

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

JUNE 16, 2024 | ELEVENTH 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 6 ISSUE 24

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 DAVID BEACH

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

STEVEN KEHOE
BOOKKEEPER
SKEHOE@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!

The mission of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield in Illinois is to build a fervent community of intentional and dedicated missionary disciples of the Risen Lord and steadfast stewards of God's creation who seek to become saints. Accordingly, the community of Catholic faithful in this Diocese is committed to the discipleship and stewardship way of life as commanded by Christ Our Savior and as revealed by Sacred Scripture and Tradition. (Synod Declaration 1a)

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.



Year of Mission

When the National Eucharistic Revival was launched, the plan called for three distinct phases: 1. Year of Diocesan Renewal, 2. Year of Parish Renewal, and 3. Year of Mission. Having just two weeks ago celebrated Corpus Christi Sunday, we have embarked on this third phase focusing on Mission. Key events that will kickstart this year will be the National Eucharistic Pilgrimage (currently taking place) and the National Eucharistic Congress in Indianapolis next month.

Although I do not plan to do an entire year-long series on mission, I do want to take some time reflecting on mission as our country focuses on this final phase of the Eucharistic Revival. The first question that might be asked is: What is our mission? Many churches and organizations go through the process of crafting a mission statement to summarize what they are all about as an organization. The work of preparing this statement can be a fruitful exercise. Perhaps you may wonder: Does the Cathedral have a mission statement? As a matter of fact, we do! It was not the fruit, however, of a long period of discernment among parishioners and our pastoral council. Rather, our mission statement has, in a sense, been handed to us, wrapped up as a nice gift. What I am talking about is the Mission Statement that was decided on as a result of our Fourth Diocesan Synod in 2017. Here is what the Synod came up with:

The mission of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield in Illinois is to build a fervent community of intentional and dedicated missionary disciples of the Risen Lord and steadfast stewards of God's creation who seek to become saints. Accordingly, the community of Catholic faithful in this Diocese is committed to the discipleship and stewardship way of life as commanded by Christ Our Savior and as revealed by Sacred Scripture and Tradition. (Synod Declaration 1a)

One might read this and think, "That's the mission statement for the diocese, but what about the Cathedral Parish?" My response is that it is one and the same. As a parish in the Diocese of Springfield (incidentally also the mother parish of the diocese) it seems unnecessary to think of our mission as different than what has been given for the entire diocese as our mission. So I have no problem simply accepting this overarching mission for the diocese as our mission for this parish. To be sure, how that mission is put into practice will look different in each parish, but I think it is important to be clear on what our starting point is as we move forward.

Therefore, in this Year of Mission, we will be praying about and discerning how the Eucharist will be the "source and summit" of our mission, fueling us with God's grace to live as His missionary disciples, then returning to the Eucharist each Sunday to give thanks for His many blessings which we offer to Him for the work of building His Kingdom.

As I said, I do not necessarily intend to spend the entire year just on this topic, but it is a theme I would like to give a significant amount of time to in my articles and in our efforts here over the next year.

Now seems to be a fitting time to remind everybody of the invitation that I made a couple of years ago, to pray three Hail Mary's a day for the following intentions: the parish, the clergy of the parish, and ourselves individually. All of us play a role in this mission, so it is good for us to ask Mary's intercession each day to help all of us in embracing this Year of Mission with faith, hope, and love.

Mass Intentions

Monday, June 17

7am - James Contrite
(Litina Carnes)
5:15pm - Richard Stalcup
(Steve & Vicki Stalcup)

Tuesday, June 18

7am - Mary Conway
(Tom Conway)
5:15pm - Special Intention for Supportive
Friends (John & Debra Beltramea)

Wednesday, June 19

7am - Doris Drago
(D.A. Drago)
5:15pm - Dr. Gregory Fred Guzasky
(Bev & Larry Smith)

Thursday, June 20

7am - Deceased Members of the
Crowley Family (Celeste Crowley)
5:15pm - Karen Bucari
(Alan Bucari)

Friday, June 21

7am - Brother Francis Skube
(Friends)
5:15pm - William F. Logan & Shirley
Logan (Lisa Logan & Lori Motyka)

Saturday, June 22

8am - Mary Jane Kerns
(Estate)
4pm - Pamela Harmon
(Archie Harmon)

Sunday, June 23

7am - For the People
10am - Sandra Grant
(Lou Ann Mack)
5pm - Deceased members of the CCCW
(CCCW)

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



St. John Francis Regis, SJ

Feast Day: June 16th

About as far south as you can get in France without falling into the Mediterranean, or becoming Spain, is a little town named Fontcouverte. The population only crested 500 souls in the early 2000s, so in large part it looks just as picturesque as it did a few hundred years ago – simple brick homes, their copper-colored tile roofs gleaming as the sun sets, all of it perched on the side of the hill they call “La Vade”, and named after the Fontcael which flows out from the village.

