

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

OCTOBER 8, 2023 | TWENTY-SEVENTH 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 5 ISSUE 41

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

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



Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

After having listened to the words of the Gospel proclaimed, the deacon or priest announces: "The Gospel of the Lord", to which we respond with great joy: "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!" At this point, if you pay close attention, the priest or deacon does something unique. He will bend down to kiss the Book of the Gospels (or the Lectionary). If the Bishop is present, and a Book of the Gospels is used, the minister reading the Gospel will bring the Book of the Gospels to the Bishop to kiss the book and impart a blessing. At various times in the Church's history, the ritual action of kissing items during the liturgy was more frequent, but in our current form of the liturgy, the only time a kiss is employed is here and when the altar is kissed at the beginning and end of the Mass.

In doing some research on this kiss, I came across a beautiful reflection on this action from the book *The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass* by Father Nicholas Gihl. He writes:

The Book of the Gospels, or rather, the sacred text of the Gospels in general, represents our divine Savior Himself and was, therefore, ever (the same as the images of Christ) a subject of religious veneration ... After having tasted and experienced in the Gospel how sweet the Lord is, how faultless His doctrine, how good and refreshing His consolations and promises, the heart of the priest overflows with happiness and joy, and he kisses the words of eternal life, in order to testify his profound reverence, his great and ardent love for them. (p. 482)

Even if only the bishop, priest, or deacon kisses the book at this point, all of the faithful can express the overflowing joy and happiness of hearing the Word with our resounding response of "Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ" and a desire, at least in our heart, to kiss the Word of God as well.

Along these lines, it is a pious practice for the faithful that, when concluding their personal reading of the Scriptures, that they physically kiss the Bible as a sign of reverence and gratitude. This is one of the reasons why I much prefer reading Scripture from a physical Bible, not an e-reader or smartphone.

There is one more somewhat hidden thing that happens as the minister kisses the book. He would say quietly: "Through the Words of the Gospel may our sins be wiped away." Although these words are said silently, notice how the petition is that our sins be wiped away, so it is a prayer for all present that the power of the Word of God would bring about a conversion of heart and even wipe our sins away. Of course, this is not a sacramental absolution as with the Sacrament of Reconciliation, but nevertheless, the power of the Word of God is capable of purifying our hearts and turn away from sin.

One final point to consider on this action comes from a series of reflections on the silent prayers of the Mass that I came across a few years ago. These come from a modern spiritual author, Father Boniface Hicks, O.S.B., and when concluding his reflection on this prayer said silently at the end of the Gospel, he offers the following beautiful words that I myself am happy to be reminded of:

This gesture moves his heart outwards to the congregation to whom he prepares to preach. He unites himself with the faithful at this point. He is in need of hearing the Holy Gospel and having his sins wiped away as much as anyone else. The moral unity with the faithful expressed in this prayer can help to overcome the temptation to "face off" with the congregation and to preach at them. To the contrary, he should realize he is in need of the Gospel and even his own homily as much as his people are.

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 9

7am - John W. Montgomery
(John Busciacco)

5:15pm - NO MASS (Columbus Day)

Tuesday, October 10

7am - Amy & Greg Esper
(Daughter)

5:15pm - Karen Bucari
(Alan Bucari)

Wednesday, October 11

7am - Mary Jane Kerns
(Estate)

5:15pm - Deacon Jerry Cato
(Beverly & Larry Smith)

Thursday, October 12

7am - Kenneth Stetyick
(Fr. Zach Edgar)

5:15pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway
(Robert Gasaway)

Friday, October 13

7am - Mildred & Edward Nelson Sr.
(Angela Ohl-Marsters)

5:15pm - Intention for Bianca
(D.A. Drago)

Saturday, October 14

8am - Cathy
(D.A. Drago)

4pm - For the People

Sunday, October 15

7am - Pamela Rose Harmon
(Archie Harmon)

10am - Lambert & Helena Fleck
(The Fleck Family)

5pm - Eulalia & Raymond Ohl
(Angela Ohl-Marsters)



St. John Henry Newman (part 1)

Feast Day: October 9th | Patronage: Poets, Anglican Ordinariate, Converts, Theologians, Scholars | Iconography: Wearing Red Cassock (of Cardinal), or Black Cassock (as Oratorian), and Biretta (as Cleric) or Zucchetto (as Cardinal), sometimes holding Book (as Scholar)

John Henry Newman, the agnostic young man, turned Anglican cleric and scholar at Oxford who then leads a dramatic reform of the Anglican Church only to shockingly convert to Catholicism in the middle of his life (and career) in 1845, only to find himself ostracized by the Catholic Church just as much as by the Anglicans ... he's a hard man to fit onto one page. But we can get to know him as a saint quite quickly. See, the thing with saints is that they live lives just as complicated and filled and up-and-down as all of us, but their lives come to have a focus, a center, a simplicity in the midst of all of it. I think this is actually a good definition of a saint: to live a life centered, grounded, anchored on God, and this is something we can quickly discover in the life of Cd. Newman.

