

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

OCTOBER 16, 2022 | 29TH 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 42

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.



Friendship with Christ

Having recently returned from the retreat of which I have written in the past two weeks, I have been slowly unpacking the various graces that the Lord shared with me during that time, graces which I know were not just for me, but for the people I am blessed to serve as a priest. I would like to share one particular grace that I think applies to our reflections on the topic of prayer.

As I began retreat, I could sense the Lord was trying to invite me to a central focus during my time with Him. In previous retreats, I would often pray about my identity as a priest, the various duties that I carry out as a priest, and how to infuse those activities with a greater love for God and zeal for the souls of the people under my care. To be sure, those have been very fruitful reflections. But on this retreat, I got the very clear message from the Lord: "This retreat is not primarily about your becoming a better priest. First and foremost, it is about become a better friend to me." That thought resonated so well in my soul, and I found great consolation and peace, for the Lord was helping me realize that if my friendship with Him was strong, it would yield a more fruitful ministry in service to His people. I therefore kept going back to the words of Jesus to His Apostles: "No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends." (Jn 15:15)

One of the great saints of the Church who has left us with a wealth of wisdom on prayer is the Spanish Carmelite St. Teresa of Avila. When describing prayer, she wrote simply, yet powerfully: "For mental prayer in my opinion is nothing else than an intimate sharing between friends; it means taking time frequently to be alone with Him who we know loves us." (The Book of Her Life, ch. 8, 5) How lovely of an image that is for us to think about when we go to prayer! Is that how we see Him when we pray? Sometimes we might see Him like our boss, and our prayer consists in our asking what tasks He wants us to accomplish for the day. Perhaps we see Him as our personal assistant, telling Him the tasks that we want Him to accomplish for the day. The Lord desires for us to see our time of prayer as a time spent with a friend – not just any friend, but the very best of friends, the one who knows us best, and the one who loves us best.

Seeing prayer as a time of sharing between friends does not conflict with our also approaching Him as our Father. After all, when teaching His disciples to pray, He invites us to address our prayer to Him beginning with these words: "Our Father." I have no problem calling my earthly father a friend, nor should I fear calling the Lord both Father and friend.

I invite all of us to spend some time this week reflecting on those words of Jesus that I quoted above: "No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends." (Jn 15:15) Although God is all-powerful and mighty, and we owe Him our service for all that He has done for us, He has also drawn very close to us through His Son Jesus, who makes it possible for us to live in an intimate relationship of friendship.

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, October 17

7am - Richard Dhabalt
(Pamela Hargan)
5:15pm - Dr. John Navins
(Lou Ann Mack)

Tuesday, October 18

7am - Stephanie Sandidge
(Sue Sandidge)
5:15pm - Richard Thomas Malafa
(Leo & Norma Dougherty)

Wednesday, October 19

7am - Albert Crispi
(John Busciacco)
5:15pm - Sister Rosemary Anglum
FSSH (Family)

Thursday, October 20

7am - Vincenzo Giannone
(Jeannette Giannone)
5:15pm - Sophia Bartoletti
(Estate)

Friday, October 21

7am - Larry Bussard
(Connie Bussard)
5:15pm - Jeff & Kathleen Porter &
Family (Richard & Kay King)

Saturday, October 22

8am - Maren Bowyer Gallagher
(Gallagher Family)
4pm - For the People

Sunday, October 23

7am - Sophia Bartoletti & Family
(Estate)
10am - Betty Willis
(Vince & Liz Militello)
5pm - Gary Leach
(Woody & Becky Woodhull)



Pope John XXIII

This past Tuesday, the Church celebrated the feast day of Pope John XXIII, who is best known as the pope who called for the Second Vatican Council. The Council was a great movement of the Holy Spirit in which the Church was impelled by God to communicate the truth of the Gospel ever more clearly to the modern world. It would be good for every engaged Catholic to be familiar with the texts of the Council. Pope Benedict XVI and Pope John Paul II, as much younger men, were both major contributors to the text of the Council documents, and their papacies helped the Church interpret the meaning of the documents. I have included below some selections of the speech that good Pope John gave when the Council was opened.

The major interest of the Ecumenical Council is this: that the sacred heritage of Christian truth be safeguarded and expounded with greater efficacy.

That doctrine embraces the whole man, body and soul. It bids us live as pilgrims here on earth, as we journey onwards towards our heavenly homeland.