Probably that little place was as unscathed as one could be amidst the civil war tearing France apart in the late 1500s, but the unity and patriotism and confidence in the monarchy that had swelled in the years after St. Joan of Arc, had been all but shattered now 150 years later by the atrocities committed by Catholics against Protestants and vice versa. It’s true that right as Jean- François was born a truce was finally established as Henry IV secured the throne in 1598 (he, a Protestant, converting to Catholicism in order to do so, then re-establishing Catholicism as the religion of the realm, albeit granting the Huguenots/Protestants religious liberty). Little Jean’s dad had been part of the Catholic League which had fervently fought against King Henry until his conversion, so the family had gained a bit of noble standing from his service in that war. This means that Jean was blessed with both a rich, and a firmly Catholic, education. He was growing up where many of the Protestants in France had settled, so though the country as a whole was 90% Catholic, his early years were certainly impacted by that disparity of faith all around him, and even if the war was over, the shells of burned churches and stories of murdered priests were not far in his past.

Growing up, he was inspired by the Jesuits who taught in his school, especially the stories of the great Jesuit missionaries like St. Francis Xavier who had died just 50 years before. The age of martyrs, of course, was not over (still isn’t, and never will be as it turns out for anyone who follows a Crucified Savior): Jean de Brébeuf was born just a few years before Jean- François, and Isaac Jogues would be born less than ten years after him, (all of these Jesuits from France). During his decade-plus of formation in the Society of Jesus, our Jean grew rapidly into a tremendous teacher of the faith, besides exemplifying a deep and wholehearted devotion to God as well as a tender heart for the poor and hurting. Surely these were the skills and gifts needed for a world – rapidly expanding – in which so many unknown people had never heard the Gospel. But when he was finally ordained a priest in 1632 his assignment was ... to Montpellier, that’d be about 70 miles up the coast from where he was born, and his task ... to work with fallen-away Catholics in those areas ravaged by the civil war the century before.

It wasn’t as glamorous as Francis Xavier, and he wasn’t going to come home mutilated or martyred as would Brébeuf and Jogues and so many others. Nope, he was going to hear confessions before and after his morning Mass, visit the prisons and hospitals in the afternoon, try to get people to come to his formation-conferences in the evenings and try amidst the long days to exude kindness and compassion to widows, orphans, and others who had been neglected, or wounded, by the Church in all those horrible years before. He would endure not foreign jungles or horrendous passages across the ocean, just harsh winters and discouraging turnouts. He just went town to town and preached the Gospel – his words were poetic and moving when preaching at Mass, substantial but simple when he taught the faith on other occasions – and he just traveling ahead of his bishop to try and prepare people to hear from their shepherd and help them return to the sacraments after years far from them. His was the life and work of a pretty typical parish priest of today.

And then one day, in front of the Church in Saint-Andé (a bit further south than even Fontcouverte), someone asked everyone who they were waiting for, and they said they were waiting for “the saint.” That’d be ‘Saint’ (not yet canonized, not yet dead) John Francis Regis who was coming for another parish mission. His simple words, sacrificial love, and prayerfulness had made an impact after all! And not like 50 years later either! Eight years after being ordained and beginning his circuit around that diocese he had a premonition that he wasn’t going to live much longer. He put his affairs in order, continued to preach about God’s love, and right after Christmas of 1640, he knew he was in his final hours. He spent December 31st looking on the crucifix and simply prayed “Into thy hands I commend my spirit” before taking his final breath that evening.

Fr. Dominic Rankin is immensely inspired by this “ordinary” saint. Heroic virtue does not mean martyrdom or baptizing thousands; it mostly means consistent prayer, persevering in charity, and enduring the day’s burdens. All of us can manage that!

