

# *Cathedral* OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

**NOVEMBER 6, 2022 | 32ND 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 45

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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  
IN RESIDENCE

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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.



## Where Did ACSA Go?

When I entered the seminary in 2006, I was stepping away from a career as an IT consultant, which afforded me some good financial stability as I went from a very comfortable salary to a \$100/month stipend. I used to joke with my former coworkers that I was on the salary reduction plan in my life! But with just about everything being provided for in the seminary, I had very little need for much. I am grateful that as I entered into a new financial reality, I was able to reflect on the notion of stewardship in a new way. Initially, I began to think:

"Times are going to be a little leaner financially for the next few years. I better be careful about how I use my savings." But then I received something in the mail from the diocese, it was information about contributing to the Annual Catholic Services Appeal, better known as ACSA. Before I tossed it aside in the interest of playing it conservative with the limited funds I had, I thought a little more about it. Although I don't recall exactly what my prayer was, I decided to contribute, and to accept the challenge of a larger donation. Although I did not know exactly what all the funds supported, I did know that seminarian education was a part of it. So as a beneficiary of the generosity of so many throughout the diocese, I figured it was worth my making a sacrifice as well.

Over the years, I have encouraged people to see the importance of contributing to ACSA, for whether we are aware of it or not, every parish is a recipient of the services that our diocesan offices provide, not the least of which is the formation of our seminarians. These men then become the priests who serve our parishes and bring us the sacraments. If we value God's grace (which we better if we call ourselves Catholic), then we have to acknowledge that we are all beneficiaries of what the diocese offers to us.

Fast forward to the present day, and ACSA is no longer an appeal that the diocese asks the faithful to contribute to. When that was first announced, some people breathed a sigh of relief. Perhaps they thought: "I don't have to give money to the diocese any more"...as if "diocese" is a bad word. I am in my 10th year of working at our Diocesan Curia, working every day with the people we sometimes just clump together as "the diocese", questioning their usefulness. May I, in all humility and with frankness, offer a fatherly correction to anybody who thinks this way. You may have your ideas of "the diocese", often formed through less-than-informed views of others. Perhaps you do not even know a single person who works for "the diocese" (except me of course), but I do, and I can attest to the great quality of our people and the very, very generous service they provide to me personally, to our Cathedral parish, and to the parishes throughout the diocese, to which we all belong. We all are the diocese. Period. We are not just Cathedral parishioners, we belong to the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, and we should be very proud of that.

### Mass Intentions

#### Monday, November 7

7am - Richard Dhabalt  
(Bernie Ely)  
5:15pm - Ed Bacon  
(Family)

#### Tuesday, November 8

7am - Mary E. Steil  
(Steil Family)  
5:15pm - Sophia Bartoletti & Family  
(Estate)

#### Wednesday, November 9

7am - Elva Plummer  
(Acuna Family)  
5:15pm - Joe & Nancy Schweska  
(Tom McGee)

#### Thursday, November 10

7am - Mary Jane Kerns  
(Estate)  
5:15pm - John Montgomery  
(John Busciacco)

#### Friday, November 11

7am - Erika Dresch  
(Judith Mohler)  
5:15pm - Special Intention for  
Bianca (D. A. Drago)

#### Saturday, November 12

8am - Erma Bartoletti  
(Estate)  
4pm - Shirley Logan  
(Lisa Logan & Lori Logan Motyka)

#### Sunday, November 13

7am - Mary Ann Midden  
(William Midden)  
10am - For The People  
5pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway  
(Robert Gasaway)

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Sorry for the digression – back to ACSA. So if ACSA is no longer a thing, how do the diocesan offices support themselves? Each parish now tithes 10% of our monthly income to our diocesan offices so that these services can continue to be offered. Therefore, when you support our local parish, you are also supporting the work of the whole diocese, which is really important to our understanding of what it means to be members of the Catholic Church.

Perhaps you had contributed to ACSA in the past, and now that it's no longer here, you see that as one less contribution. But may I humbly ask you to direct the funds you would have donated to ACSA to now go to our parish? And if you were not contributing to ACSA, would you prayerfully consider increasing your weekly gift of treasure to our parish, and by extension, to our diocese?