The great desire, therefore, of the Catholic Church in raising aloft at this Council the torch of truth, is to show herself to the world as the loving mother of all mankind; gentle, patient, and full of tenderness and sympathy for her separated children. To the human race oppressed by so many difficulties, she says what Peter once said to the poor man who begged an alms: "Silver and gold I have none; but what I have, that I give thee. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, arise and walk." In other words it is not corruptible wealth, nor the promise of earthly happiness, that the Church offers the world today, but the gifts of divine grace which, since they raise men up to the dignity of being sons of God, are powerful assistance and support for the living of a more fully human life. She unseals the fountains of her life-giving doctrine, so that men, illumined by the light of Christ, will understand their true nature and dignity and purpose. Everywhere, through her children, she extends the frontiers of Christian love, the most powerful means of eradicating the seeds of discord, the most effective means of promoting concord, peace with justice, and universal brotherhood.

It is therefore an overwhelming source of grief to us to know that, although Christ's blood has redeemed every man that is born into this world, there is still a great part of the human race that does not share in those sources of supernatural grace, which exist in the Catholic Church. And yet the Church sheds her light everywhere. The power that is hers by reason of her supernatural unity redounds to the advantage of the whole family of men. She amply justifies those magnificent words of St. Cyprian: "The Church, radiant with the light of her Lord, sheds her rays over all the world, and that light of hers remains one, though everywhere diffused; her corporate unity is not divided. She spreads her luxuriant branches over all the earth; she sends out her fair-flowing streams ever farther afield. But the head is one; the source is one. She is the one mother of countless generations. And we are her children, born of her, fed with her milk, animated with her breath." 11

Thus, venerable brethren in the episcopate, "our heart is wide open to you." Here we are assembled in this Vatican Basilica at a turning-point in the history of the Church; here at this meeting-place of earth and heaven, by St. Peter's tomb and the tomb of so many of Our predecessors, whose ashes in this solemn hour seem to thrill in mystic exultation.

Given October 11, 1962 by Pope John XXIII in St. Peter's Basilica
Text taken from catholicculture.org

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

Stewardship of Treasure October 8th & 9th

Envelopes:	\$4,667.00
Loose:	\$5,028.00
Maintenance:	\$1,220.00
Total:	\$10,915.00

September EFT: \$20,848.80

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

James Case & Lia Barkmeier
Married on October 6, 2022

Deaths

Herbert J. Dulle
Date of Death: September 29, 2022



St. Pope John Paul II

Feast Day: October 22nd | Patron of Popes, Families, Youth, Laborers, Actors, Athletes, Human Life, Poland, the Elderly, and those with Parkinson's

For the next few weeks, I'd like to introduce you to one of my favorite saint-friends: Pope John Paul II. He was one of the inspirations for my own call to the priesthood, and getting to spend 5 years living just a few minute walk to his tomb, and then to get to do additional studies at the Institute founded by him for the study of God's Love manifested by Holy Matrimony and in family life ... boy, it was an amazing gift!

I would love to write so much more about his life, his papacy, his writings, and his sanctity, but I think you'd be given a better glimpse into his heart by reading his own words, so these next weeks will be taken entirely from his own reflections. First, from Gift and Mystery, about his first discovering within his heart his vocation to become a priest as a young man (some edits of my own in the following text to make for easier reading than the original clunky translation):

My preparation for the priesthood, which was finished in the seminary, had somehow been preceded by that given me in the life and example of my parents in our family. My gratitude goes especially to my father, who became a widower early. I had not yet made my First Communion when I lost my mother: I was just nine years old. I have not a clear awareness of the contribution that she gave to my religious education, though it was certainly great. After her death and, later, after the death of my brother, I was left alone with my father who was a deeply religious man. I was especially impacted by the austerity of his daily life. By profession he was a military man, and when he became a widower, his life became a constant prayer. I would wake up at night and find my father on his knees, as was always his practice in our parish church as well. Between us there was no talk of a vocation to the priesthood, but his example was for me in some way my first seminary, a kind of domestic seminary.

Later, after the years of my early youth, my seminary became the quarry and the water treatment plant in the baking factory in Borek Falecki. And it was no longer only a pre-seminary, as in Wadowice [my hometown]. The factory was for me, at that stage of life, a real seminary, although illegal. I began working in the quarry in September 1940 after a year spent at the water treatment plant in the factory. It was during these years that I came to my final decision [to follow God's call to become a priest], and in the fall of 1942, while still working at Solvay, I, a former student of Polish Philology, undertook to enter into clandestine seminary studies. I did not realize then the importance that this would have for me. Only later, as a priest, during my studies in Rome, would I encounter through my brother-priests in the Belgian College the situation of worker-priests and the movement of the Young Catholic Workers (JOC). I realized then that, what had become so important for the Church and for the priesthood in the West - true contact with the world of labor, I already had in my own life experience.

