

# *Cathedral* OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

**JULY 2, 2023 | THIRTEENTH 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 27

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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

DEACON ROBERT SGAMBELLURI

DEACON IRVIN LAWRENCE SMITH

VICKI DHABALT COMPTON  
COORDINATOR OF FAITH FORMATION AND MISSION  
VCOMPTON@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

HALEY DUTTON  
COORDINATOR OF COMMUNICATIONS  
HDUTTON@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

MARK GIFFORD  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC  
MGIFFORD@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

KIM GUNTER  
PARISH SECRETARY  
KGUNTER@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

JAN SGAMBELLURI  
BOOKKEEPER  
JSGAMBELLURI@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

BILL VOGT  
OFFICE AND PLANT MANAGER  
BVOGT@CATHEDRAL.DIO.ORG

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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!



## Attitude Check

In last week's article, I introduced the theme that I hope to focus on for the new few months, that of delving more deeply into our understanding and appreciation of our greatest prayer, which is the Mass. I indicated that my first reflection would be to address how to prepare for Mass, explaining that how we prepare will have a direct impact on how we experience this great prayer. As I've reflected on this over the past week, it strikes me that there are two basic areas of preparation that we need to consider – internal and external. This week we will focus on the internal preparation, and next week we will consider the external preparation.

There are a few different ways to approach our internal preparation, but I think I would like to start with doing an examination on our attitude toward the Mass. I think I may have written about this one other time, but repeating it certainly will not hurt! Think about how you and your family talk about going to Mass. How often have you said internally or externally: "We have to go to Mass today", feeling the burden of obligation over the opportunity to praise God. It is true, we have an obligation to go to Mass, and I addressed that when I spoke about the Precepts of the Church, how we are obliged to go to Mass every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation.

How do you feel about that obligation? What do you notice moving in your heart when you think about having to go to Mass? For some, I am certain it is not something that fills us with much enthusiasm. There are other things we can do during the weekend, and going to Mass can seem like an inconvenience. Or, perhaps our experience of being at Mass has left us feeling unfulfilled. It is not uncommon to hear people say: "I do not get anything out of Mass." With reverence and respect, I respond to that with a question: "But what do you put into going to Mass?" I say that not to make people feel guilty, but to invite them to consider that maybe what is lacking is not the Mass itself, but our attitudes toward Mass. This is my ultimate reason for offering this series, to help us to see how we can bring our entire selves to the Mass, understanding it's beauty and better understanding how we are called to enter into the Mass, such that it becomes a transformative experience for us, and not something we simply have to endure.

So, what is your attitude toward Mass? Acknowledge it and humbly bring it before the Lord in prayer. If you struggle with seeing Mass as important and something to look forward to, tell Him. If you love going to Mass, tell Him that as well. If you are somewhere in between, tell Him that! By bringing this to the Lord, we are asking Him to expand our hearts so that we can love this prayer more. I presume all of us want to grow in our love for the Mass and that we are not content to just endure it for the rest of our lives! So let's start with asking the Lord for the grace He wants for us, especially as it concerns the Mass. He desires for us to understand and experience the profound gift of His love that is available at every Mass. Do you desire that too? I hope so. And if you do, tell Him. That might be one of the most important places to start as we begin this journey together in exploring the riches of this greatest prayer we have as Catholics.

*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, July 3

7am - Edward Kindred  
(The Kindred Family)  
5:15pm - NO MASS

### Tuesday, July 4

7am - Danny Millburg  
(Margaret Millburg & Family)  
5:15pm - NO MASS

### Wednesday, July 5

7am - John & Edith Bakalar  
(John Busciacco)  
5:15pm - Dan Sexson  
(Rick & Janice Wray)

### Thursday, July 6

7am - Maurice Joseph  
(Bridgit)  
5:15pm - William F. & Shirley Logan  
(Lisa Logan & Lori Logan Motyka)

### Friday, July 7

7am - John Ansell  
(The Lemanski Family)  
5:15pm - Truman & Mary Flatt  
(Flatt Family)

### Saturday, July 8

8am - Sally Hays  
(Lou Ann Mack & Carl Corrigan)  
4pm - Thomas Egan  
(Pia Yoswig)

### Sunday, July 9

7am - For The People  
10am - Irvin Lawrence Smith  
(Beverly & Larry Smith)  
5pm - Mary Ann Palazzolo  
(The Sommer Family)





## St. Thomas the Apostle

**Feast Day: July 3rd | Patronage: Twins, Architects, Craftsmen, Theologians, the Blind, India, Afghanistan | Iconography: Holding Staff (of missionary), Scroll or Book (of apostle), Spear (how he was martyred); two fingers together (recalling his recognizing Jesus as both God and man); touching Jesus' side in upper room**