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



### St. Pope Leo the Great

**Feast Day: November 10th | Confessor and Doctor of the Church | Patron of Confessors, Popes, Moral Theology, and Vocations**

Historians tell us that in the year 452, the 50-something year old pope, who had been the first to take the Papal name Leo ["The Lion"!], made his way to the North of Italy to stop Attila

the Hun. Honourous, the Roman emperor at that time, faced catechism on all sides and had no armies with which to turn back the ravaging horsemen led by the Hun. Prosper, a Christian chronicler, tells us what happened in his record from just a few years after:

*"Now Attila, having once more collected his forces which had been scattered in Gaul [at the battle of Chalons], took his way through Pannonia into Italy. . . To the emperor and the senate and Roman people none of all the proposed plans to oppose the enemy seemed so practicable as to send legates to the most savage king and beg for peace. Our most blessed Pope Leo -trusting in the help of God, who never fails the righteous in their trials - undertook the task, accompanied by Avienus, a man of consular rank, and the perfect Trygetius. And the outcome was what his faith had foreseen; for when the king had received the embassy, he was so impressed by the presence of the high priest that he ordered his army to give up warfare and, after he had promised peace, he departed beyond the Danube."*

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### Stewardship of Treasure October 29th & 30th

Envelopes:	\$10,112.00
Loose:	\$2,195.00
Maintenance:	\$250.00
Total:	\$12,557.00

### October EFT

\$21,323.80

### Second Collections

World Mission Sunday  
\$5,137.00

### Other Numbers

Maintenance:	\$2,537.00
Debt Reduction:	\$697.00

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

Charles Fulton Gray  
Child of Nicholas & Teresa Gray  
Baptized on October 30, 2022

## Continued from previous page

What happened in that most famous encounter of one of our most famous Popes? Loved for his courageous leadership over a weakened Rome. Known for his calling the largest ecumenical council, at Chalcedon, where our faith in Christ's human and divine natures was finally clarified – "Peter has spoken through Leo" they chanted. And treasured for his legendary sermons and writings that continue to shine like gems amidst the mountain of reflections down through the Christian centuries on so many feasts of Our Lord and His saints. ... Yet why did Attila turn his armies back north, abandoning hopes of conquering Europe? How did the wizened pope in vestments defend the Christian world from the onslaught of the Huns, who would themselves be conquered by Christ once they settled on the fringes of Christendom in the decades after?

We turn from the historians and the chronicles to receive from ordinary Christians the amazing story. This legend, passed from town to town, of course has been embellished over the ages, yet perhaps it is a bit closer to what actually happened that famous day, for physics and phalanxes did not turn back Attila, but faith. Leo – to tell the tale as a Christian father back then might have told his children – stepped before the barbarian ... and fell to his knees. He did not adore the invader, for he only gave worship to Christ, but he did beseech him:

*"The people of Rome, once conquerors of the world, now kneel conquered. We pray for mercy and deliverance. O Attila, you could have no greater glory than to see suppliant at your feet this people before whom once all peoples and kings lay suppliant. You have subdued, O Attila, the whole circle of the lands granted to the Romans. Now we pray that you, who have conquered others, should conquer yourself. The people have felt your scourge. Now they would feel your mercy."*

Astonished by the meekness of the aged pontiff, Attila stared at the sight of the robed man, alone between his armies and the riches and fame of Rome. And then his gaze was forced aloft. There, on either side of this ambassador of Christ, stood the giant figures of Peter and Paul, each holding flaming swords in defense of the Kingdom of Christ. As Attila watched, he saw row upon row, rank upon rank, host upon host of heavenly defenders, gleaming and glorious against the darkened sky. The Pope kneeling could not be ignored, his humility shook the tyrant, a greater power rested in the aged heart of that lion than that in the might of all the Huns at Attila's command. Attila swore to an enduring truce, turned his armies north, and left Italy and all that could have been conquered there to the authority, and leadership, of Leo, and Christ.

Though we are not certain of Leo's exact words that evening to Attila, perhaps this quotation of his reminds us that the same power that was at work through him on that occasion is that which God desires all of us to wield in our own battles: *"If indeed we are the temple of God and the Holy Spirit lives in our hearts...we must work with much vigilance to make the chamber of our heart not unworthy of so great a guest."*

*Fr. Dominic Rankin simply takes for his prayer this week an ancient hymn of praise to God for this Great pope Leo. Perhaps pray it as you look upon this pope as displayed in one of the windows of our Cathedral! "You were the Church's instrument / in strengthening the teaching of true doctrine; / you shone forth from the West like a sun dispelling the errors of the heretics. / Righteous Leo, entreat Christ God to grant us His great mercy. // O Champion of Orthodoxy, and teacher of holiness, / The enlightenment of the universe and the inspired glory of true believers. / O most wise Father Leo, your teachings are as music of the Holy Spirit for us! / Pray that Christ our God may save our souls! // Seated upon the throne of the priesthood, glorious Leo, / you shut the mouths of the spiritual lions. / With divinely inspired teachings of the honored Trinity, / you shed the light of the knowledge of God up-on your flock. / Therefore, you are glorified as a divine initiate of the grace of God."*

# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Around the Cathedral

### Vocations Support Raffle

Support vocations and help the Father Tolton Knights of Columbus Council at the same time. Each raffle "book" is \$15 and gives you 15 chances in the raffle. The Grand Prize will be \$10,000.00, with smaller prizes totaling \$20,000.00. The Father Tolton Council receives \$9 for every book sold. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/4nx3fa36> to donate. You must enter the council number (16126) on the order form for the Council to receive credit.

