

# *Cathedral* OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

**AUGUST 14, 2022 | 20TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



524 EAST LAWRENCE AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703  
CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFICE: 217-522-3342  
[WWW.SPICATHEDRAL.ORG](http://WWW.SPICATHEDRAL.ORG)

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

# Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 33

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THE MOST REVEREND THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI  
NINTH BISHOP OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS

THE VERY REVEREND BRIAN C. ALFORD, V.E.  
RECTOR

THE REVEREND PAUL LESUPATI  
PAROCHIAL VICAR

THE REVEREND DOMINIC RANKIN  
IN RESIDENCE

THE REVEREND DOMINIC VAHLING  
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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!

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.



## Precepts of the Church

As you may recall, last year we spent time focusing on the third section of the Catechism which addresses our moral life in Christ. We considered the Commandments, the Beatitudes, virtues, etc. But there is a topic that I do not recall our addressing: the Precepts of the Church. Let us right away address two questions: what do we mean by the Precepts of the Church, and what are the precepts themselves?

Let's give the definition for the Precepts of the Church according to the Catechism:

*The precepts of the Church are set in the context of a moral life bound to and nourished by liturgical life. The obligatory character of these positive laws decreed by the pastoral authorities is meant to guarantee to the faithful the very necessary minimum in the spirit of prayer and moral effort, in the growth in love of God and neighbor. (CCC 2041)*

Now for the list of the Precepts of the Church:

1. Attendance at Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation
2. Confession of serious sin at least once a year
3. Reception of Holy Communion at least once a year during the Easter season
4. Observance of the days of fast and abstinence
5. Providing for the needs of the Church

For the purposes of this article, I want to focus on the first Precept of the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. In particular, how do we apply this Precept in light of what the Church celebrates on Monday (August 15) – the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary? The Church in certain areas (including ours) has decided that certain Holy Days of Obligation, when they fall on a Saturday or Monday, would have the obligation dispensed, meaning you do not have to go to Mass.

End of story, right? Not so fast! Let me draw your attention to an important word in the definition I gave above, that these precepts are “the very necessary minimum” for our lives as disciples. Is that what we should be looking for in the practice of our faith? The necessary minimum? I hope the answer for us is no. But how we react to the fact that we do not have to go to Mass on Monday likely does say something about where we stand on whether the minimum is good enough for us. Is it that much of a burden for us to go to Mass two days in a row? If our answer is yes, I am afraid the evidence points to our leaning toward the minimalist approach. If that stings your conscience a little, pay attention to that.

At this point you might be thinking: “Father Alford is trying to guilt me into coming to Mass on Monday.” You are free to make assumptions (no pun intended) about my motives, but my true intention is to invite you to consider where you are in your journey with the Lord. The Solemnity of the Assumption just happens to be a convenient way of broaching the topic in an interesting way. With the Precepts of the Church, the Church expects certain minimums from us, but when we truly love something or someone, why talk about minimums?

*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, August 15

7am - Jim Steil  
(Steil Family)  
5:15pm - Bud O'Shea  
(Vicki Compton)

### Tuesday, August 16

7am - Betty Rogers  
(Family)  
5:15pm - Michael Acuna  
(Family)

### Wednesday, August 17

7am - Torquato “Tony” Bartoletti  
(Estate)  
5:15pm - Maren Bowyer Gallagher  
(Gallagher Family)

### Thursday, August 18

7am - Ralph Lawless  
(Steil Family)  
5:15pm - Living & Deceased  
Members of the Patterson Family  
(Family)

### Friday, August 19

7am - Grace Leonard  
(Louis Spiegel)  
5:15pm - Koua Bekoin Jean-Pierre  
(Camille Bekoin)

### Saturday, August 20

8am - Sophia Bartoletti  
(Estate)  
4pm - Betty Rogers  
(Family)

### Sunday, August 21

7am - For the People  
10am - Erma Bartoletti  
(Estate)  
5pm - Joann Vicari  
(Southern Family)





## Prayer of Bl. Jordan of Saxony to St. Dominic

This past Monday, the Church celebrated the Memorial of St. Dominic. St. Dominic happens to be one of the favorite saints of both myself and Fr. Rankin. I'll let you figure out why! I came across this prayer which was written by Blessed Jordan of Saxony, who knew St. Dominic and succeeded him as the leader of the Dominican Order. He wrote it as one prayer, but because it is long, it is sometimes divided up for each day of the week. Because it is long, I am sharing this

prayer over two weeks. This prayer can be found in a foldable PDF form at:  
<https://www.marburydominicanuns.org/prayer-of-bl-jordan-to-st-dominic/>