A few biographical threads that will triangulate his heart: In 1816, a few years after his teenage conversion to Evangelical-Calvinism, he had a decisive realization that – though his encounter with Christ was certainly crucial to his eternal salvation – the principal of solo fidei was an insufficient anchor for true faith. There had to be something rock-solid to conform oneself to, something revealed, not just felt, something universal, not just subjective. Faith only survives if it is grounded on dogma.

A second pillar: After going to Oxford, and then becoming an Oxford Don and Anglican Prelate, Newman finds himself attracted inexorably to studying the Fathers of the Church. In the 1830s he began work on one of his famous works, “The Arians of the Fourth Century”, which chronicled the battles throughout the Church over the divinity of Christ, including the period when practically every bishop of the Church had fallen into heresy, with St. Athanasius – and countless lay people – holding fast to the truth ... and the truth prevailing. Tired from this battle of his own, Newman embarks on a sabbatical/journey around the Mediterranean. He was moved by the site of some of the places where St. Paul preached, annoyed by the devotions of the Catholics in Rome, and he got quite ill in Malta.

There he was, quarantined, in a chilly stone building overlooking the cantankerous sea, it was Christmas eve and he had no way to celebrate the Nativity of Christ. Yet down from his window were a group of Maltese Catholics happily celebrating the feast, unhindered by the inclement weather and their isolation. God was planting more seeds than Newman knew, but already this brush with death moved Newman to rededicate his life to the reformation of the Anglican Church. He, and several other men, were convinced that the Anglican Church was sliding too far into “liberalism” (not in a political sense, but insofar as it was drifting too far towards the subjectivism that was already eviscerating the protestant Churches.) They proposed that Anglicanism must instead find its way back to being a “middle way” between Roman Catholicism (too many devotions, too much “popery”) and Liberal Protestantism (which had forgotten the doctrines/creeds of the Church, and the incarnational-sacraments of the Early Church).

Thing was, though many people were convicted by the tracts that they were publishing, and even though Newman especially was ever more clearly articulating and fleshing-out the principals of the Oxford Movement, he was also discovering its weaknesses. It had tried – by choosing the middle way – to avoid the superficiality and flimsiness of liberal Protestantism as well as the devotionism and archaism of the Roman Catholic Church, and to return to the core of Christianity: the doctrines and practices, the biblical and liturgical ardor of the Early Church. They didn't hesitate to call what they were seeking the “Catholic” Church, for they used that word in its original sense: universal. What did the whole Church believe from its beginning, that was what they wanted to hold.

The only problem was that the whole church, the universal church, didn't ascribe to a “via media”, and neither did Jesus Christ Himself. As Newman continued to plum the riches of the Church Fathers, especially the heroic St. Athanasius, he discovered that often heresies were themselves the “middle road” between two extremes, while the truth was actually one of the extremes! Consider the Arian controversy: Arianism claimed Jesus was just a particularly high-creature, not the same essence as God [hetero-ousia]. The other extreme was to say that He was fully God, the same essence [homo-ousia], consubstantial with the Father. The middle-way, the easier road, the balanced one, was to say Christ had a similar substance [homoi-ousia] to the Father. And it's sure easier to hold onto Jesus' humanity if we only have to mesh that with His being similar to the Father, but this middle way is also wrong! Jesus claims: “I and the Father are one” and if He is just similar to the Father then can He really save us?

More to come as Newman followed this Truth through.

Fr. Dominic Rankin leaves you with a hymn that Newman wrote after his dramatic days in Malta, “Lead Kindly Light”. He didn't know, but he would faithfully follow that Light, which was Christ, through a lot of thick and thin in the years to come. So should we. (QR code links to BYU Vocal Point's rendition.)



