

# *Cathedral* OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

**JUNE 9, 2024 | TENTH 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 6 ISSUE 23

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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

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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!



## The Next Chapter

Last summer, when I began my series on praying the Mass, I honestly had no idea how long it would last. I thought perhaps it might take me into the Fall, or possibly the beginning of Advent at the latest. As it turns out, it pretty much took an entire year to complete the series. There were, understandably, a few breaks that I needed to take for various reasons, but overall, it was pretty much one article after the next, making our way slowly but surely through the Mass.

I have been very encouraged by the feedback that I have received from many of you on the series. It demonstrates to me that the Holy Spirit was prompting me to take on this labor of love because it was something needed by the Church. As you know, many of the most profound insights came from sources other than myself, so I cannot claim any specific credit for anything that may have been moving to you, but I am grateful for the opportunity that the Lord has given to me to have this vehicle for sharing something so important for us as Catholics, which is praying the Mass well. This time of Eucharistic Revival is far more than just explaining our belief in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. To be sure, that is important, and I hope many Catholics throughout our country have experienced a renewed appreciation for this important truth of our faith. But a desire of those responsible for crafting the goals of the Eucharistic Revival was to highlight the treasure of the Sacred Liturgy. If it is true that the Mass is the “source and summit of the Christian life”, then a renewal in our love for this gift is essential to the success of this special time for the Church in the United States.

As this series on praying the Mass was nearing completion, I found myself both joyful and a bit nervous. As I said, this series has been a labor of love, and now that it is done, I am so thankful for the experience. But then I face the question: “What’s next?” Is there another series planned? At this point, that answer is no. But, I do not want to put limits on what the Holy Spirit may prompt me to do, so do not be surprised if something comes along. In the meantime, I am content to take these articles one week at a time. This is where that nervousness comes in! With a defined series, it was somewhat easy to know what the topic of the next article would be. Of course, each article required a fair amount of thinking, praying, and researching, but to have a general direction took a lot of pressure off. Now, I will return to where I’ve been in the past, most likely, praying each week: “Lord, what do you want me to say?” The Lord always provides, so that brings me comfort, even as I experience a little nervousness.

By the time you read this, I will have just finished attending our annual Priests Retreat with Bishop Paprocki and several other of our diocesan priests. It was on that retreat last year when I really received the inspiration for this series. Who knows if the Lord has something in store for me again? One thing I know for sure about retreat (which is a little strange to think about given that I am writing this before retreat), I will be giving thanks to God for the gift of serving you as Rector of the Cathedral. On July 1, I will be beginning my 5th year here, which will officially make it the longest parish assignment I have ever had. In many ways, these have been some of the most fulfilling and happiest years I have known as a priest, and much of that I credit to your loving support and encouragement of me and my brother priests. And speaking of my brother priests, I think that is possibly the greatest gift of these past four years that have made for such fulfillment, the gift of priestly fraternity that we have here at the Cathedral Rectory, under the spiritual fatherhood of Bishop Paprocki, who has truly been a father, a brother, and a friend to me and my brother priests. Please continue to pray for us each day, as we happily do so for you!

### Mass Intentions

#### Monday, June 10

7am - Thomas R. McGee  
(Mike & Kathy Harth)  
5:15pm - Brother Frances Skube  
(Friends)

#### Tuesday, June 11

7am - Helena Marie Fleck  
(Greg & Marie Fleck)  
5:15pm - Anna Geraldine Gasaway  
(Robert Gasaway)

#### Wednesday, June 12

7am - Bill Vogt  
(Family)  
5:15pm - Betty L. Rogers  
(Family)

#### Thursday, June 13

7am - William F. Logan  
(Lisa Logan & Lori Logan Motyka)  
5:15pm - Katherine Jobin  
(Steve & Vicki Stalcup)

#### Friday, June 14

7am - Mary Eleanor Maloy  
(Modonna Fluckiger)  
5:15pm - Intention for Bianca  
(D.A. Drago)