Often when St. Thomas the Apostle is mentioned the first thing we recall is his doubt upon hearing of Jesus' resurrection and tremendous return to faith when Jesus invited him to touch the wounds of His crucifixion, crying out "My Lord, and My God!" We see him depicted reaching towards Jesus' wounds, and rightly meditate on doing so ourselves. Why were Jesus' wounds not healed away? Why does God carry scars? These are beautiful places to pray into, but I would like to propose an additional meditation for all of us this week. In 1945, awaiting execution in a Berlin jail cell for his resistance to the Nazi regime in Germany, the Jesuit priest Fr. Alfred Delp wrote this reflection:

*There are hours when we can do only one thing: gather up all our woe and extreme plight into one imploring shout, one simple cry for mercy and help. And to cry it out or scream it or weep it or whimper it to the God who wants to save. To moan out all the woe within us into the sacred space where God touches our self and loves it and is good to it. Sooner or later all thinking and all attempts at flight must cease. Then we must lie very still so that the thorns of the thicket into which we have fallen won't inflict new wounds. Lie very still and know our impotence and seek for God's healing hand. There are the wounds of affliction, but then again there are the wonders of affliction. Even in our most extreme distress we must not give up trust. We should remember that the Lord God shares our life, that the Holy Spirit calls us into intimacy with God.... God's creating and healing Spirit is present to every fiber of our being. [Alfred Delp, from his meditation on the Veni, Sancte Spiritus.[1]]*

Notice what this great priest realizes before his being murdered by the Gestapo: that our wounds are the places where Christ allows us to come closest to Him. Certainly Thomas encountered Jesus in a new way when he touched Jesus' wounds, but Jesus also met Thomas in a new way when the doubting apostles allowed Jesus to touch his wounds!

Why was St. Thomas not in the upper room? A boy once conjectured to Fr. Alford that perhaps Thomas was out shopping, or at the barber, and perhaps St. Thomas was! I think that Thomas is just the kind of guy to have the guts to go out and do necessary things while all the other apostles were petrified in fear. Glancing back to an earlier passage in St. John's Gospel, we see Thomas boldly challenging the other disciples to "go [to Bethany, where Lazarus had died], that we might die with him", with Jesus (John 11:16). He does seem to have been given a greater gift of courage!

Similarly, on an earlier occasion in the upper room, on the evening of Holy Thursday, Jesus told the apostles: "Let not your hearts be troubled ... I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." (John 14:3-4) Recall Thomas's response: "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" It's a good question! It again shows a man with the gumption to follow Jesus, come what may – but with an important caveat – as long as he knows the way.

I suspect all of us are willing to follow Christ when the road is flat, clear, and obvious, but what about when He just says "keep your eyes on me and keep walking", and we can't see a thing? When the storms are crashing around and He asks "Is it enough that I'm in the boat?" What about when I'm about to preach and still have nothing to say? When someone is sick, and nothing is helping? When the day's duties feel heavy, or insignificant, or I feel incapable, or unloved? Are we willing, with Thomas, to step up to Jesus, to see His wounds, and let Him see ours?

*Fr. Dominic Rankin had a nagging thought keeping him up last night. This morning, I'm tired, a little grumpy, and don't really want to talk to Jesus about it. Thankfully, He is persistent in asking me to do so.*

[1] Alfred Delp, *Im Angesicht des Todes: Geschrieben zwischen Verhaftung und Hinrichtung 1944–1945* (Freiburg im Breisgau: Herder-Bücherei, 1958), 150.

## Stewardship of Treasure

### June 24th & 25th

Envelopes:	\$3,799.00
Loose:	\$3,140.00
Maintenance:	\$10.00
Total:	\$6,949.00

### 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!

## Sacraments

### Baptisms

Emarie Janna Quintos  
Child of Eric Quintos & Anna Marie Johnson  
Baptized on June 24, 2023

### Weddings

James Robert Schwank & Carissa Marie Sitki  
Married on June 21, 2023

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## WEEK OF JULY 3

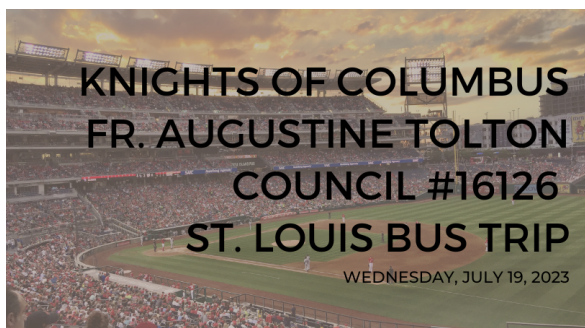
<u>MONDAY</u>	<u>TUESDAY</u>	<u>WEDNESDAY</u>	<u>THURSDAY</u>	<u>FRIDAY</u>	<u>SATURDAY</u>	<u>SUNDAY</u>
Parish Office Closed  No 5:15 PM Mass	Parish Office Closed  Adoration 4:00 PM Church  No 5:15 PM Mass	Men's Bible Study 6:00 AM School Library  Cathedral Bible Study 6:15 PM School Library	Lectio: Eucharist Bible Study 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM School Library  Adoration 4:00 PM Church			

