

# *Cathedral* OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

**JUNE 18, 2023 | ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**



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

# Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 25

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

THE VERY REVEREND BRIAN C. ALFORD, V.E.  
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THE REVEREND PAUL LESUPATI  
PAROCHIAL VICAR

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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!



## Eucharistic Radiation

In my homily for Corpus Christi, I referenced a story about the Eucharist that I heard from the late Archbishop Fulton Sheen. A term he used in his talk was “Eucharistic Radiation”, a power that comes from the tabernacle where Jesus Christ is truly present. I have to say that I really love that image and it just reinforces how powerful just sitting or kneeling in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament can be. I try to spend an hour of prayer every day in the Church. There are many times when I do not feel much. I get distracted, and I even doze off. I sometimes walk away from my prayer feeling a little frustrated that I did not “pray better” or that I did not seem to get much from my prayer. But this idea of Eucharistic Radiation reminds me that the fruitfulness of prayer is not so much a function of

what I do, but rather what He does. Of course, I try my best to be attentive to the Lord and to pray well. But in the end, only the Lord can produce fruit when it comes to prayer. The Lord is always faithful and by my approaching Him with a desire to be strengthened by Him, He is undoubtedly working for my good each time I come to Him, regardless of what I feel.

I share that as a way of encouragement to any of you who may have come to our 40 Hours and maybe did not have a life-altering experience. Perhaps you walked away a little disappointed that you did not feel different after that hour, or that you seemed to struggle with distractions or dryness during prayer. Be at peace knowing how delighted the Lord was that you were there, and your being with Him put you in direct contact with that Eucharistic Radiation that has undoubtedly been working in your soul for your good.

Seen from this perspective, I have no doubt that our 40 Hours was a huge success in that many people spent time in the presence of God’s transforming presence who otherwise may have not done so. And that time will bear fruit, to the extent that we continue to give the Lord the room He needs to work in us. The fruit may not come right away, and in may in fact take quite some time. But may we never doubt the faithfulness of God and His desire to continually transform us so that slowly but surely, we will be able to say like St. Paul: “it is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.” (Gal 2:20)

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who participated in our 40 Hours in any way, whether you signed up for an hour slot or just stopped in for a brief visit. Your being exposed to this Eucharistic Radiation of Jesus is not only a blessing for you individually, but it benefits the entire parish, and indeed the whole Body of Christ. The Eucharist is a great source of unity for the Church, and every time we partake of this gift, we contribute to the building up of the Church. Perhaps that can be a good reminder that we carry with us as well when it comes to going to Mass or taking time to visit the Blessed Sacrament. If benefitting ourselves is not enough of a motivation, knowing that there might be another member of the Body of Christ who is waiting to benefit from our prayer can be the motivation that gets us to commit to coming before the Lord and His Eucharistic Radiation.

*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 19

7am - Donna Moore

(Chris Sommer)

5:15pm - Brother Francis Skube  
(Friends)

### Tuesday, June 20

7am - Carol Morgan

(Bev Hoffman)

5:15pm - Shirley Logan  
(Lisa Logan & Lori Logan Motyka)

### Wednesday, June 21

7am - John & Edith Bakalar

(John Busciacco)

5:15pm - Mark Beagles  
(Tom McGee Family)

### Thursday, June 22

7am - John Ansell

(The Lemanski Family)

5:15pm - Dan Sexson  
(Rick & Janice Wray)

### Friday, June 23

7am - Jackie Chambers

(The Cathedral)

5:15pm - George Hovanec  
(Lou Ann Mack & Carl Corrigan)

### Saturday, June 24

8am - Alice Bates

(The Bates Family)

4pm - Deceased Members of CCCW  
(CCCW)

### Sunday, June 25

7am - Jon Quinn

(Bill Midden)

10am - Robert Brodt

(John Brodt)