#### Saturday, June 15

8am - Bill Vogt  
(Susie & Larry Lovekamp)  
4pm - Thomas R. McGee  
(Stephanie Phillips)

#### Sunday, June 16

7am - Edward Wisniewski  
(Don Wisniewski)  
10am - For the People  
5pm - Raymond & Eulalia Ohl  
(Angela Ohl- Marsters)

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



## St. Columba

Feast Day: June 9th

Legend has it that one of the first High Kings of Ireland was the suitably named Niall of the Nine Hostages. It was his roving bands of pirates who captured a young Padraik and held him hostage for 6 years before his escape, and then return, to bring the Gospel back to the Emerald Isle. One of Niall's great-great-grandsons, a century after the great apostle of Ireland, was Columba. Born into the still-royal family, though now also surrounded by a Christian culture with schools and monasteries to form his early years, he had every comfort his world could offer.

(I often forget how early that all this happened. St. Patrick was born in England when Britain was still ruled by Rome. When he was bringing the faith to Ireland, the Franks had still not received the Gospel in France and the Council of Chalcedon had still not cemented the Church's understanding of Christ's Divine Personhood and divine and human natures. St. Columba, even a century later, 521-597 AD, still lived while St. Benedict was founding his monastery at Monte Cassino, Muhammad was born in Arabia, and Pope St. Gregory the Great sent missionaries to England, which, despite St. Patrick's coming from there was still predominantly pagan.)

St. Columba was talented, intelligent, strongly built and a natural leader, but he chose to leave behind the comforts of a regal heritage in Donegal and commit himself to the austerities of the life of a monk. His skills were quickly manifested and he founded monastery after monastery around Ireland, most famously at Derry. They were places of prayer and consecrated life, agriculture and art, study and education, peace and prosperity. Well, until Columba messed it all up.

He had returned to the Abbey at Movilla where he had begun his studies and surreptitiously made a copy of the treasured psalter kept there by Finnian, who had brought it back from Rome, one of the famous translations by St. Jerome. To loop back to St. Patrick for a moment: during his life Jerome's translation had been completed, but it had yet to reach ubiquity around Europe so sometimes St. Patrick quoted the scriptures from earlier translations. Of course, Finnian was quite proud then to have this bible, and Columba was quite interested in getting a copy of it despite Finnian refusing him that permission. Our gutsy, not yet saintly, Irish monk copied a section every night, and had the whole psalter ready to take with him when he prepared to depart but then the truth came out.

Finnian accused Columba of disobedience. Columba claimed he did nothing wrong in copying the bible. The High King was asked to adjudicate the decision, Diarmait mac Cerbaill, the last High King to be inaugurated by pagan ritual, by this time it seems a Christian, and in any case a relative of Columba. Still, in the earliest recorded judgement on copyright infringement, he sided with Finnian. Columba was furious, and the details are muddy, but it seems that in the midst of some sort of contest of strength one of the Northern O'Naill's (Columba's side) injured or killed one of the southern O'Naill's (Diarmait's side, perhaps his son), and fled to Columba's monastery for protection. Despite the inalienable right of sanctuary, Diarmait dragged the man out and killed him. And so began the Battle of Cúl Dreimhne, with thousands dead at the end of it, and Columba choosing a self-imposed exile to Scotland to do penance. He would build many monasteries there, became known for his holiness and wisdom, convert the King of the Pict's to Christianity, and – fitting given what had brought him there in the first place – help to mediate disputes among the warring clans, and continued to transcribe books until his death.

Oh, and there was one famous time while working to convert King Brude that Columba came upon a group (of still pagan Picts) burying a man who had just been killed by a "water beast" in the River Ness. Columba touched the man, bringing him back to life, but knew the people needed a greater sign of Christ's power to come to belief. He directed one of his young monks to swim the river. The Brother, Lugne Mocumin, leapt into the water and to the dismay of the crowd immediately attracted the beast. Columba calmly strode to the bank, made the sign of the cross and commanded the monster to stop, which it did instantaneously.