Stewardship of Treasure

September 31st & October 1st

| | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| Envelopes: | \$6,102.00 |
| Loose: | \$3,172.96 |
| <u>Maintenance:</u> | <u>\$1,996.00</u> |
| Total: | \$11,270.96.00 |

August EFT

\$23,038.80

August Debt Reduction

\$777.00

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

Brooks Thomas Kettelkamp
Child of Zachary & DeAnna Kettelkamp
Baptized on September 30, 2023

Sawyer Grace Martin
Child of Kyle & Aimee Martin
Baptized on October 1, 2023

Deaths

Mary Conway
Date of Death: September 18, 2023

WEEK OF OCTOBER 9

| <u>MONDAY</u> | <u>TUESDAY</u> | <u>WEDNESDAY</u> | <u>THURSDAY</u> | <u>FRIDAY</u> | <u>SATURDAY</u> | <u>SUNDAY</u> |
|-----------------------------|--|---|--|---|-----------------|---|
| Rosary 4:45 PM Church | Adoration 4:00 PM Church The Lamb's Supper Book Discussion 6:30 PM Atrium | Men's Bible Study 6:00 AM School Library Rosary 4:45 PM Church Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM School Classroom | The Case for Jesus Bible Study 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM School Library Adoration 4:00 PM Church Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM School Library | Rosary 4:45 PM Church Seeds of the Word Film Series 7:00 PM Atrium | | The Chosen - Season 3 2:00 PM School Library |

What's Going on Around the Cathedral?



Seeds of the Word Film Series - The Mission

October is a month our Church focuses on dual themes of respect for life and mission. Our Seeds of the Word film selection fits in with both these themes as it tells the story, based on real events, of the tensions between native populations, missionary priests, slave traders and the political powers that attempt to control the land and the people in South America in the mid 1700s. This series is for adults only so you may bring a bottle of wine, or other beverage of your choice, and we'll provide the popcorn!



Fr. Tolton Scholarship Dinner

The Knights of Columbus Council #16126 will be holding the Father Tolton Scholarship Dinner on Saturday, October 21 in the Atrium at the Cathedral. The doors will open at 6 p.m. and dinner will be at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$75 per person. Dinner includes steak, baked potato, vegetable, salad, four whiskey tastings, and dessert. Craft beer, wine and whiskey will be available for purchase. EVENT IS BY RESERVATION ONLY. RESERVATIONS DUE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17. Participants must be 21 or older. Make your reservations online by scanning the QR code, or by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/kofc16126>



ALL SOULS DAY MASS

**THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 2
7:00PM**

All Soul's Day Remembrance

November 2nd is the feast of All Souls. The Church has encouraged prayer for the dead from the earliest times as an act of Christian charity. A special liturgy Mass of Remembrance will be offered at 7:00 pm, Thursday, November 2, 2023 at the Cathedral, devoted to remembering and praying for those who have died during the past year as well as praying for the consolation of the family members who survive and grieve. Please call the parish office at 217-522-3342 if you would like attend and remember a loved one who has died during the past year. We will have a candle prepared and provide you with instructions for lighting the candle during the Mass of Remembrance.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



St. Maurice Baked Turkey Dinner

Please join us at St. Maurice Catholic Church for our Baked Turkey Dinner Drive Thru on Sunday, November 5, 2023 from 2pm-4pm at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Morrisonville, IL. Meal is \$18 and includes baked turkey, dressing, potatoes, gravy, green beans, cranberry salad, and coleslaw. If you have any questions, please contact Marietta Dunkirk at 217-526-4426.

Second Collection - World Mission Sunday

On October 22, as we observe World Mission Sunday, we stand in solidarity with the Missions of the Church in this annual worldwide Eucharistic celebration. Pope Francis reflected on this year's theme: "Hearts on fire, feet on the move." The Holy Father invites us to kindle the fire of Christ's love in our hearts and to actively share this warmth with the world around us. Inspired by the Holy Spirit, we go forth and bring the Good News to all corners of the world. The World Mission Sunday collection assists the Holy Father to meet his Petrine obligation to build up the Church in over 1,100 dioceses and territories that are too young and/or too poor to sustain themselves. Offerings support the formation of seminarians and religious men and women, assist in the construction of schools and orphanages, and enables missionaries to build churches in remote and resource-limited areas, and to meet essential works to proclaim the Gospel and celebrate the Sacraments. Your prayers are invaluable, and your financial support provides life-giving aid to our brothers and sisters in the world's most vulnerable communities.

The Chosen-Season Three

Come watch the third season of The Chosen on the big screen in the Cathedral cafeteria at 2:00pm on Sundays. As always, we'll provide the popcorn! Free and open to all.

St. Louise Bunco

St. Louise is having bunco on 10/22/2023 at Christ the King hall from 2-4pm. The cost is \$10 which includes cookies, snacks and drinks. We will also have a 50/50 and raffle basket tickets available to purchase. All proceeds goes to Catholic Charities. Please call Linda Patterson, at 217-971-1642 for a reservation. It's limited to the first 100 ladies so ask your family and friends and come and have fun!