### Sunday

O blessed father, St. Dominic, most holy priest and glorious confessor of God; noble preacher of His word, to you do I cry. O virginal soul, chosen by the Lord, pleasing unto Him, and beloved above all others in your day; glorious alike for your life, your teaching, and your miracles, to you do I pray. I rejoice to know that I have you for my gracious advocate with the Lord our God. To you, whom I venerate with special devotion among all the saints and elect of God, to you do I cry from out of this vale of tears. O loving father, help, I beseech you, my sinful soul, not only lacking grace and virtue, but stained with many vices and sins.

### Monday

Holy Dominic, man of God, may your soul, so happy among the blessed, help my soul so poor and needy. Not only for your own sake, but for the good of others also, did the grace of God enrich your soul with abundant blessings. God meant not only to raise you to the rest and peace of heaven and the glory of the saints, but likewise to draw innumerable souls to the same blessed state by the example of your wonderful life. God encouraged numberless souls by your loving advice. He has instructed them by your sweet teaching; He has excited them to virtue by your fervent preaching. Assist me, therefore, O blessed Dominic, and bow down the ear of your loving kindness to the voice of my supplication.

### Tuesday

Behold, O holy father Dominic, my soul, poor and needy, flies to you for refuge. With all lowliness of mind I cast myself down before you. I desire to approach you as one sick: yea and sick unto death. Most earnestly do I beseech and implore you by your merits and loving intercession to hear and quicken my soul. Fill it with the abundance of your blessing.

### Wednesday

I know in very truth and have the fullest certainty that you, holy father Dominic, are able to help my soul. I trust that in your great charity you do desire to succor me. I hope that in His infinite mercy our Savior will accomplish every-thing you shall ask. This hope of mine is firm, because of the greatness of that familiar love which even here below you bore to our Lord Jesus Christ, the beloved of your heart, "chosen out of thousands." He will refuse you nothing. Whatsoever you shall ask you will surely obtain, for though He is your Lord, yet He is likewise your Friend. One so dearly beloved will deny nothing to him whom He loves so much. He will give all things to you, who lovingly left all things for His sake, and gave up your self and all you possessed for love of Him.

*Fr. Dominic Vahling serves as a teacher and chaplain at Sacred Heart-Griffin High School in Springfield.*

### Stewardship of Treasure August 6th & 7th

Envelopes:	\$7,090.00
Loose:	\$3,738.00
Maintenance:	\$1,035.00
Total:	\$11,863.00

July EFT: \$21,501.00

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 Baptisms

Charlotte Mae Obregon  
Baptized on 08/06/2022  
Child of Michael Obregon & Katherine Kokosinski



## Saint Stephen I, King of Hungary

**Feast Day: August 16th | Patron of Hungary, Kings, Stonemasons/Bricklayers, Protector against the Death of Children**

We've got ourselves quite the story this week (and the next two weeks as well. This'll be another three-part-er.) We begin our tale on January 6, 1978. On that feast of the Epiphany, the US Secretary of State, an Illinois Senator, a Nobel Prize Laureate, and a Catholic Monsignor stepped off a plane carrying an ancient crown... No joke here, the Secretary of State was Cyrus Vance (who carried the crown), the senator was Adlai Stevenson (of Illinois), with them was Dr.

Albert Szent-Györgyi (who discovered Vitamin C and had won the Nobel Prize for Medicine because of that discovery in 1937), and along as part of the delegation as well was Msgr. George Higgins (a Catholic priest ordained in Chicago, who had attended Vatican II and had since gained fame for his defending the rights of workers.)

But this is where our story gets even crazier. These men, and a few others, had been sent by President Jimmy Carter to return to Hungary the 1000-year-old Holy Crown of St. Stephen that had been spirited out of that country in 1945 to save it from the Communists, and in the intervening 32 years it had been safeguarded at Fort Knox! History is stranger than fiction! A Hungarian Army Colonel, perhaps part of the Hungarian Crown Guard, on May 4th, 1945, had handed a non-descript black bag containing that sacred crown and the other Hungarian crown-jewels, to an American Army Colonel of the U.S. 86th Infantry, in order to get them away from Hungary, where they had been hidden (buried somewhere in the castle to keep them from the Nazi's), but where it was now feared that the Communists, who were coming to power in Hungary, would eventually find them. The Americans smuggled them west, and got them safely out of Europe, eventually all the way to safekeeping with the US Gold Reserve. History is way stranger than fiction!