Stewardship of Treasure

June 1st & 2nd

Envelopes:	\$6,266.00
Loose:	\$3,000.35
Maintenance:	\$952.00
Total:	\$10,218.35

June 8th & 9th

Envelopes:	\$5,834.00
Loose:	\$3,772.25
Maintenance:	\$73.00
Total:	\$9,679.25

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!

Sacraments

Baptisms

Ava Michelle Sgambelluri
Child of Robert Sgambelluri & Alexandra Hurtado
Baptized on June 9, 2024

Meyers Cruz Turasky
Child of John & Kelsey Turasky
Baptized on June 9, 2024

WEEK OF JUNE 17

<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 Men's Bible Study 6:15 PM Parish Library	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?

CCCW and K of C Scholarship Winners

Congratulations to the following students, who were awarded the CCCW and K of C Scholarship for 2024: Sophia Gunter, John Kessler, Thomas Southern, Connor Thompson, Liam Thompson, and Josephine Tozer. The following students drew a picture of Jesus teaching the children and were also awarded the CCCW and K of C Scholarship for 2024: Mychael De Walt, Peyton Harris, Luke Kessler, and Emma Tozer. Congratulations to all!



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 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. For questions, contact Daniel Heffernan at 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

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 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.

Diocesan Woman of Distinction Award

The Cathedral Council of Catholic Women has nominated Patty Broyles as the Woman of Distinction representing the Cathedral Parish. Please congratulate and thank Patty for her years of service to the parish and the community.

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 to reserve your spot and order a workbook.

Sprucing up the School Hall

Calling all students who need service hours, or just want to do a good deed! We are looking for volunteers to wash the chairs and tables in the school hall starting at 9:00 am til noon on Tuesday, June 25. A second date is set for July 9 if needed. All supplies will be provided, as well as refreshments. Come for any amount of time you are available during these hours.



“Thank You for Bringing Christ to Me Today.”

Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist are blessed with a most holy privilege and responsibility. We are to bring the presence of Jesus Christ to the bedside of hospitalized patients. To do so is to create an opportunity for Jesus Christ to invite patients to “dine with Him.” Patients who accept this invitation open the door to their souls to receive God’s blessings of spiritual comfort, peace and strength when they are most in need of those gifts.

As a volunteer Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist, I have been deeply humbled countless times to serve as a participant in, and a witness to, such personal encounters of Jesus with patients suffering from illness, injury or infirmity. I had been serving as an Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist in hospital settings for about two years when the spiritual depth and radiance of this gift from God was revealed through the faith of a very special patient.

I had the privilege of serving him with the Holy Eucharist approximately 15 times during a series of hospital stays for medical care over a two- to three-year period. He was always gracious in his welcome to Jesus. He prayed the Our Father with reverence to prepare his soul to receive the Body of Christ. With humility, he prayed, “Lord, I am not worthy You should enter under my roof, but only say the word and I shall be healed.” He was always grateful for the brief spiritual reflections that closed out our visits.

At one-point, I had gone a rather long stretch without encountering him on my list of assigned patients. I missed seeing him. So, I was surprised when his name appeared on my patient roster after this gap in our visits. I was told at the nursing desk the patient was able to receive Holy Communion, but that he was quite tired following a recent medical procedure.

When I arrived at his room, the door was barely open. The room was dimly lit. His eyes were closed. As I introduced myself, he recognized my voice and welcomed me with a whisper. I prayed the Our Father as he listened to prepare his soul to receive the Eucharist. Then, upon hearing “This is the Body of Christ,” his eyes opened ever so slightly as he whispered, “Amen.”

Our visit closed with a brief prayer for God’s blessings of spiritual and physical comfort and strength. I then said good-bye before turning away to leave. Just before stepping into the corridor, came his very clear and surprisingly energized voice. “Thank you,” he said, “for bringing Christ to me today!”

It was then that God revealed to me the depth of the spiritual, faith-enriching blessings the Holy Eucharist brings to the souls of those in hospitals or other healthcare facilities. It was also that instant when God opened my eyes to His gratitude for those who serve our faith as Extraordinary Ministers of the Holy Eucharist by nurturing a deeper faith within the souls of all to whom they bring the presence of Jesus Christ.

Ed McDowall is a member of St. Agnes Parish in Springfield who regularly attends weekday Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. He has served as an Extraordinary Minister of the Holy Eucharist for hospital patients since 2015. He made his first Holy Communion on May 1, 1960 at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in Chicago.

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.
- **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 for a complete brochure or any questions. There are 12 spaces left for the group.