In truth, my experience was not as a "worker-priest" but a "worker-seminarian". Laboring by hand, I knew what it meant to endure physical fatigue. Every day I met with people who worked hard. I got to know the environment of these people, their families, their interests, their human value and dignity. Personally I experienced a lot of cordiality on their part. They knew I was a student and they also knew that, as soon as circumstances would permit, I would return to [full time] studies. I never met hostility for this reason. They did not give me trouble when I brought books to work; rather, they said: "We'll watch out for you; you read well." This happened especially during night shifts. Often they said: "Get some rest, we'll watch out."

I made friends with many workers. Sometimes they invited me to their house. Later, as a priest and bishop, I baptized their children and grandchildren, blessed marriages and officiated at many of their funerals. I also had occasion to note how many were hiding their religious feelings and profound wisdom of life. These contacts, as I mentioned, remained very close even when the German occupation ended and continued almost up to my election as Bishop of Rome. Some of them continue still in the form of correspondence.

Fr. Dominic Rankin has to go out of his way to reach the end of the day bone-tired from plain hard work. Neither hard exercise, though tiring, nor the work that good prayer, liturgy, and preaching does require, results in the same tangible tiredness that breaking rocks or trudging to physical-work demands. Yet, I think that all of us know that some lessons can only be learned during a hard day working outside. Certain prayers are only drawn out of us, and strength built up in us, and quiet instilled within us from honest, physical, outdoor, labor. I need to find time for it more often!

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Cathedral

Holy Hour for Pregnancy and Infant Loss

The month of October has been designated Pregnancy and Infant Loss Awareness Month in the United States. The Church calls children "the supreme gift of marriage" (Gaudium et spes, n. 50). Losing a baby, whether through miscarriage or as an infant, is one of the deepest forms of grief and pain that a couple may endure. Unfortunately, many couples often suffer without any support, as in the case when a couple loses a child before sharing that they were pregnant with others, or insufficient support because family and friends are unsure of what to say or do because of the difficulty and often suddenness of losing one so young.

The Cathedral will be hosting a Holy Hour on Thursday, October 20 at 6:30 pm to offer prayerful support to anybody who has been affected by one of these tragic losses.

Join the Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is an international Order of Catholic men who are called to lead with faith, protect our families, serve others and defend values in a busy changing world. The Father Tolton Council #16126 will be holding a membership drive at after all Masses the weekend of October 22 & 23. Whether you become an individual member or a member of our council you will find that Knights of Columbus membership brings Catholic men together in a powerful way. If you would like to join today simply go to KofC.org/joinus and enter our council #16126 for local information.

The Chosen Season Two, Episode 1

Picking up where the first season left off, the disciples' numbers are growing. And they've still got a LOT of learning to do. As the news of Jesus continues to spread, the disciples start to make plans. Sunday, October 23 @ 2:00, Cathedral School Hall

Directory Update

The directories are expected to arrive in mid-November. If you have not received your photos, please contact the Parish Office at 217-522-3342.

Wild Goose Series on the Holy Spirit

If you allow it, the Holy Spirit will lead you on an adventure greater than you can imagine. The Spirit will lead you to a place of mercy, healing, peace, and presence. The Holy Spirit has been given to us not as a possession to be tamed or controlled, but rather as a Person that will lead us to the Heart of God. The Wild Goose series will help you experience a deeper relationship with the Person of the Holy Spirit, and as you come to experience God's presence and power this very same Spirit will transform you and bring you freedom. 14-part video based series on Tuesdays @ 9:00am in the Cathedral School Library, beginning October 18. Call 217/522-3342 or email vcompton@cathedral.dio.org to register. Free and open to all adults!

Bereavement Ministry

Cathedral parish will be hosting another cycle of Grief Share, a weekly, faith-based, grief support group. If you, or someone you know, would like help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, or friend, please join us beginning Tuesday, November 1, 1:00-2:30 in the Cathedral School Library. (Enter through the atrium doors off 5th street parking lot) Grief Share runs for 13 weeks, but guests may join the series at any point and can pick up content they missed during the next cycle. For more information go to <https://www.griefshare.org/> or contact Berni Ely @ 899-6637 or jackandberni96@yahoo.com Register online or call 217/522-3342 or email Vicki at vcompton@cathedral.dio.org All adults, of any or no faith background, are welcome.

World Mission Sunday

NEXT WEEKEND we will celebrate World Mission Sunday. Pope Francis invites the entire Church to support mission dioceses in Africa, Asia, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe, where priests, religious and lay leaders serve the world's most vulnerable communities. Please keep the Pope's missions in your prayers and be generous in next week's collection for the Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

Fr. Tolton Scholarship Dinner

The Knights of Columbus Council will be holding the Father Tolton Scholarship Dinner on Saturday, November 5 in the Atrium at the Cathedral. The doors will open at 6 p.m. and dinner will be at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$55 per person. Dinner includes steak, baked potato, vegetable, salad, four whiskey tastings, and dessert. Craft beer, wine and whiskey (after the tastings) will be available for purchase. Tea and water are free. Event is by reservation only. Reservations are due Wednesday, November 2. Participants must be 21 or older. Make your reservations online at <https://bpt.me/5576885>.