If you were to fly into the Budapest at night, as that delegation just had after a hasty refuel in England, you would see clearly lit below you an ancient city divided by the Danube river. On the western bank you would see the enormous and ancient Budávári castle surrounded now by communist architecture, the aftermath of the brutal annihilation of the city between Nazi and Soviet forces in 1944. On the Eastern bank you would see much of the medieval brick and stone city still intact, with homes and churches stretching east up from the river. A hundred years before, these were actually two cities, "Buda" and "Pest", beautifully perched on either side of the river, which merged into the one city of Budapest in 1872, becoming a united capital for the Kingdom of Hungary. Both cities had, for centuries, been known for their numerous lime kilns, with "buda" being the German word for "furnace" and "pest" being the Slavic term. There in its name itself, you can already see some of the cultural-overlap that had happened here over the centuries, but to get to the heart of that, and to find out more about that sacred crown, and the story of St. Stephen himself, we're going to have to rewind the clock a bit further.

*Fr. Dominic Rankin once dressed up as St. Louis King of France for Halloween, and as part of his costume had to craft a crown out of cardboard, gold spray-paint, and glue-on plastic gem "stones", ... so nothing nearly as beautiful, historic, valuable, or sacred as that which crowned St. Stephen.*



# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Around the Cathedral

### Directory Updates

If you want your photo included in the directory and didn't have your photo taken, you can submit a photo. The cost is \$15 and you will receive a copy of the directory. If the photo was taken professionally, a release from the photographer is required.

Church records will be used for names and addresses in the directory. To update your information or to request your information not be included in the directory, please contact the parish office at 217-522-3342.

Additional copies of the directory are available for \$10 and must be pre-ordered.

The deadline for the items listed above is Monday, August 22.

### Volunteers Needed

Please use this link

<https://ome.flocknote.com/signup/84704> to volunteer to assist with Diocesan Confirmation and First Communion masses that are held at the Cathedral on Tuesdays and Saturdays. Volunteers are needed to greet and to assist with the reception. Thank you!

### Mission Appeal Weekend - August 27th & 28th

During Mission Appeal Weekend, Sisters Lucy and Chrisanta of the Congregation of the Sisters of our Lady of Usambara Tanga - Tanzania will be visiting the Cathedral.

As a religious community, they are working to fulfill the following ministries:

- Construction of new library, laboratory and dormitory in two of our secondary schools, renovation of hospitals and dispensaries most located in the peripheries, far away from the city.
- Provisions of safe clean water in the rural areas for domestic use and livestock. Feed the hungry and malnourished children. Shelter for homeless.

### Pray the Rosary

Come join us to pray the rosary as our Blessed Mother requested. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 4:45pm.

### Touching the Divine Women's Bible Study

Study the Gospel of John with other Catholic women in this 22-week course from Walking With Purpose. You will learn about Christ's divine qualities: Our source of fulfillment for all that we need, The ultimate gift giver, Our model of fidelity, Our redeemer and restorer. Thursdays at 10:00am or 1:00pm @ Cathedral School Library, beginning on September 1, \$40. Contact Vicki to order a book and reserve your spot 217/522-3342 or [vcompton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:vcompton@cathedral.dio.org)

### Living in the Father's Love Women's Bible Study

In a world where women are measured by their beauty, achievements and possessions, wouldn't it be nice to find a place where you could just be valued for who you are? Living in the Father's Love will lead you to that safe place where you are unconditionally loved, baggage and all. This brief but powerful six-lesson Bible study is the ideal way to revive and refresh yourself. Discover just how much God loves us and how the Gospels are deeply relevant to our relationship with God and with those we love. Thursday evenings, 6:15-7:30 @ Cathedral School Library, Sept 1- Oct. 6, \$20. Contact Vicki to order a book and reserve your spot 217/522-3342 or [vcompton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:vcompton@cathedral.dio.org)

### Families of Faith

The Cathedral welcomes parishioners and non-parishioners all ages to participate in faith formation. This fall we will continue year four of A Family of Faith: Catechesis for the Whole Family, a family-based catechesis and formation opportunity meant to assist parents with the education of their children in the faith. This year will focus on Prayer. Families meet twice a month, on Sunday evenings, for small group and whole group faith formation experiences. All families with children pre-school through high school are welcome. Pick up a registration packet in the atrium or contact Vicki at 217/522-3342 or [vcompton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:vcompton@cathedral.dio.org) if you have questions.

