

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

JUNE 23, 2024 | TWELFTH 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 25

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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DEACON IRVIN LAWRENCE SMITH

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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!

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.



Unpacking the Mission

Last week, I shared with you the Mission Statement of our diocese, as articulated by our Fourth Diocesan Synod held in 2017. As a parish in the diocese, and not just any parish, but the Cathedral Parish, I made the case for seeing that mission as our mission as well. With that in mind, I have decided to include this Mission Statement on the inside cover of our bulletin moving forward. I would like to spend the next several weeks unpacking this Mission Statement, so that we have some clarity on what we are all about. If you look to your left in the bulletin (if you are reading the print edition), please re-read the Mission Statement as we begin our reflection today.

Let me start with reflection on the first word: mission. According to Father John Hardon's *Modern Catholic Dictionary*, mission is defined as follows: "The term literally denotes 'sending' and covers a variety of meanings, all somehow expressing the idea of a going forth from one person to others in order to effect some beneficial change in their favor."

As I mentioned in my previous article, it makes sense for the mission of our parish to be in alignment with that of the diocese. And since the diocese is one part of the larger body of the Church, it is important to ensure that our mission is in alignment with that of the Universal Church. The Catechism of the Catholic Church offers a good section on the mission of the Church in paragraphs 811-870. But the Catechism sums up the mission with these words: "The ultimate purpose of mission is none other than to make men share in the communion between the Father and the Son in their Spirit of love." (CCC 850)

Communion with the Blessed Trinity is the purpose of the mission, and everything that the Church teaches and does is in service of that communion. Through prayer and the sacraments, we draw closer to God, which commits us to a life of charity toward our brothers and sisters. When he does pastor installations throughout the diocese, Bishop Paprocki always likes to quote the words of Pope St. John Paul II in his Apostolic Letter, *Novo Millennio Ineunte*, "On entering the New Millennium." The Holy Father wrote: "all pastoral initiatives must be set in relation to holiness." (n. 30) This is another way of summarizing the mission of the Church, and thus our diocese and our parish. Everything that we do should, in some way, be set in relation to holiness, which is nothing more than sharing the life of communion with the Trinity.

Mission therefore is not first and foremost about going out and performing works of evangelization and charity, important as those tasks are to the life of the Church. Our starting point is with God, from whom we draw the grace and strength to then share His love with the world around us, which in turn is at the service of our brothers and sisters seeking to love the Lord more in their lives and to one day become saints. The mission therefore begins with God and ends with God. That is a key aspect of mission that we should never forget.

One striking example of this is St. Teresa of Kolkata, better known as Mother Teresa. The works of charity that she and her sisters have undertaken are heroic in many ways, serving the poorest of the poor. But she knew that to carry out this demanding work, prayer always had to be their priority. She demanded that the sisters spent time in adoration before the Blessed Sacrament each morning, then receiving Christ in the Eucharist, before going out. For it was only by spending time looking open Christ in prayer and receiving Him in their hearts that they would then be able to see Christ in His most distressing disguise in the poor.

By our spending time in prayer before the Lord and receiving Him in the Eucharist, we will better be able to see Christ in every person we encounter, hidden as He may seem, and we will be motivated share in the mission of bringing the love of Christ to them so that we may all one day be united together with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in Heaven.

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, June 24

7am - Margaret Jane Langenfeld
(Family)
5:15pm - Alice Bates
(Bates Family)

Tuesday, June 25

7am - Duenas & Almagro Families
(Dana Almagro)
5:15pm - John & Edith Bakalar
(John Busciacchio)

Wednesday, June 26

7am - Betty Rogers
(Family)
5:15pm - Mae & Alfred Nicoud
(Family)

Thursday, June 27

7am - Bill Vogt
(Jim & Sandy Bloom)
5:15pm - Andy & Marie O'Neill
(James & Julie Berberet)

Friday, June 28

7am - JD Knox
(Tom Steil & Sharon Oldfield)
5:15pm - Samuel McFadden
(Lou Ann Mack)

Saturday, June 29

8am - Marguerite Culton
(Norma Dougherty)
4pm - Bill Vogt
(The Bentel & Dutton Families)

Sunday, June 30

7am - Mary Conway
(Tom Conway)
10am - Battista & Maria Podeschi
(Joseph & Patrice Kennedy Family)
5pm - Deceased Members of the
Chiardonna Family (Geny Chiardonna)



St. Joseph Cafasso

Feast Day: June 23rd

Our current culture puts a high value on the go-getter's, self-starters, the self-made-man. Unfortunately, taken to an extreme, this way of operating runs up against the heart of our faith. Just consider Jesus' words before His Passion: "I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing." [John 15:5] But we could also look to Jesus' example: He, God, still called men to follow after Him, called them to do the work of building His Kingdom and preaching the Gospel, and He still depends on His Church to continue that work!