5pm - For the People





## St. John the Baptist

**Feast Day: June 24th | Patronage: Builders, Tailors, Nurses, Firefighters, Printers, Hermits & Godparents; at Baptisms & Conversions; and for those dealing with Storms, Seizures, & Heart-Conditions | Iconography: Bearded with Robe of Camel Hair (indicates prophet); Holding Staff with Cross & Flag, or Lamb, or pointing (all referencing his calling Jesus the Lamb of God), Head on Platter (depicting his martyrdom), Baptizing Jesus in the Jordan with the Spirit descending.**

This past Friday, after all of us priests concluded our annual retreat, I drove North to Rochelle for the wedding of one of my cousins. At the reception after the Wedding Mass, I spent much of the evening carrying and dancing with my 1-year-old niece, Lucy. It let my brother and his wife have some time to dance with each other and allowed me to enjoy Lucy's wonder at the music and bubbles and lights and antics all around her.

Couples married for decades were gliding around the room just enjoying being close to their spouses. Young people were showing off an endless variety of different dance moves to each other. The littler kids were leaping and laughing and jigging this way and that ... and everything struck me as so right and delightful. Children are supposed to just throw themselves around each other and have fun, but young men and young women are at the age to learn what it looks like to dance with each other, with respect and care and the right balance of joy and an attentiveness to each other. Married couples should give devotion and attention to each other, loving and enjoying and engaging their spouse before anyone else.

Now, all of this leaves the priest in a bit of a conundrum as to how he's supposed to join the dance ... (something that I'm still figuring out!) but, this week it leads me to a realization about St. John the Baptist, who found himself in a similar conundrum.

*Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" [Matthew 3:13-14, ESVCE]*

Jesus comes down to the Jordan river where His own cousin is baptizing. Their paths have diverged quite a bit since they were little kids when they may have rough-housed and schemed and played with each other on occasions when their families were together. John now knows Jesus' identity in a fuller way, and so, though he was happy to call everyone else to repentance and baptize those who approached him, when his cousin steps forward that simply won't do. John cannot interact with Jesus with the same abandon that he did when they were both children, and he cannot engage Him like he did every other penitent. There's a difference and not just in maturity, but he is now called to a different kind of reverence, respect, and obedience to his boyhood friend.

This isn't comfortable or automatic! It's a tricky enough thing to engage with other people and to feel-out how we are meant to interact with them, to hold in mind both who we are, and who they are, and the proper relationship between us. My newly married cousin had to act differently at her wedding than she did a month earlier at another such reception. She was now married to someone; her identity had changed and so must her actions and interactions. Same for me. I am one of the cousins in that group, but I am also a priest, and so I am called to a different kind of interaction with everyone than 10 years ago ... or 20 years ago. The "littles" in the room can carry each other around all night long, but it would be improper and unloving for the teenagers to do so. AND, if we are all called (and challenged, and blessed) to constantly learn what love looks like towards the other people around us, we are even more called to learn what love looks like towards Jesus!

Jesus approaches each of us too, especially in Holy Communion. Do we routinely consider our disposition towards Him? Our posture and love and respect towards Him? If the greatest of the prophets, and his own cousin, John the Baptist, doesn't dare to touch Jesus' Body until directly told to do so, what about me? In the United States, we are uniquely allowed to receive the Eucharist in our hands, but do we take care to touch Jesus as we ought? Or, is our mindset much the same as when we handle anything else? St. Cyril of Jerusalem reminds us all: "When you approach [the Most Holy Eucharist], take care not to do so with your hand stretched out and your fingers open or apart, but rather place your left hand as a throne beneath your right, as befits one who is about to receive the King. Then receive him, taking care that nothing is lost."