### 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.

# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Around the Diocese

### Save the Date!

Friday, October 28th is this year's Annual Comedy in the City dinner event benefitting the Pregnancy Care Center of Springfield, Inc. Entertainment for this event will be provided by the Murder Mystery Company with the theme: "Midnight at the Masquerade." Ticket information coming soon!!

### Employment Opportunity - Concordia Village

Looking for a position that's more than just a job? Concordia Village, a senior living facility in Springfield, IL, is hiring. Our communities have a number of open positions offering flexible scheduling, competitive pay, tuition reimbursement, and benefits. Open Interviews for CNAs, LPNs and RNs ONLY will be held on Tuesday, August 9th and August 23rd from 8am-11am & 1pm-5pm at 4101 West Iles Avenue, Springfield, IL. Dining, Activities & Wellness, and Housekeeper candidates can visit our website to apply. Questions can be directed to Coartney Foster at 217-993-7100.

### Dive Deep: Sean Hussey

From a quarterback record holder to theology teacher - Sean Hussey set records as a quarterback for Charleston High School. Today, our Catholic faith is his passion. This year, he starts as a theology teacher at St. Anthony High School in Effingham, but that passion for our faith wasn't always part of his life. Hear his story by going to [dio.org/podcast](http://dio.org/podcast) to listen or search "Dive Deep" on all the major podcast platforms.

### DCCW Meeting - Monday, August 15

All women, far and near are invited to the Springfield Deanery Council of Catholic Women Meeting: Monday, August 15, Our Lady of the Holy Spirit, Mt. Zion, 400 North Whitetail Circle. Registration: 9 A.M., Mass: 9:30 A.M., Feast of the Assumption of Mary, followed by Brunch. Chelsie Leffelman from "Empower Illinois" will explain how we can obtain a state tax credit for donating to "Invest in Kids" (scholarships for qualified students who attend participating Catholic Grade or High Schools). Deanery Meeting, Diocesan and Deanery announcements, Parish Happenings, Fun Bingo and Prayer to approximately 2 P.M. RSVP to President, Janet Zimmerman, [janetzm14@yahoo.com](mailto:janetzm14@yahoo.com) or 217-494-4743.

### Volunteers Needed: St. John's Breadline

Starting on August, St. John's Breadline will resume serving breakfast between 8 - 9 a.m. featuring the entrée of the day along with choices of cereal, oatmeal, grits, fruit, and breakfast breads. St. John's Breadline is in need of volunteers from 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. If you are interested in volunteering at St. John's Breadline, please contact Shawna Harris at 217.528.6098 or [sharris\\_stjb@cc.dio.org](mailto:sharris_stjb@cc.dio.org).

### Butler Funeral Home Peace of Mind Seminar

The Butler Family of Organizations extends an invitation to all who are interested in learning more about planning for their final wishes to help their families celebrate their lives to join us for a lunch and learn program on Thursday, August 18th from 11:30 am - 1:30 pm at Lake Pointe Grill in Springfield. This event is complimentary: no cost or obligation. Please call 217-544-4646 to reserve your space no later than Monday, August 15th.

### SDCCW Convention

The Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (SDCCW) are inviting all women of the diocese to their 93rd annual convention called "Women of the Bible" on Wed. Sept. 28 at Immaculate Conception Parish in Mattoon (1920 Richmond Ave.) It takes place from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The program starts at 9 a.m. with Mass at 11 a.m. The speakers are Dr. Dee Stern a grief therapist and chaplain at St. John's Hospital in Springfield. Dr. Stern, who recently authored the book "Comforting the bereaved through listening and positive responding: What are the bereaved trying to tell us?" will give a talk titled "Comparing their grief to how women grieve today." Patty Winn, a character of true faith and grit, will use her talents to portray historical and biblical characters and present "Women at the well." Women of all ages are welcome to attend the convention which seeks to enhance, enrich, and renew family life with the beauty and riches that God planned for it from the time of creation. The cost is \$50 and includes breakfast and lunch. A block of hotel rooms in Mattoon have also been reserved at the Super 8 and Comfort Suites. Registration is due by Sept. 7. Make checks payable to SDCCW and mail the payment to Jody Secondino-Crandell, 12872 N. 1900th St., Paris, IL 61944. For more information, contact Jody at [jody@sdccw.org](mailto:jody@sdccw.org) or call 812-208-4293. Registration forms have also been provided to each parish to put in their vestibules or other locations.