### Cathedral Merchandise Sale

Cathedral has partnered with Primo Designs to help you show off your Cathedral pride! Merchandise offered is long and short sleeve T-shirts, polos, sweatshirts and quarter zips. Order and pay online at [https://shop.primodesigns.net/Cathedral\\_of\\_the\\_Immaculate/shop/home](https://shop.primodesigns.net/Cathedral_of_the_Immaculate/shop/home) Merchandise can be picked up at Primo or the Cathedral or shipped to your home. The online store closes on November 13 at midnight so don't delay!

### Season of Stewardship 2022 - Thank You

We are grateful for the response and generosity of so many parishioners this past week. If you are still discerning your commitment, when you are ready, just place your commitment card in the basket or send it to the parish office. We will begin to connect new volunteers with ministry leaders in the upcoming weeks. Please call the parish office with any 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.

### 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 (enter through the atrium doors off 5th street parking lot). Contact: Deacon Rob, (217) 836-7900 or [rsgambelluri@dio.org](mailto:rsgambelluri@dio.org).

### The Chosen Season 2, Episode 4

A charismatic fisherman drowning in debt; a troubled woman wrestling with real demons; a gifted publican ostracized by his family and his people; a religious leader struggling with his beliefs. Come watch the Chosen on Sunday, November 13 @ 2:00pm in the Cathedral School Hall

### Come Pray the Rosary

You are invited to join us in praying the rosary at the Cathedral every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 4:45pm.

# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Around the Diocese

### Volunteers Needed for Sacraments

The Diocese of Springfield in IL is looking for volunteers to assist with the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion at the Cathedral. Over 1,200 third graders come to our church each year from throughout the Diocese to receive these holy Sacraments. This is a great blessing for us to welcome them here to experience what we already know - that the Cathedral is a special place to come and worship! Please pray about joining the Curia staff in helping to welcome these people to our home. All volunteers need to have Safe Environment on file with their parish. Contact Sister M. Clementia, FSGM for more information (ctoalson@dio.org or 217-321-1130), or access the sign-up at <https://ome.flocknote.com/signup/84704>. Thank you!

### Employment Opportunities - Concordia Village

Concordia Village is hosting Clinical Open Interviews for CNAs, LPNs, and RNs on Tuesday, November 8th, 8am-11am & 1pm-5pm, and Tuesday, November 22nd, 1pm-5pm. We are hiring for all shifts (Day, Evening, and Nights) for Full Time and Part Time Hours. Additionally, Concordia Village is looking for a Part Time Chauffeur to drive our residents to and from appointments or events around Springfield. This position is 16-24 hours/week, no weekends. Any candidates interested in either of the above can reach out to Coartney Foster at [Coartney.Foster@LSSLiving.org](mailto:Coartney.Foster@LSSLiving.org), or 217.993.7100

### Springfield Deanery Council of Catholic Women Meeting

PRAYER, PLANNING and PARTICIPATION: Springfield Deanery Council of Catholic Women Meeting: Tues., Nov. 15, 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (Lunch: NOON), Cathedral Lower-Level Meeting Room. We request that women from all 37 parishes in the Springfield Deanery attend. We will be showcasing EACH of our Springfield Deanery Parishes at the 2023 SDCCW Convention: Wed., Sept. 27, 2023: Sacred Heart Griffin West Campus, Mass at St. Agnes Church, Main Celebrant --- Bishop Paprocki. ATTENDING THE DEANERY MEETING, Nov. 15? Please R.S.V.P. to Janet Zimmerman, Pres. of the Springfield Deanery by Tues., Nov. 8: [janetzim14@yahoo.com](mailto:janetzim14@yahoo.com) or 217-494-4743. Thank You!

### Holiday Help - Nov 6, 2022

The Butler Family of Organizations invites those touched by the loss of a loved one to attend the Holiday Help program, Brightening Spirits, on Sunday, November 6th, from 2-3:00 p.m. at the Prairie View Reception Center, 8865 State Rt. 4, Chatham. Grief specialist Bill McKenzie, MA, LCPC, will present practical ways to help you cope during the holidays and other significant days. A candle lighting ceremony will provide comfort to warmly remember and honor your loved one. Reservations are requested for planning purposes. Reserve your seat by calling Butler Funeral Homes at 217-544-4646.

### 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!

### 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, November 17th  
8:30 am - 10:30 am  
MCL Restaurant & Bakery  
2151 Wabash Ave.  
Springfield, IL 62704

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, November 14th.