*Fr. Dominic Rankin must take to heart these words as well. How easy it is as a priest to become accustomed to touching God!*

## Stewardship of Treasure

### June 10th & 11th

Envelopes:	\$6,799.00
Loose:	\$4,203.00
Maintenance:	\$148.00
Total:	\$11,150.00

### May EFT

\$21,943.80

### May Second Collections

Catholic Communication Campaign  
\$2,158.25

Retired Diocesan Priests  
\$4,688.00

Calvary Cemetery  
\$937.00

### May Debt Reduction

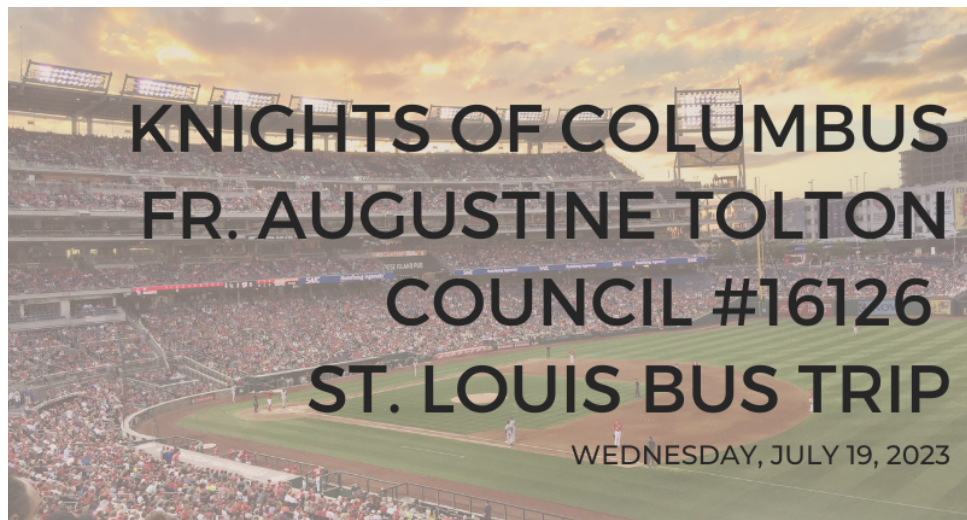
\$621.00

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!

## WEEK OF JUNE 19

<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>
	Grief Share 1:00 PM School Library  Adoration 4:00 PM Church  Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist Video 6:30 PM Cathedral Atrium	Men's Bible Study 6:00 AM School Library  Cathedral Bible Study 6:15 PM School Library	Lectio: Eucharist Bible Study 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM School Library  Adoration 4:00 PM Church  CCCW Meeting 6:00 PM School Hall  K of C #16126 Meeting 6:00 PM School Classroom		Women of Distinction Mass 10:00 AM Church	

## What's Going on Around the Cathedral?



### **K of C Fr. Augustine Tolton Council #16126 St. Louis Cardinals Bus Trip**

Ready to start scheduling your summer plans? On Wednesday, July 19th join Fr. Augustine Tolton Council #16126 as we take a charter bus down to St. Louis for a seminary tour and St. Louis Cardinals game. Fr. Alford will give us a tour of Kenrick-Glennon Seminary, where several of the seminarians from the Diocese attend, and celebrate mass there. That afternoon we will be attending a St. Louis Cardinals game before returning to Springfield that evening. Additional details including an itinerary can be found at the link below. There are 40 spots on the bus available, and an additional 20 spots for those that would like to transport themselves. The cost is \$65/person for a spot on the bus and ticket (section 265) to the game. If you would like to provide your own transportation the cost is \$20 for a ticket. You can reserve your spot now by visiting the link below. If you have any questions about the trip you can contact [info.kofc16126@gmail.com](mailto:info.kofc16126@gmail.com).  
<https://tinyurl.com/2p823x3x>

# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Second Collection - Peter's Pence

Your contribution to the Peter's Pence collection helps fund not only all the activities of the dicasteries of the Roman Curia that assist the pope in the exercise of his ministry but also a number of solidarity projects that aid those most in need. To learn more about the ways in which this collection supports the Holy Father's ministry of mercy, visit <https://www.obolodisanpietro.va/en/cos-e-l-obolo.html> (English) or <https://www.obolodisanpietro.va/es/cos-e-l-obolo.html> (español). Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's collection as an act of mercy and charity. Join our brothers and sisters in faith from around the globe to help Pope Francis carry out his ministry to the Universal Church and reach out to the most marginalized in our world.

