Lastly, if you feel scorched by the fever of impurity, go to the banquet of the Angels; and the spotless Flesh of Christ will make you pure and chaste.”

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

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.

Invite The Holy Spirit Into Your Life

Cathedral Women's Bible Study invites you to learn how the Holy Spirit can change your life through the fruits of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness and self-control. Explore the fruits of the Holy Spirit through real-life stories, examples from the Old and New Testaments and the wisdom of the Church while you examine how you are cultivating the fruits of the Spirit in your own life. This 7 week Bible Study meets at the Cathedral on Thursday mornings at 9:00am and runs July 21-September 1. Please call Vicki at 217/522-3342 to reserve your spot and order your journal book (\$12.00). All women are invited!

Cathedral Bible Study

Would you like to learn more about our Blessed Mother while having an opportunity to share your faith and enjoy conversation with friends? If so, the Cathedral Bible Study Group invites you to its upcoming study series, Mary - Virgin, Mother and Queen. Meetings will be on the first and third Wednesdays of the month from 6:15 to 7:45pm beginning on July 6th. The study will include workbooks which participants may order through the group or purchase on their own. For more information please contact the parish or Larry Travis at LTravisjr@gmail.com.

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

Biking for Babies Fundraiser

My name is Nathalie and I'm a second year missionary with Biking for Babies. The mission of Biking for Babies is to renew the Culture of Life one pedal stroke and one pregnancy resource center at a time through prayer, sacrifice, building relationships, and fundraising.

When I was 18 years old, I was told the circumstances surrounding my adoption for the first time. My biological mother was pregnant with twins, in an unplanned pregnancy, and was diagnosed with cervical cancer. The doctors encouraged her to abort us, but she chose life and decided to keep us in her womb for as long as she could. After hearing that, my prolife mission had focus: to be a witness to her courage and to share her story. Biking for Babies allows me to do that and so much more. In helping pregnancy resource centers financially, I'm able to help women get the care that they need to make the same courageous choice that my biological mother did. In visiting the resource centers and sharing their stories, we're able to show people that there are women choosing life every day. As a missionary, I have been paired with First Step Women's Center in Springfield, IL. Another important aspect of being a Biking for Babies missionary is the prayer and sacrifice that goes into everything we do. In order to fight the Culture of Death that plagues our society, prayer and sacrifice is crucial to what we are trying to achieve.

Next month, I will be joining 55 other missionaries in the National Ride (July 11-16) biking 700 miles in 6 days, to help spread the Culture of Life.

How can you help?

- Prayers towards our cause and for the safety of the missionaries.
 - Donate towards the cause. You can donate directly towards my goal by visiting the link below. The majority of the money goes directly to the Pregnancy Resource Centers we are partnered with.
- <https://bikingforbabies.com/missionary/nathalie-corbett/>

Thank you for your support!



SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

Eucharistic Revival – A Mission for You and Your Family Begins NOW!

You are invited to join Catholics in our diocese by participating in a nationwide movement to grow into a deeper understanding and devotion of the holy Eucharist. This movement of Catholics, called Eucharistic Revival, is about healing, conversion, formation, and becoming a unified Body of Christ by focusing on encountering the real Body of Christ, present to us in the Eucharist. Visit www.dio.org to learn more about this mission, how to sign up for updates, the timeline of events, and how to get involved.

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

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

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.

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.