

# *Cathedral* OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

**JANUARY 29, 2023 | FOURTH 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 5 ISSUE 5

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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  
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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!



## Lead Us Not into Temptation

A few years ago, there was quite a dustup in the Catholic world when headlines started coming out that Pope Francis was thinking about changing the Lord's Prayer! In fact, a quick Google search resulted in the following headline: "Pope Francis made this big change to the Lord's Prayer." I even remember somebody telling me how upset they were that the Pope was changing the most familiar prayer that we as Catholics know.

The rumor of the Holy Father's change came from an interview that he did in which he was asked about a new French translation to be used in the liturgy. The new translation addressed the petition: "lead us not into temptation", and it would now take the form (in French) to be more like: "do not let us fall into temptation." When asked about this change, the Holy Father was supportive of the decision the French bishops had made, reportedly saying: "It's me who falls. It's not Him who pushes me into temptation, as if I fell. A father doesn't do that. A father helps you to get up right away. The one who leads into temptation is Satan."

The Holy Father's comment was in no way a suggestion that the Lord's Prayer should be changed for everybody, but it did give an opportunity for us to better appreciate this sometimes confusing petition in this prayer we love so well. So how are we to understand it? As is often the case, we can find a more than adequate answer from the Catechism of the Catholic Church:

*This petition goes to the root of the preceding one, for our sins result from our consenting to temptation; we therefore ask our Father not to "lead" us into temptation. It is difficult to translate the Greek verb used by a single English word: the Greek means both "do not allow us to enter into temptation" and "do not let us yield to temptation." "God cannot be tempted by evil and he himself tempts no one"; on the contrary, he wants to set us free from evil. We ask him not to allow us to take the way that leads to sin. We are engaged in the battle "between flesh and spirit"; this petition implores the Spirit of discernment and strength. (CCC 2846)*

### Mass Intentions

#### Monday, January 30

7am - John "Jack" McCarthy  
(Family)  
5:15pm - Richard Dhabalt  
(Louise Ralph)

#### Tuesday, January 31

7am - Mercedes & Charles Nesbitt  
(Kathy Frank)  
5:15pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway  
(Robert Gasaway)

#### Wednesday, February 1

7am - Larry Freeman  
(Tom Steil & Sharon Oldfield)  
5:15pm - Herb Dulle  
(Theresa & Dennis Duffin)

#### Thursday, February 2

7am - John Brunk  
(Family)  
5:15pm - Mary Conchola & Family  
(Kay & Dick King)

#### Friday, February 3

7am - Brad Shaffer  
(Chris Sommer)  
5:15pm - Sophia Bartoletti  
(Estate)

#### Saturday, February 4

8am - John Piccinino  
(John Busciacco)  
4pm - Brother Francis Skube  
(Ed & Bonnie Pinc)

#### Sunday, February 5

7am - Mercedes & Charles Nesbitt  
(Kathy Frank)  
10am - Kara Leigh Smith  
(Beverly & Larry Smith)  
5pm - For The People

Continued on next page

## Continued from previous page

This petition, along with “thy will be done” upon which we reflected last week, is a very helpful one to invoke each day. As human beings, we are constantly subjected to temptations, both from within and without. In those moments when we come to understand that we are being tempted (not by God), we should not try to rely on our own willpower. Rather, we cry out to the Father who loves us: “lead us not into temptation”, which is a cry for His protection and strength, for as He reminds us: “without me you can do nothing.” (John 15:5) We make this prayer with the confidence that St. Paul had in the Lord when he wrote: “I have the strength for everything through him who empowers me.” (Phil 4:13)

Speaking of temptations, it strikes me that all of this confusion is a subtle tactic of the deceiver, Satan, trying to distract us, even to the point of distrusting this petition, for he knows how powerful these words proposed by Jesus are in thwarting his attempts to lead us off course in doing God’s will.

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



### St. Ignatius, of Antioch

**Feast Day: February 1st | Bishop, Martyr, Apostolic Father| Patronage: Church in Northern Africa, in Middle East, in Eastern Mediterranean | Attributes: Attired as a Bishop, in chains, surrounded by lions**

I have written on St. Ignatius of Antioch twice before, so I will not attempt another variation on his biography, but I direct your eyes to our stained glass

window depicting his martyrdom in the Roman arena, and I direct your mind and heart to his words written the Christians in Smyrna around the year 110 AD, probably shortly before his martyrdom.

*Let no one be deceived; even things in heaven and the glory of the angels, and the rulers visible and invisible, even for them there is a judgment if they do not believe on the blood of Christ. “He that receiveth let him receive.” Let not office exalt anyone, for faith and love is everything, and nothing has been preferred to them. But mark those who have strange opinions concerning the grace of Jesus Christ which has come to us, and see how contrary they are to the mind of God. For love they have no care, none for the widow, none for the orphan, none for the distressed, none for the afflicted, none for the prisoner, or for him released from prison, none for the hungry or thirsty.*

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## Stewardship of Treasure

### January 21st & 22nd

Envelopes	\$5,408.00
Loose	\$2,854.00
Maintenance	\$114.00
Total	\$8,376.00

### December EFT

\$24,753.80

### December Christmas Decorations

\$1,754.00

### December Second Collections

Retirement Fund for Religious	\$5,103.00
Catholic Children’s Home	\$5,184.00

### December Debt Reduction

\$483.00

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!