His Irish temper had, at long last, been yoked to Christ.

*Fr. Dominic Rankin some months ago heard a podcast by the apologist, and polymath, Jimmy Akin about the Loch Ness monster. Unfortunately, these days, it seems unlikely we have a dinosaur still living there, and though eel DNA is present in large amounts, we don't have strong evidence for a giant eel living in the loch at the moment. So we don't know what monster Columba faced that day, but we do know that he converted the Picts, which would be able to assimilate with the southern (already Christian) tribes, uniting Scotland a generation later.*

## Stewardship of Treasure

### June 1st & 2nd

Collection numbers for last weekend were unavailable at the time of publication. Please check back next weekend for these collection numbers.

### May EFT

\$18,520.04

### May Debt Reduction

\$462.00

### May Second Collections

Catholic Communications Campaign

\$2,441.44

Retired Diocesan Priests

\$4,410.44

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 10

<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	Men's Bible Study 6:00 AM School Library  Rosary 4:45 PM	Summer Bible Study - Fearless & Free 1:00 PM School Library  Adoration 4:00 PM Church	Rosary 4:45 PM Church		

### What's Going on Around the Cathedral?



#### **National Eucharistic Pilgrimage**

Walk with Jesus in our city streets in an unprecedented experience! You are invited to join the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage, coming to seven cities in our diocese July 8-12! This is a once-in-a-lifetime experience in which Catholics will pray and publicly follow Jesus through Eucharistic processions. Cities include Collinsville, Alton, Quincy, Girard, Springfield, Effingham, and Teutopolis. Mass, adoration, potluck dinners, and powerful witness talks are also part of the experience. BE THERE WHEN GOD MOVES IN YOUR COMMUNITY! Go to [dio.org](http://dio.org) to learn more and register!

# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Called and Sent

Join other high school students in our diocese for a 4 day/3 night retreat from July 14-17 at the Villa Maria Retreat Center in Springfield. Encounter Jesus in a new, deep, and meaningful way. Have loads of fun and enjoy the beautiful views at this lakeside retreat house. To register, go to [dio.org/events](http://dio.org/events). For questions, contact Daniel Heffernan at [dheffernan@dio.org](mailto:dheffernan@dio.org).

## Bulletin Reflections - Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist

Calling all Catholics! Have you experienced Jesus in the Eucharist and it touched your heart? Maybe a homily was particularly moving and renewed your belief in our Eucharistic Lord so that when you received Him that Mass, you felt His presence. Maybe you frequent Eucharistic Adoration and Jesus is moving in you, encouraging you to share Him with others. Maybe a Eucharistic miracle story or a procession of the Blessed Sacrament left you in wonder and awe at the profound goodness of God. Maybe it was something totally different. Why not share it? We're inviting you to write a brief reflection on "Encountering Jesus in the Eucharist" to be featured in our bulletin! Leading up to the National Eucharistic Congress held in Indianapolis, Indiana in July, we want to share our own stories of Jesus in the Eucharist. Please submit your reflection with a title and short bio about yourself to [hutton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:hutton@cathedral.dio.org).

## 100 Not Impossible Catholic Trivia Questions

How well do you know our faith, the history of the Church, the sacraments, the bible, Catholic tradition, and more? Take the test! Go to [youtube.com/diospringfield](http://youtube.com/diospringfield) or search "Dive Deep" on all the major podcast platforms to listen and subscribe. Dive Deep is the podcast of the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.

## Livestreamers Wanted

It is a tremendous service to our housebound parishioners to be able to offer a livestreamed Mass on Sunday mornings at 10:00am. We are in great need of more volunteers who can offer this service. It's fun and easy! We'll train you and you can serve at your convenience. Please contact the parish office at 217-522-3342 if you can serve your parish in this way.

## Available Now! Print and Digital Ad Spaces

Build your business and help us grow a vibrant faith community! Brandy Stivers from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be securing new ads for our church in the coming weeks. As a valuable member of the business community, we invite you to expand your reach and grow your business with a print ad in our parish bulletin and/or a digital ad featured on [ParishesOnline.com](http://ParishesOnline.com). Email Brandy at [bstivers@4lpi.com](mailto:bstivers@4lpi.com) for more information or to get started!