But I suspect each of us could learn the same lesson without even reading the Gospel, by just looking into our own lives. Consider the places where you find yourself struggling. Perhaps it is with some project or responsibility. Perhaps it is in your life of prayer, or finding joy in your vocation. Perhaps it is in the face of a cross, a sickness, a burden, a loss. Just notice something that is currently causing you worry or unease, and I suspect that somewhere underneath that struggle is a sense of loneliness. Maybe we chose in some way to "go it alone", to try and get through some part of our lives without relying on anyone else or without displaying weakness. But often there is no choice on our part to rely on our own effort or abilities, we just find ourselves trying to figure it out - desperate for help, wishing for a guide, hoping someone would come along a notice that we're struggling ... and support seems far away.

St. Joseph Cafasso, born in 1811 in the same village where St. John Bosco would be born a few years later, would become a support and guide not only for Bosco, but for countless others throughout his ministry as a priest. Bl. Pope Pius IX, chose to canonize St. John Vianney and beatify St. Joseph Cafasso together, placing these two priests side-by-side "one, the parish priest of Ars, as small and humble, poor and simple as he was glorious; and the other, a beautiful, great, complex and rich figure of a priest, the educator and formation teacher of priests, Venerable Joseph Cafasso." It was a ministry of mentoring, of taking others under his wing, supporting and helping them, a beautiful ministry in an age already facing the alone-ness that has become rampant in ours.

Only four months after his ordination as a priest, in 1833, Fr. Cafasso began to work at the Convitto Ecclesiastico di S. Francesco d'Assisi [College-Residence for Clerics of St Francis of Assisi]. There he taught priests how to be spiritual fathers for their flocks. Perhaps they should have learned that in seminary, but the effects of Napoleon's rampage through Europe a generation before had left those training-grounds for priests with limited faculty and impoverished formation, and now those priests were facing the continued social turmoil and challenges of a changing world as well as a rampant spirit of Jansenism infecting their people, and often themselves. (What is Jansenism? Combine a strong sense of human depravity with double-predestination as well as moral-rigidity and you're not far from it.) It was a natural response to a world that was already at that time losing sight of God, rejecting the moral principles that had governed society for centuries, and growing worldliness. But the Church is not called to fight human sinfulness with human effort, and Fr. Cafasso knew it from experience.

He would visit the poorest homes he could find, calling the lice crawling over the walls "living silver and moving riches". He would make his way to the dankest dungeons and work tirelessly to bring condemned prisoners to confession and the final sacraments before they went to the gallows. And, he spent hours every day in prayer, beginning day with Mass at 4:30, and lovingly teaching his weary brother priests a Christlike gentleness from the wisdom of St. Ignatius Loyola, St. Francis de Sales, and St. Alphonsus Ligouri. "When we hear confessions, our Lord wants us to be loving and compassionate, to be fatherly towards all who come to us, without reference to who they are or what they have done ... If we repel anybody, if any soul is lost through our fault, we shall be held to account—their blood will be upon our hands." He would be a spiritual director for Don Bosco, and many others – guiding, encouraging, mentoring, fathering each of them, fathering the places in their hearts that were desperate for a father - especially those of his brother priests.

The Heavenly Father was very pleased with him!

Fr. Dominic Rankin finds in St. Joseph Cafasso an exemplar of priestly fatherhood. On the one hand, his example challenges me: I want to support and guide people like him! But then I run smack-dab into the places where I still feel so insufficient, where I know I need help myself ... and then I recall his being the first in the chapel in the morning and last there each night. He needed to be fathered too, and turned constantly to his Heavenly Father for that guidance. But also, he went out of his way to ask others to guide him in his own weaknesses, like the saints mentioned above, as well as his own priests and teachers.