Grief Share - Bereavement Ministry

The Cathedral 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 7, 1:00-2:30pm 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 contact Berni Ely @ 899-6637 or jackandberni96@yahoo.com or Vicki at 217/522-3342 or vcompton@cathedral.dio.org

Pontifical Mission Societies

I am aware that many worthy charities outside our diocese contact you annually for financial support. In the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois, along with parish and diocesan giving, I am reminding parishes and schools of our policy on Fundraising for Missions and ask for support of the Pontifical Mission Societies (TPMS), which includes: the Society for the Propagation of the Faith, Missionary Childhood Association (MCA), Society of St. Peter the Apostle, and the Missionary Union of Priests and Religious.

In addition to our diocesan policy, Church documents direct that the Pontifical Mission Societies should be given "first place" [*Ad Gentes* no. 38] and "the leading role" [*Redemptoris Missio* no. 84] in the Church's work of missionary formation through their material support, benefitting the poorest in the world. Each of us need to support that work as best we can.

Parishes, schools, and religious education programs may elect to support other worthy charities, but this should be in addition to their works of prayer and sacrifice through the Pontifical Mission Societies. I also ask that you carefully research any additional groups you choose to support to ensure that their work follows Catholic teaching. The Pontifical Mission Societies, given their standing in the Church internationally, are in the position to vet credentials of other Catholic mission relief groups. If you require assistance, contact our diocesan Office for the Missions at 217-698-8500.

Following these guidelines should help better support the universal evangelization efforts of the Church through the Pontifical Mission Societies.

I extend my thanks to those parishes, schools, and religious education programs that already actively participate in the works of these societies. I am ever grateful for your efforts in forming those you serve in the Catholic faith.

Gratefully yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki
Bishop of Springfield in Illinois

40 Days for Life Campaign

The Fall 40 Days for Life campaign is being held from September 27 to November 7. There will be people from various churches in and around Springfield peacefully praying in one hour shifts in front of Planned Parenthood on Bruns Lane every day from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. This is a peaceful prayer event. We need 20 volunteers to help cover Cathedral's day which is Saturday, October 14th. This breaks down to 2 people per hour for the 10 shifts. For more information, please call or text Daphne Southern at 217-638-2805.

Soctober Collection

It's that time of year again - SOCTOBER! The Ladies of the CCCW will once again collect new and gently used (include only those you would accept for your family) socks, hats, and gloves. These items are shared with agencies serving homeless or at risk families and individuals of all ages who are in need. White baskets will be in the Atrium as well as the 6th Street entrance throughout the month of October for your donations. Thank you for your willingness to serve our most vulnerable brothers & sisters!

The Gift that Gives Back

It never ceases to amaze me how often I fall into the trap and end up grumbling about the greatest gifts in my life. A husband, children, a life that is full almost to bursting: these are things for which I once begged God. These are the jewels in the crown of my life.

Oh, but the children need care. Constant care. And a husband — a real flesh-and-blood creation of God, entrusted to me by God, to help me be holy and relying on me for holiness in turn — well, that relationship is a lot of work, isn't it? And a "full life" — I laugh to think of it, and then I blush with shame, because I admit sometimes, I do yearn for a life that is a little less ... full. A full life can leave you awfully tired at the end of the day.

I would imagine it's the same for everyone, no matter your life circumstances or vocation. Your greatest blessings are also those things that require much of you, more than you imagined you would ever be asked to give. The biggest jewels make the crown heavy.

But if we had any of these gifts without the effort it takes to maintain them, would they be half as sweet?

In this same way, the work of the vineyard is opened to us through baptism; we are given the chance to produce fruit for the kingdom. It's a chance we never dared to dream would be given to us.

It's a gift. But just like with any gift worth having, it requires effort. Upkeep. Work.

It requires that we give in return. And it's the giving that somehow, mystically, transforms us. It's the giving that turns into the gift itself.

"...the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit." — Matthew 21:43

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

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Around the Diocese

- **St. Cabrini Church Nativity Festival 2023.** Display your Nativity set...Tell your story...Begin a tradition! To register call 217-522-8555 St. Cabrini Church, 1020 N. Milton Ave. Springfield, IL. All are welcome!
- **Rosary Rally**, October 14, at 1pm, Christ the King Church in Springfield
- **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. Visit www.dio.org for ticket information and more details.
- **Encounter the Psalms**, 7:00 p.m. on Wednesdays: Nov. 8 and Dec. 6. In person at Cor Unum House, 925 N. Fifth Street, Springfield, Ill., or online. Women are invited to join Cor Unum community for this 4-session series on the Book of Psalms. Taught by Old Testament scholar Sister Mila Díaz Solano, OP, the series will initiate participants into the psalmist's world and encourage the exploration of their own lives and world through the psalmist's lens. Free of charge. Advance registration recommended at springfieldop.org/corunum or by calling or texting Sister Beth Murphy, OP, at 312-780-9553.