## Totus Tuus - July 9-14

Mark your Calendars and Register! Totus Tuus, a week-long summer catechetical program, is coming back to Springfield! July 9-14, 2023 at St. Katharine Drexel Parish The Totus Tuus program aims to inspire young people to long for holiness, develop a deep desire for conversion, and personally renew their faith with a stronger prayer life. To register, please use the QR code or the following link: <https://dio.org/totus-tuus-camper-registration/?parish=SkdS>. For more information, text Janice Rothering at 217-438-6019 or email at [Janice.rothering@gmail.com](mailto:Janice.rothering@gmail.com).

## Do we have Jesus' DNA? Scientific Findings of Eucharistic Miracles Will Shock You

Think Jesus isn't present in the Eucharist? We got proof. Father Luke Spannagel of the Diocese of Peoria joins Dive Deep to discuss eucharistic miracles where the scientific findings will shock you. The findings also beg the question, "Does this mean we have Jesus' DNA? Go to [dio.org/podcast](https://dio.org/podcast) or search Dive Deep on all the major podcast platforms to listen and subscribe.

## Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

Eight women involved in Cathedral Women's Bible Study went on pilgrimage to the Holy Land!



## Covenant Network Summer 2023 Radiothon

Fr. Dominic Vahling will be on air Thursday, June 22, at 1pm for the Covenant Network Summer Radiothon! Please support FM 88.9 WTTT Catholic Radio by calling (314) 752-7000 or (877) 305-1234 or by visiting [OurCatholicRadio.org](http://OurCatholicRadio.org).

## Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist

To kick off the Year of Parish Revival, the Cathedral will be showing Dr. Brant Pitre's presentation, Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist on June 20 at 6:30pm. We will have a limited number of Dr. Pitre's book, Jesus and the Roots of the Eucharist: Unlocking the Secrets of the last Supper, on sale for \$2 a copy.

## The Turning Point Women's Bible Study

The Turning Point is a nine-session Bible study experience that's perfect for people who want to get to know Jesus in the Scriptures but don't know where to start. This study will introduce you to people and stories in the Gospel of John that you won't find anywhere else in the Bible: the woman at the well; a man named Nicodemus; the woman caught in adultery; and Lazarus, the friend Jesus raised from the dead. You'll read stories about Jesus turning water into wine at the wedding in Cana, Jesus washing the feet of his disciples, and Peter's marvelous redemption after he denies Jesus three times. The people in these stories were transformed by their encounters with Jesus. By entering into their miraculous stories, you will encounter Jesus in a personal way and develop a deeper relationship with him that will transform your everyday life. Register by email [vcompton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:vcompton@cathedral.dio.org) or phone 217/522-3342. Order your packet for \$15.95 <https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/turning-point-participant-program-pack/TPNT-008-PP-ENG.html> Thursday evenings, 6:00-7:15 starting August 24, in the Cathedral School Library

## Livestream Ministry Team

While most of us have been back to in-person Mass for quite a while, there are still some beloved members of our parish family whose physical limitations prevent them from attending Sunday Mass. Our ability to livestream the Mass is a tremendous gift to those who are unable to be with us in person. You are invited to be part of this ministry team by serving on the team that livestreams the Sunday 10:00 Mass and Holy Day and Triduum liturgies. If you would like to help us serve our housebound parishioners in this way, please contact the parish office to arrange for a brief training. 217/522-3342

## Daily Reflections with Dr. Tim Gray on Formed!

Deepen your understanding of Scripture with Daily Reflections with Dr. Tim Gray. In videos delivered straight to your inbox, renowned Scripture scholar Dr. Tim Gray comments on the Mass readings and shares tangible ways to respond to God's Word. Visit [formed.org](http://formed.org) for more.