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St. Ignatius, just one generation after the Apostles, here upholds the true identity of Christ as both fully and fully divine. He writes in warning against Docetism (a variation on Gnosticism, both of those heresies scorning the God-given dignity and purpose of our bodies, and thus the reality of Christ's Body). Ignatius knows the ramifications of such a doctrine do not just tinker with our understanding of Christ (and whether He actually saves us, body and soul!), but enter deeply into our own lives, and bodies. If our bodies have not been washed with Christ's Blood, we will be incapable of authentic Christian charity. If charity is absent, Christ is absent.

*They abstain from Eucharist and prayer, because they do not confess that the Eucharist is the flesh of our Savior Jesus Christ who suffered for our sins, which the Father raised up by his goodness. They then who deny the gift of God are perishing in their disputes; but it were better for them to have love, that they also may attain to the Resurrection. It is right to refrain from such men and not even to speak about them in private or in public, but to give heed to the prophets and especially to the Gospel, in which the Passion has been revealed to us and the Resurrection has been accomplished. But flee from divisions as the beginning of evils.*

Recall that the Church invokes St. Ignatius during the *Nobis Quoque* prayer of the Roman Canon. The priest had just beaten his breast, declaring his own sinfulness before God (and by extension the sins of all the Church) and begging His mercy that we might be brought into fellowship with the Apostles and Martyrs including St. Ignatius. Sin is only a block to unity if it is not forgiven! That prayer concludes with those tremendous words, spoken with Christ's Flesh and Blood resting before us on the altar: *"admit us, we beseech you, into their company, not weighing our merits, but granting us your pardon."* The fact is that God has admitted us to the company of the saints – in Christ – and pardons us that we might be brought into even greater Holy Communion just moments later.

*See that you all follow the bishop, as Jesus Christ follows the Father, and the presbytery as if it were the Apostles. And reverence the deacons as the command of God. Let no one do any of the things appertaining to the Church without the bishop. Let that be considered a valid Eucharist which is celebrated by the bishop, or by one whom he appoints. Wherever the bishop appears let the congregation be present; just as wherever Jesus Christ is, there is the Catholic Church. It is not lawful either to baptize or to hold an "agapé" [early Christian reference to the Eucharistic meal] without the bishop; but whatever he approve, this is also pleasing to God, that everything which you do may be secure and valid. [St. Ignatius, "Letter to Smyrnians", paragraphs 6-8.]*

Finally – after charity, and sanctity – Ignatius emphasizes a third necessity that comes from Christ's real presence among us: unity. I think we all want these things! Charity, Sanctity, Unity ... they are pithy, church-ey, words for sure, but ones that relate directly to our innate desires for kindness, respect, and peace ... and perhaps our culture's desire for tolerance, transparency, and harmony. What Ignatius is getting at is the bedrock truth that **we will only find superficial versions of these graces without Christ**. And though Our Lord's grace is not cheap, it is worth seeking and finding.

*Fr. Dominic Rankin does not sign his name with a cross (+) before it, as that practice has for centuries been the mark of a bishop. But early in the Church many priests would place a cross next to their name. This mark certainly was meant to show their union with Christ's bodily sacrifice on the cross, but surprisingly this was also the first letter of the Greek word "tapeinós" [ταπεινός], meaning "humble" or "sinner", that key word from the nobis quoque when the priest publicly proclaims his sinfulness to Christ. (Sometimes, especially in Latin documents, a priest would write out the entire word "peccator" before his name.)*

# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Around the Cathedral

### **FORMED: Renewing a Culture of Life**

In these three videos, Dr. Ben Akers sits down with Lynn Grandon, Director of the Respect Life Office at the Archdiocese of Denver, to discuss the pro-life movement. In light of the leaked Supreme Court document, the first episode examines the potential ramifications of Roe v. Wade being overturned. In the second video, the conversation continues, covering why the Church is pro-life. Finally, in the third video, the conversation reaches a crescendo, talking through how our lives can give witness to the pro-life disposition of the Catholic Church. For more pro-life content, visit: <https://watch.formed.org/pro-life>

### **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.

### **CCCW Trivia Night**

Join the women of the CCCW for Trivia Night! Mark your calendar for Saturday, February 18, starting at 7pm. More information to come!

### **First Friday Concert**

Join us for our First Friday Concert Series! February's concert will feature Elizabeth Farris Byerline, Soprano, and Mark Gifford, Accompanist. The First Friday Concert Series is sponsored by the Staab Family, and is free and open to the public. All are welcome! Friday, February 3, 2023 - 7:00 PM

### **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](mailto:ctoalson@dio.org) 217-321-1130), or access the sign-up at <https://ome.flocknote.com/signup/84704>

### **Save the Date - February 18-19, 2023**

"Live the Mass" is a weekend reflective retreat which leads us to a deeper experience of the Mass and all its power, beauty, and wonder. This adult retreat will be held at the Villa Maria overlooking Lake Springfield. For more information, contact Deacon Rob at (217) 836-7900 ([rsgambelluri@dio.org](mailto:rsgambelluri@dio.org)) or, to register, call Paula Black at (217) 652-2662.