## Cathedral Summer Bible Study for Women

The Cathedral will be sponsoring a summer Bible Study for Women, Thursday afternoons, 1:00-2:30.

Living In The Father's Love - In a world where women are measured by their beauty, achievements, and possessions, wouldn't it be nice to find a place where you could just be valued for who you are? Living in the Father's Love will lead you to that safe place where you are unconditionally loved, baggage and all. This brief but powerful Bible study is the ideal way to revive and refresh yourself. Discover just how much God loves us and how the gospels are deeply relevant to our relationship with God and with those we love.

6 weeks, July 25- Aug 29, \$20 workbook.

Call the Cathedral @ 217/522-3342 or email [vcompton@cathedral.dio.org](mailto:vcompton@cathedral.dio.org) to reserve your spot and order a workbook.

## In the Family Way

Look here: there is no one more family-oriented than me. I drive a minivan. I wear mom jeans. I wipe unidentified gunk off of kids' faces without a second thought.

I'm all about family, but I'm not always a fan of what "family" has come to mean in the modern lexicon. Family values. Family-friendly. Family-oriented. It's usually a synonym for "non-offensive." Soft. Moderate. Nice.

It's all fine, I suppose. But is it genuine? Creating a family, bringing that family physically into the world, was the hardest and most painful thing I ever did. The care and keeping of that family — the teamwork with my spouse, the feeding and watering of the children, the teaching of the writing and the reading and praying — it's very hardcore. It's not all stuffed animals and peekaboo. It's a mental, spiritual, and physical challenge that daily brings me to my knees.

I'm not even talking exclusively about parenting young children. I'm talking about being part of a family in any way — being a son, being a daughter, being a sister and cousin and uncle. Families are complicated and strange and messy. Sometimes boundaries need to be drawn, or they need to be crossed. Sometimes walls need to be put up or torn down. It's never easy. It's never simple.

But I've never known someone who didn't want to be part of a family in some way, whether that's a blood family or one created by circumstance. And there's a reason Christ creates a family ("Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother") and not a club.

A family is a crucible, yes — but what comes out is so much more beautiful than what went in. For all the effort and even pain that is sometimes involved in a family relationship, there is nothing more defining, more fulfilling.

We are part of Christ's family, and what we can expect from that is certainly not a life of simple, clear-cut, undemanding discipleship. We can expect confusion. We can expect discomfort. But we can expect to be perpetually drawn to the heart of one who loves us without hesitation, without condition.

In the end, we're family.

*"Here are my mother and my brothers." — Mark 3:33*

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman  
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## Around the Diocese

- **St. Cabrini's Altar & Rosary Society Annual Garage Sale**, July 11, 12, and 13 at the parish hall, 1020 N. Milton Ave., Springfield, from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 7:30 a.m. until noon on Saturday. Donations will be accepted on July 8, 9, and 10 from 7:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- **National Eucharistic Congress, July 17-21 in Indianapolis, IN.** Participate in beautiful liturgies, lift your voice in prayer alongside world-class musicians, hear from the most influential Catholic speakers of our day, and make history as part of the first National Eucharistic Congress in nearly 100 years. This is the beginning of a new chapter of faith in America. Register at [eucharisticcongress.org](http://eucharisticcongress.org).
- **Save the Date for the SDCCW 95th Annual Convention**, August 28, 2024 at the Lake Williamson Retreat Center in Carlinville, IL. More details will follow!
- **Pilgrimage to Poland and Prague, Budapest and Vienna** with Fr. Dean Probst and Fr. Michael Berndt, Oct. 14-25, 2024. Cost is \$3197/person. Contact Fr. Dean at 217-494-6326 phone/text or [rdprobst@gmail.com](mailto:rdprobst@gmail.com) for a complete brochure or any questions. There are 12 spaces left for the group.