

# *Cathedral* OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

OCTOBER 15, 2023 | TWENTY-EIGHTH 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 42

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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  
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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!



## Breaking Open the Word

When people are “How was Mass?”, more often than not, they mention something about the homily. Ideally, they will say that they really liked what the homilist preached about. Though, if we are honest, sometimes the comments (though usually not made to the preacher) is that it was too long, or that it was boring, that it did not make sense, or something like that. Interestingly, I don’t know that I’ve ever heard anybody say anything about a homily being too short... Don’t get me wrong, I do appreciate feedback about my preaching, as do many priests. Even though it might be the most memorable thing we take away from Mass, the homily is not the most important part of the Mass.

With that said, the homily is still very important and my above statement is not meant to diminish it’s integral role to the Mass. Here is what the General Instruction of the Roman Missal has to say about the homily:

*The Homily is part of the Liturgy and is highly recommended, for it is necessary for the nurturing of the Christian life. It should be an explanation of some aspect of the readings from Sacred Scripture or of another text from the Ordinary or the Proper of the Mass of the day and should take into account both the mystery being celebrated and the particular needs of the listeners. (GIRM, 65)*

First of all, note the phrase “highly recommended.” Some might read this and think: “Why not omit the homily then?” Two paragraphs later, the GIRM states that a homily is to be given on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation and that “it may not be omitted without a grave reason.” So don’t get your hopes up about not having a homily on Sundays or Holy Days!

The next thing to notice is that the homily is “necessary for nurturing the Christian life.” Pope Benedict XVI expanded on this in his 2007 Apostolic Exhortation on the Eucharist, where he wrote:

*Given the importance of the word of God, the quality of homilies needs to be improved. The homily is “part of the liturgical action”, and is meant to foster a deeper understanding of the word of God, so that it can bear fruit in the lives of the faithful. Hence ordained ministers must “prepare the homily carefully, based on an adequate knowledge of Sacred Scripture”. Generic and abstract homilies should be avoided. In particular, I ask these ministers to preach in such a way that the homily closely relates the proclamation of the word of God to the sacramental celebration and the life of the community, so that the word of God truly becomes the Church’s vital nourishment and support. (Sacramentum caritatis, 46)*

The homily helps us to understand how God’s Word is helping us to more faithfully follow the Lord and live as His disciples in our daily lives. This is a tall task for a preacher, given the variety of ages, states in life, and circumstances of the people to whom he is preaching. But I point this out as something to consider when we listen to a homily that might not “hit home” for us. The chances are very good that somebody in the congregation that day needed to hear what was said. And even if we ourselves were not particularly moved by the homily, we can nevertheless thank God for the hearts that were touched. In either case, the homily should always strengthen our hunger for the Eucharist that we are preparing to receive. In the case that we feel dissatisfied with the homily, that can serve to remind us: “Though I may feel disappointed with the homily, I will not be disappointed with the gift of Jesus I am about to receive.” If we are moved to gratitude with the homily, we bring that thanksgiving with us into the Liturgy of the Eucharist, knowing that the good resolutions, affections, and inspirations received from the homily will only be strengthened by our reception of the Eucharist, thus guarding them in our hearts as we return to our daily lives.

*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 16

7am - Wilbur “Bill” West  
(Carol West)  
5:15pm - Mark Beagles  
(Berni Ely)

### Tuesday, October 17

7am - Jim Kluckman  
(Tom Steil & Sharon Oldfield)  
5:15pm - William F. & Shirley Logan  
(Lisa Logan & Lori Logan Motyka)

### Wednesday, October 18

7am - John & Judith Bakalar  
(John Busciacco)  
5:15pm - Stephanie Sandidge  
(Sue Sandidge)

### Thursday, October 19

7am - Brother Francis Skube  
(Community)  
5:15pm - Vincenzo Giannone  
(Jeannette Giannone)