## What's Going on Around the Cathedral?



### First Step and Biking For Babies

If you missed the Baby Bottle Boomerang, it's not too late to support First Step Women's Center. Fr. Dominic Vahling is participating in Biking for Babies and riding in support of First Step. First Step provides confidential, professional, Christian support to women facing an unexpected pregnancy. First Step receives no state or federal funding and relies on individuals, congregations and grants for funding. To support Fr. Dominic's Biking For Babies ride, place your donation in an envelope marked Biking For Babies and put it in the collection basket. Please also join us for the 5:15 Mass on Friday, July 14, with dinner and testimonies to follow.



### 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>



### Fishing With Father - All Are Invited!

Our resident fishing expert, Fr. Alford, invites you to our third annual Fishing With Father event. We'll start our day at 7:30 with Mass in the Villa Maria chapel followed by breakfast snacks, fishing, and a tree climbing Gospel experience with Mercy Tree Adventures. Safely climb a tree using ropes and harness. Sign-up and waivers are available on site at the Villa Maria. Climbers must be age 7 or older. [mercytreeadventures.org](https://mercytreeadventures.org).

# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## 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

## Got Cereal?

St. John's Breadline in Springfield needs donations of cereal to help fight food insecurity, starting with the most important meal of the day! All donations can be brought to the back service delivery door every day from 7 a.m. – 2 p.m.

## Eucharistic Miracles Display

Each week during the month of July, as part of our parish focus on the Eucharistic Revival, we will be displaying Eucharistic Miracles posters in the Cathedral atrium. Each week we will highlight a different part of the world. This week check out the Eucharistic miracles that have occurred in Italy. The display will be changed every Thursday.

## Calling All Cooks

As you may have heard, three teams of Biking For Babies are coming through Springfield and making a stop at the Cathedral. We will be welcoming 33 riders and their crew to 5:15 Mass on Friday July 14, and then providing them with dinner afterwards. We'll also be sending them out the door bright and early the next morning with a good breakfast. If you would be interested in cooking and/or serving dinner or breakfast, please contact Vicki @ [vcompton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:vcompton@cathedral.dio.org) or 217/522-3342. Thank you for supporting these pro-life athletes, including our own Fr. Dominic Vahling!

## Retreat For Married Couples

Worldwide Marriage Encounter presents weekend experiences for married couples to rekindle romance, enhance meaningful communication, and deepen and renew commitment. Sign-up now! For more information or to apply, go to [wwme.org](http://wwme.org) or call Terry & Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317. The next retreat will be held 8/4/2023 – 8/6/2023 in St. Peters, MO.

## 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).

## A Prophet's Reward

"Move back in with us until you save enough for a decent house," my mother told me over and over again as the birth of my second child neared.

My little family was quickly outgrowing our rented space, but the housing market in our area was a nightmare for first-time homebuyers. As appealing as the offer was, I kept refusing, convinced that my mother didn't understand the chaos, disruption, and loss of personal space that such a move would mean for her and my dad.

I was wrong — she did. And eventually she wore me down. When my son was three months old my family of four moved back into my old bedroom. My parents made an office space for my husband in the basement, and they converted their den into a playroom for two of the loudest children you will ever meet. They told us we could stay as long as we needed to (it ended up being two years). They greeted us with love and warmth every morning and never made us feel like we were an inconvenience.

Today's first reading always reminds me of my mom, not because I consider myself a prophet (hardly) but because of the way she received me — specifically, in whose name she received me.

I've always tried to understand exactly what makes my parents' acts of love — toward me, toward each other, toward perfect strangers — feel so genuine. I think, after more than 30 years, I've finally realized the secret: my parents love God more than they love me. They love God more than they love anyone.

Like making room in their life and their home for me and my boisterous family, these acts originate in sacrifice. They don't come cheap. They come from the cross.

*"Whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." — Matthew 10:39*

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

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## Around the Diocese

- **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](https://dio.org/documentary).
- **St. Cabrini's Altar & Rosary Society Annual Garage Sale**, July 13, 14, and 15. 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 7:30 a.m. until noon on Saturday. If you have items you would like to donate, you can bring them to the parish hall on July 10, 11, and 12 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- **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 Barberr 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/](https://springfieldop.org/150years/). For those unable to be present a livestream is offered at [springfieldop.org/livestream/](https://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).