Men's Bible Study

"Iron is sharpened by iron; one person sharpens another." (Proverbs 27) Exploring God's Word together allows men to learn from one another, be challenged, and encourage each other as we live out our faith in everyday life. We meet on Wednesdays at 6:00 a.m. No experience or pre-reading is required. Coffee is available. All men are welcome. Join us in the Cathedral School Library (behind the south side of the sanctuary). Contact: Deacon Rob, (217) 836-7900 or rsgambelluri@dio.org.

It's SOCTOBER!

The Cathedral Council of Catholic Women is collecting new (or gently used) socks, hats and gloves for men, women & children in area shelters for distribution throughout the winter months. Area social service agencies and nursing homes have been very appreciative of the generosity of Cathedral parishioners in past years as our donations have benefitted many people of all ages. Please place donated items in the White baskets placed in the Atrium. Thanks so much for your generosity to the most vulnerable in our community!

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Around the Diocese

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. The details are as follows:

Peace of Mind Seminar
Thursday, October 20th
11:30 am - 1:30 pm
American Legion - Post 32, Mess Hall
1120 E. Sangamon Ave.
Springfield, IL 62702

Complimentary lunch will be provided. This event is free: no cost or obligation. Please call 217-544-4646 to reserve your space no later than Monday, October 17th.

St. Maurice's Turkey Dinner Drive Thru

St. Maurice Catholic Church in Morrisonville, IL will hold its baked Turkey Dinner Drive Thru on November 6, 2022 at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Morrisonville, IL. Dinner will be served from 2:00pm-4:00pm. Meal is \$15.00 and includes baked turkey, dressing, potatoes, gravy, green beans, cranberry salad, and coleslaw. Thank you for your support!

Pregnancy Care 18th Annual Comedy in the City Dinner

The Pregnancy Care of Springfield, Inc. is holding its 18th Annual Comedy in the City Dinner: "Midnight at the Masquerade" Murder Mystery on Friday, October 28th at the Northfield Center. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for the cash bar and silent auction. A formal dinner will be served at 6:15 p.m. followed by a live auction and entertainment. There will also be an EAT LOCAL RAFFLE with the winner receiving \$500 worth of gift cards (need not be present to win). Tickets to the event are \$70 per person or \$560 for a table of 8. Reservations are required for this event by October 21st and can be made by calling (217) 525-5630 or through the website at springfieldpregnancy.org. Come help us celebrate 44 years of serving pregnant women in our community at this fun event!

Second Collection - World Mission Sunday

On October 23, World Mission Sunday, we join Catholics worldwide in this annual Eucharistic celebration for the Missions of the Church. Your prayers and generous support today sustain priests, religious and lay pastoral leaders in more than 1,100 mission dioceses in Asia, Africa, the Pacific Islands, and parts of Latin America and Europe as they proclaim the Gospel, build the Church, and serve the poor. When you contribute to the World Mission Sunday collection, you make it possible for the Holy Father to provide for the formation of our seminarians and religious men and women. You assist in building the schools and orphanages that care for children in places few visit. Missionaries can build churches in areas with scarce resources. Priests and religious Brothers and Sisters can buy food and the bare essentials that make it possible to proclaim the Gospel and celebrate the Sacraments. Please consider donating to this important cause; your financial support is life-giving to our brothers and sisters in the world's most vulnerable communities.

The Matter of Life

The award-winning film The Matter of Life cuts through the angry rhetoric and divisiveness about the most contentious issue of our day: abortion. This powerful film brings compassion and clarity to the abortion debate and presents a message that goes beyond pro-life and pro-abortion arguments. It forces us to ask the question: Are the unborn one of us? Featuring the stories of women, former abortion clinic workers, historians, religious workers, pro-life atheists, and many more, The Matter of Life stresses entering this conversation with understanding, love, and support. Doing so is critical to save the lives of the unborn and to care for the women who carry them. If you didn't have a chance to see this film on its limited release in Springfield, two screenings are scheduled. Sunday, October 16 @ 2:00 at Christ the King Parish Center, and Wednesday, October 19 @ 6:00pm at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Representatives from area pro-life, pro-woman, pro-family groups will be on hand to help you become more involved in the pro-life movement.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

The 40 Days for Life prayer vigil to end abortion will be observed every day from Wednesday September 28 to Sunday November 6, on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood, two doors from the Springfield Right to Life offices at 519 North Bruns Lane. Please sign up for at least one full hour shift.