### **The Parish Directories are Here!**

The directories have finally arrived! If you have not yet picked up your copy, you can do so by stopping by the Cathedral Parish Office. The directories that were damaged in shipping (bent corners) can be purchased for \$1 each. Thanks for your patience.

# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Around the Diocese

### Taize Prayer at Sacred Heart Chapel

In celebration of their 150th anniversary, the Dominican Sisters of Springfield, Illinois will open their chapel for a Taizé-style prayer service. The service is open to all and begins at 7 p.m. on Thursday, February 2nd in the chapel at 1237 W. Monroe Street, in Springfield. The facility is fully accessible and has plenty of free off-street parking. For more information about this or the sisters' other 150th anniversary events, visit [springfielddop.org/150years](http://springfielddop.org/150years) or call 217-787-0481.

### SDCCW Scholarship Opportunity

Attention Diocesan Catholic female high school seniors! You are invited to apply for the Springfield Diocesan Council of Catholic Women (SDCCW) Female High School Senior Leadership Scholarship. Young women who are interested in applying for the scholarship should contact their high school principal, high school guidance office or parish office for applications. A typed completed application, essay, and two letters of recommendation are required. Deadline to enter is March 30, 2023. Winners will be announced in May and honored at the Woman of Distinction Banquet in June.

### Pregnancy Care Center Music Trivia Night

The Pregnancy Care Center of Springfield, Inc. is having a Music Trivia night on February 3rd, 2023. This event is sponsored by Butler Funeral Homes and Cremation Tribute Center and will be held at the Prairie View Reception Center in Chatham. Cash bar will be available and guests can bring their own snacks for their table. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. and Trivia begins at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are \$15 each or \$150 for a table of ten and can be purchased by calling the Center at (217) 525-5630.

### St. John's Breadline – Souper Bowl Spring 2023 Fundraiser

The Souper Bowl fundraiser for Catholic Charities St. John's Breadline will be serving up fresh soups to go. These made-from-scratch soups will be available on Friday, February 10 at the Catholic Pastoral Center circle driveway, 1615 W. Washington Street, Springfield, IL, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m., or until sold out. Chicken Noodle soup, Steak & Mushroom soup, and Chili will be offered. The suggested donation is \$5 for 32 oz. of soup. All proceeds will benefit the St. John's Breadline. To make a donation, or to volunteer, please visit <https://cc.dio.org/> or contact Shawna Harris at [sharris\\_stjb@cc.dio.org](mailto:sharris_stjb@cc.dio.org) or 217-523-6098.

### Christ the King Bible Study

Christ the King will host the Bible Study No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion. This series of 5 weeks is from Ascension Press, with video lessons presented by Dr. Edward Sri. We will meet Tuesdays 9:30-11 a.m. from Feb. 21 to March 21. The study set is \$27 plus shipping. To get on the list for a study book set, contact Mary Kay Hinkle at 217-899-2599 to leave a message or write to [mbhinkle75@comcast.net](mailto:mbhinkle75@comcast.net) by February 1, 2023.

### World Marriage Day

On Sunday, February 12, 2023, at 2:30 pm., Auxiliary Bishop Mark S. Rivotuso will celebrate a Mass for World Marriage Day at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, 4431 Lindell Blvd. St. Louis, MO. A reception will follow in Boland Hall. All married couples are invited to attend and celebrate the gift of marriage. World Marriage Day honors husband and wife as the foundation of the family – the basic unit of society. It emphasizes the faithfulness, sacrifice and joy of daily married life. World Marriage Day started in Baton Rouge, LA in 1981 and was later adopted by Worldwide Marriage Encounter who now is sponsoring this event on February 12th.

### SDCCW Meeting - February 8

Please join the Springfield Deanery Council of Catholic Women on Wednesday, February 8, from 10am-2pm (with lunch at 12pm) at the Christ the King Parish Hall, 1930 Barberry Dr, Springfield for a Deanery Meeting. We request that at least one woman from all 37 parishes in the Springfield Deanery attend. In addition to prayer and participation, we will continue planning 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, Feb. 8? Please R.S.V.P. to Janet Zimmerman, Pres. of the Springfield Deanery. [janetzim14@yahoo.com](mailto:janetzim14@yahoo.com) or 217-494-4743. Thank You!

### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion at Memorial Hospital

Do you have an interest in sharing the Holy Eucharist with hospitalized Roman Catholics and their loved ones? Opportunities are available at Springfield Memorial Hospital. The number of our Catholic patients continues to rise, so we would like to grow our Ministry Team to meet this larger need. Our particular needs include Eucharistic Ministers who are available any day of the week or weekends. If this opportunity interests you and you would like further information regarding this ministry, contact Fr. Teddy Adukus at (217)788-3588 or email [adukus.thaddeus@mhsil.com](mailto:adukus.thaddeus@mhsil.com)