Stewardship of Treasure

June 15th & 16th

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Envelopes: | \$4,371.00 |
| Loose: | \$4,558.00 |
| Maintenance: | \$55.00 |
| Total: | \$8,984.00 |

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 24

| <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 K of C Meeting 6:00 PM School Classroom | Rosary 4:45 PM Church | | |

What's Going on Around the Cathedral?

JOIN US FOR A FAREWELL

Reception

FOR FATHER PAUL LESUPATI

**SATURDAY, JUNE 29, AFTER
THE 4PM MASS
SUNDAY, JUNE 30 AFTER THE
7AM AND 10AM MASSES**



Farewell Reception for Fr. Paul Lesupati

Please join us for a farewell reception following the 4pm Mass on Saturday, June 29, and after the 7am and 10am Masses on Sunday, June 30, for Fr. Paul Lesupati. Fr. Paul will be moving to Saint Peter Parish in Quincy to serve as Parochial Vicar, as well as Associate Chaplain at Quincy-Notre Dame High School. We wish Fr. Paul all the best on his new assignment!

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.

Second Collection - Peter's Pence Collection

Next weekend, the Second Collection will be in support of Peter's Pence. Your contribution to Peter's Pence helps fund not only all the activities of the dicasteries of the Roman Curia that assist the pope in his ministry, but also several solidarity projects that aid those most in need. To learn more about the ways in which Peter's Pence supports the Holy Father's ministry of mercy, visit www.obolodisanpietro.va/en/cos-e-1-obolo.html. Please prayerfully consider supporting this year's collection as an act of mercy and charity. Join our brothers and sisters in faith from around the globe to help Pope Francis carry out his ministry to the Universal Church and reach out to the most marginalized in our world. Thank you and may God bless you abundantly.

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.

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.

Independence Day Mass at Oak Ridge Cemetery

The Staab Family invites you to begin your Independence Day celebration with a Mass of Remembrance to honor all U.S. Veterans. On July 4th, we will gather to give thanks at Oak Ridge Cemetery, just south of Lincoln's Tomb. Mass begins at 9am. Please bring a lawn chair for your comfort. For more information, call 217-528-6461.

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.

Biking for Babies - July 12

Cyclists from Biking for Babies will be at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception on Friday, July 12th. While cycling across America these pro-life enthusiasts spread awareness of and collect donations for pregnancy resource centers. All are invited to attend 5:15 pm Mass, enjoy dinner with the cyclists, and hear their testimonies. RSVP if you plan to have dinner by contacting Kim Gunter at: 217/522-3342 or email KGunter@cathedral.dio.org. Donations can be made at: www.bikingforbabies.com/give. Please let Kim know if you would like bring food or assist with the dinner at 6:00 pm or the breakfast on July 13th at 3:30 am.



Encountering Jesus

As a youth I had no church affiliation. My parents never attended church and never sent any of their children to church. Then, when I was 18 years old I met and fell in love with a beautiful Catholic girl. I was very much impressed by her devotion to her Catholic faith. So much so that I too wanted not only for her to be my wife but I also wanted to become Catholic like her.

In the year 1953 I went to the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception and met with a Priest named Aloysius J. Schwellenbach. He agreed to tutor me. We met every evening for my private instruction. I was Baptized, had first confession and first communion and was married there at the Cathedral.

We had three children; 2 sons, 1 daughter whom we raised in the Catholic faith. All three of them graduated from Saint Alloysius Grade School & my daughter graduated from Ursuline Academy.

One night In the year 1967 I was not feeling well and in the middle of the night I was dying; and I immediately knew that I was dying. My body was being lifted (floating) upward; and I was looking down at my sleeping wife lying in her bed; and the astounding thing was that I could see through all of the walls of our home. I could see my sons and daughter in their beds sleeping in their rooms.

I saw Jesus and I pleaded with JESUS to rescue me, to save me, because my family needed me; and I was lowered downward back into my bed.

My family knows of this encounter and every member of my family believes that I did indeed see Jesus and that this was NOT a dream or hallucination. Until now, I have never told anyone about this experience.....but I have never, nor will I ever forget.

Glen Rogers is a parishioner of the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception.

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.