### Friday, October 20

7am - Mary Jane Kerns  
(Estate)  
5:15pm - John Brunk & Deceased  
Family (Estate)

### Saturday, October 21

8am - Mark Kessler  
(Joe & Betty Kessler)  
4pm - Giovanni M. & Maria Beltramea  
Family (John & Debra Beltramea)

### Sunday, October 22

7am - Mary Ann Midden  
(William Midden)  
10am - Sally Day  
(Jantzen Eddington)  
5pm - For the People





## St. John Henry Newman (part 2)

**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)**

Last time we got through Newman's first conversion to Christianity, but his discovery (over a number of years) of the absolutely necessity for faith to be grounded on truth (and not the kind that can be interpreted however I want), as well as the reality that this truth didn't always fit nicely between two poles; it wasn't the nice, simple, sensible mean-between-extremes, sometimes God asks us to follow Him off the edge.

1845: Newman writes "An Essay on the Development of Christian Doctrine." He began it as an even deeper dive into the Church Fathers to prove for himself once and for all that the doctrines, devotions, practices, and accretions of the Roman Catholic Church

were aberrations from the original Christian beliefs and practices. And the more he studied the more he discovered that each and every quibble or complaint he could throw at the Roman Church could be traced back to fledgling ideas that the Church had always held.

And so, in his little study at Littlemore, having stepped back from the Oxford Movement (really, his catholic-tendencies had caused him to be driven from it), Newman fell on his knees before the fiery little Passionist priest, Fr. Dominic Barberi, and was received into the Catholic Church. Rain streamed down outside, Newman's friends and colleagues abandoned him, and perhaps his mind went back to Malta, where he was also wet and alone ... but wasn't this far worse? He had chosen Christ, and immediately gotten the cross. Wasn't there supposed to be a honeymoon-period?

1846: Newman studied for the Catholic priesthood in Rome. He had to re-memorize the bible because they used a different translation... He felt rather silly among the youthful, naïve seminarians... He banged his head on Pope Pius IX's knee when trying to bow before him. You get the picture, but he was ordained a priest, and returns to England founding an oratory (after the model of St. Philip Neri) of priests to live in community.

1854: He is tapped to be the rector of the new Catholic University of Ireland, a project that was befuddled by all sorts of disagreements, and candidly Newman was a poor leader amidst those challenges. He writes a tremendous essay that orients the whole project, "The Idea of a University", proposing that such a place of education is not merely to impart knowledge but to fashion virtuous individuals ... but it still kind of went up in flames and Newman goes back to his oratory in disgrace.

1859: He writes a famous piece "On Consulting the Faithful in Matters of Doctrine" to flesh out an idea he had floated in his magazine, the Rambler. He wasn't claiming that the faithful defined, or dictated, the Church's beliefs, but that one could take a read on what the faithful believed overall and discover the Church's faith in that. Like one consults a watch, or a doctor consults the pulse of his patient, to discover what is already there. Just so, one could consider the entirety of the Church, especially her littlest and humblest members, even during the worst crises (think back to those years when Arianism ran rampant among the leadership of the Church) and find that they still had a sense of where the truth actually was. Of course, the idea ruffled feathers and raised eyebrows and Newman began to be sidelined by Catholics even more.

1864: He responds to the sarcasm and scorn of Charles Kingsley, putting words on the reason for his conversion from Anglicanism to Catholicism. (I've tried to offer some of the bigger contours of this auto-biography in these articles.) This work actually restored his credibility in many ways in both Anglican and Catholic spheres. He lays bare his academic nature and quest for truth all through the history of the Church, and while whipped about by so many different controversies and challenges of his own day.

1870: He writes "An Essay in Aid of a Grammar of Assent", a dense work, basically describing how the things that are most important to us – the love of a friend, the beauty of autumn, the presence of God – can never be scientifically proven, nor even described. No, all these sorts of things marvelously convince and captivate us by innumerable smaller considerations in their favor, not one bullet-proof argument.