## The Toy

What does it mean to be God's "special possession"? Our world is dominated by things, objects, possessions. To say we are a materialistic culture is an understatement. In that context, it can be really hard to fully appreciate the meaning of being "possessed" by God. I have so many possessions, after all. I acquire and discard them without thought. I am even overwhelmed by them. Sometimes, it feels like they possess me.

But then I think of the week after Christmas in a house with small children. In that week, there is always The Toy. The Toy that won the heart of your child under the tree, The Toy to which they emotionally attached themselves in a whirlwind of twinkle lights and sugar cookies. For that one week, The Toy is all there is. There were many gifts, but The Toy is special, and there can only be one.

So, what does it mean to be "possessed" by God? What does it mean to be of his people? It means you will be cherished and protected in ways you do not deserve and cannot understand. It means you are distinguished not by your own merit, but by the love with which you are beheld.

It means that you are always The Toy, and every day is Christmas.

*"Therefore, if you hearken to my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people, though all the earth is mine." — Exodus 19:5*

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

©LPi

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## Around the Diocese

- **Employment Opportunity - St. Patrick Catholic School** is seeking part time teachers for choir, art and P.E.. For more information, please contact Michael Carlson at [mcarlson@st-patrick.org](mailto:mcarlson@st-patrick.org) or call 309-259-9931.
- **Covenant Summer Radiothon, Thursday, June 22 at 9am**; tune in and support Bob Bunn. Please also consider supporting FM 88.9 WTTT Catholic Radio by calling (314) 752-7000 or (877) 305-1234 [www.OurCatholicRadio.org](http://www.OurCatholicRadio.org).
- **God is Alive Documentary | Incredible stories of faith and miraculous events in Central Illinois**, an original documentary, created and produced by the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, answers that question in an adventurous, impactful, and local way. Premieres on Saturday, July 8 at Sacred Heart Griffin High School in Springfield at 7pm. To RSVP to the free showing and watch the trailer, go to [dio.org/documentary](http://dio.org/documentary).
- **Advocate Training** for those interested in representing the Tribunal in preparing marriage nullity cases as Advocates will be held Saturday, July 15, 2023, 9:30 am-3:00 pm. at Christ The King Parish, 1920 Barberry Drive Springfield, Illinois. There will be no cost for the training but please pre-register by July 10th by contacting [cbranyan@dio.org](mailto:cbranyan@dio.org) or 217-321-1117. Lunch will be provided.
- **The Little Way, A Journey Along St. Therese's Path of Confidence and Love Retreat**, July 13-16, 2023 at Villa Maria Catholic Life Center. All women are welcomed and invited to participate. For registration information visit <https://www.theresians.org/events.html>. Look for Midwest Regional. Online registration deadline is June 15. If you have questions, please contact Vicki Schmidt at 217.652.8632 or Email: [v.schmidt55@outlook.com](mailto:v.schmidt55@outlook.com).
- **Springfield Dominican Sisters 150th Anniversary Mass**, Saturday, August 19, 2023, 10:30am at the Sacred Heart Convent Chapel, 1237 W. Monroe Street, Springfield, IL, 62704. RSVP by August 1 is appreciated. This may be made either with a phone call to 217-787-0481 or at [springfieldop.org/150years/](http://springfieldop.org/150years/). For those unable to be present a livestream is offered at [springfieldop.org/livestream/](http://springfieldop.org/livestream/).
- **Mark Your Calendar for a Diocesan-Wide Celebration at the BOS Center in Springfield**, a Eucharistic Congress is taking place Saturday, October 28 at the BOS Center in Springfield. This major event will include talks from nationally recognized Catholic speakers, adoration, confession, and Mass where the arena will be packed with thousands of Catholics from across the diocese. Doors open at 10:30 a.m. with the first speaker starting at 1 p.m., and Mass begins at 4 p.m. Stay tuned for how to get free tickets!
- **Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land**, November 27-December 7, 2023. For more information, please visit [www.holylandtoursllc.com](http://www.holylandtoursllc.com) or email [edanaher@dio.org](mailto:edanaher@dio.org).