1879: years later, when made a cardinal, he would describe this entire journey: "For thirty, forty, fifty years I have resisted to the best of my powers the spirit of liberalism in religion. ... Liberalism in religion is the doctrine that there is no positive truth in religion, but that one creed is as good as another, and this is the teaching which is gaining substance and force daily. It is inconsistent with any recognition of any religion, as true. It teaches that all are to be tolerated, for all are matters of opinion. Revealed religion is not a truth, but a sentiment and a taste; not an objective fact, not miraculous; and it is the right of each individual to make it say just what strikes his fancy."

Sometimes our call is faithfulness. Not success, not comfort, not following the obvious road, but trudging after the Master as he takes the narrow-way. So it was for Newman, but there was grace enough on the way to carry him through!

*Fr. Dominic Rankin leaves you with another hymn that Newman wrote, this one an extract from a poem after his conversion, the "Dream of Gerontius" which follows a dying man as he makes his way through temptation, death, and purgatory and up to paradise with God. You've probably heard it before: Praise to the Holiest in the Height.*



## Stewardship of Treasure

### October 7th & 8th

Envelopes:	\$5,963.00
Loose:	\$4,157.00
Maintenance:	\$195.00
Total:	\$10,315.00

### September EFT

\$19,431.80

### September Debt Reduction

\$1,334.00

### September Second Collections

Church in Africa  
\$2,922.00

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 Weddings

Ryan Johnson & Rachel Jennings  
Married on October 7, 2023

## WEEK OF OCTOBER 16

<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  Bible Study 6:00 PM Parish Library  Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM School Classroom	Adoration 4:00 PM Church  Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM School Library	Rosary 4:45 PM Church	K of C Scholarship Dinner 7:00 PM Atrium	The Chosen - Season 3 2:00 PM School Library

## What's Going on Around the Cathedral?



**Knights of Columbus** **FATHER TOLTON COUNCIL**

### Father Tolton Scholarship Dinner

Saturday, October 21, 2023  
7 - 11 p.m., Cathedral Atrium  
\$75 per person

MAKE RESERVATIONS  
<https://tinyurl.com/kofc16126>

For more information, visit our website at [www.kofc16126.org](http://www.kofc16126.org)

### 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 to 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.

## 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!

## 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

## 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.

## 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!

## 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](mailto:jackandberni96@yahoo.com) or Vicki at 217/522-3342 or [vcompton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:vcompton@cathedral.dio.org).

## The Wedding Garment

I like to think that any self-respecting doomsday prepper would find something to admire in my van's stores of extra clothes, snacks, boredom-busting toys, sunscreen, and seasonal outerwear. You never know when you're going to pass a free splash pad or a particularly amazing sledding hill. And you never know when one of the kids is going to find the world's most irresistible mud pile or fall into a river.

All this pre-planning for fun and disaster, and still, I usually devote a fraction of that effort to spiritual preparedness.

I swap out my traveling first-aid kit every season, imagining hypothetical emergencies — and I push confession off another week. "I haven't committed any mortal sins," I tell myself, "And I'm just so busy."

I shove extra outfits into my car's trunk on the off-chance my son decides to paint himself in Go-Gurt — and I shrug off the daily examinations of conscience that could help me overcome a persistent sin.

I stock my purse with bags of Cheerios to ward off sneaky attacks of kid hunger — and I fall asleep without saying the Rosary, murmuring to myself: "I'm so tired. Mary understands."

I am overwhelmed by the here-and-now, consumed by the minutiae of earthly life, that I forget there is only one eventuality I — or any of us — can expect with any certainty. We will all be invited to the feast.

Is my van stocked for that?

*"The king said to him, 'My friend, how is it that you came in here without a wedding garment?'" — Matthew 22:12*

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

©LPi

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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!
- **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](http://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](http://springfieldop.org/corunum) or by calling or texting Sister Beth Murphy, OP, at 312-780-9553.