

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

AUGUST 18, 2024 | TWENTIETH 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 33

THE MOST REVEREND THOMAS JOHN PAPROCKI
NINTH BISHOP OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS

THE VERY REVEREND BRIAN C. ALFORD, V.E.
RECTOR

THE REVEREND DANIEL MCGRATH
PAROCHIAL VICAR

THE REVEREND PIUS CHIDOZIE NWIYI
PAROCHIAL VICAR

THE REVEREND DOMINIC RANKIN
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!

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.

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



Missionary Discipleship in Everyday Life

The universal call to missionary discipleship, as I mentioned last week, can seem a little intimidating. We perhaps have in our mind what a missionary might look like, or at least somebody who publicly proclaims the faith. We think of people who teach the faith and might think: "I cannot do that." You might listen to a priest or deacon preach at Mass and think: "I could never do that." But those are only a few expressions of missionary discipleship.

I recently heard Dr. Edward Sri, a well-known Catholic speaker and teacher, use an analogy that I find helpful in this regard. He described the experience of having seen a good movie. When we go to our friends, we are eager to share our experience with them. We are not film critics or experts in cinematography, but that does not prevent us from sharing what we liked about the movie, inviting our friends to go see that movie as well. The same is true with sharing our faith. We do not need to have an advanced degree in theology to share our faith. Pope Francis makes this point in the quote that I shared last week. The pertinent line is as follows: "indeed, anyone who has truly experienced God's saving love does not need much time or lengthy training to go out and proclaim that love." (Evangelii Gaudium, 120)

Before proposing some practical ideas on how to be a missionary disciple, I want to suggest a possible reason why we might be hesitant to share the faith. I think we can find the reason in the very next line from the Holy Father in the above-mentioned quote: "Every Christian is a missionary to the extent that he or she has encountered the love of God in Christ Jesus." I note the use of the phrase: "to the extent." One of the principal reasons why we can be hesitant to share the Gospel is because we have not let the love of God in Christ Jesus penetrate our hearts. Sure, we know that God is love, and we will even be willing to acknowledge that God loves us. But so many of us have hardly encountered that love in a personal and profound way, such that our lives are changed by it. We go to Mass, we say our prayers before meals, we may even read the Bible or pray the Rosary, but that does not necessarily equate to personally encountering the love of Christ. He can and does offer that gift to us through those means, but He will never force Himself on us. He asks for hearts open to receiving His love and letting that love penetrate to the very core of our being.

Some of you reading this have indeed encountered that type of love from the Lord, and thanks be to God for that! But some of you reading this may have not truly encountered that love yet. The good news is that there is hope! We are never too old or inexperienced to have His love surprise us in a powerful way. Opening ourselves to encounter God's love for us is therefore the first and fundamental step in beginning to live missionary discipleship. Practically speaking, this means taking time each day to open ourselves to encounter that love. We call this prayer. We can continue to recite our normal prayers, read the Bible, and go to Mass. But we need some time each day to come face to face with Our Lord, to be aware of His look of love upon us, and to enter into communion with Him, sharing our hearts with Him, so that we can be more open to the sharing of His heart with us, which is always taking place, just waiting to be received. As the saying goes: "You cannot give what you do not have." We cannot share the Good News that Christ wants to share with others if we have not experienced and are convinced that the Good News applies to us.

So if missionary discipleship seems difficult, perhaps that is a good gauge of where you are in your personal relationship with Jesus. Have no fear if where you are at is not where you would like to be. Ask the Lord to open your heart more to His love for you, and that love, once received, cannot be kept to ourselves. Like the experience of seeing a great movie, we will not be able to wait to share with others the goodness of God's love and His desire to deepen that love with all of His children.

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, August 19

7am - Frances Klein
(Andrew & Cheryl Klein)
5:15pm - Brother Francis Skube
(Friend)

Tuesday, August 20

7am - Betty L. Rogers
(Family)
5:15pm - Michael Berte
(Berte Family)

Wednesday, August 21

7am - Albert Crispi Sr.
(John Busciacco)
5:15pm - Mary Jane Kerns
(Estate)

Thursday, August 22

7am - Bill Vogt
(Lisa Duffey)
5:15pm - Genevieve Bitschenauer
(Barbara Bitschenauer)

Friday, August 23

7am - Betty L. Rogers
(Family)
5:15pm - James Hughes
(Family)

Saturday, August 24

8am - Brian & Bernadette McDougal
(Berte Family)
4pm - Lola Mae Hargan
(Pamela Hargan)

Sunday, August 25

7am - Pamela Harmon
(Archie Harmon)
10am - Deceased Members of the
CCCW (CCCW)
5pm - For the People



St. Alberto Hurtado (Part 1)

Feast Day: August 18th

Alberto was only 4 years old, the year was 1905, when the news reached his mother, brother, and he that his father had died. The loss ransacked the life of the little boy. Not only was he now bereft his father, but soon the family's home as well, and then even the stability of his mother. Alberto and his brother would spend their childhood going from one home to another, cared for as best his relatives could, but deep in his heart he didn't really have a place, or family, to call home.

As a young man he was given a scholarship at the Jesuit College in Santiago, San Ignacio. It was a prestigious all-boys school in the capital of Chile, some would see it as a chance for the young man to escape poverty, but Alberto was not moved to flee the sufferings of his youth. He joined the Sodality of Our Lady and began volunteering at a parish and school in one of the poorest parts of Santiago. He would help in the office and library and every Sunday afternoon would visit the poor and destitute in the slums around the Parish of Our Lady of Andacollo (the parish named after a little statue of Our Lady discovered by an indigenous Chilean near the mines of Andacollo in the mid-1500s. Feast day: December 26th).

As Alberto continued his studies at the Law School at the Pontifical Catholic University of Chile he continued to serve the poor every week while also discerning a vocation to the Jesuits. He had a deep desire for marriage, but an ever deeper yearning to care for many more than he could in a natural family. He had begun spiritual direction – a beautiful step to make when in a time of deep discernment – and received the counsel of his spiritual director to hold off on entering an order while still caring for his mother and brother. (He was at that time going to classes and trying to complete his studies in the mornings, and then work various jobs in the afternoons and evenings to provide for his family, and then giving his weekends to visit the poor and those abandoned on the streets!) So it was that this call from God, to give his life for those in need, continued to grow. His spiritual director during these years recalled about Alberto: "He was incapable of seeing pain, nor indeed any need without seeking a way to solve it."

Then in 1922, obligatory military service threw a curveball into everything. At this point, it is important to ask ourselves how we would have acted under similar circumstances. I know for myself that when obstacles and delays crash into my plans, or hopes, or attempts to follow the Lord, I often succumb to frustration, anger, or at least discouragement. It is tempting to throw up our hands and just give up on the bigger dreams and call of love. We don't know how Alberto handled all of this, but his perseverance through the hindrances that would rise up later in his life tells us at least that the Lord taught him an important lesson in perseverance in charity during these tough years.

In 1923 he earned his law degree and finally entered the Jesuit order. For some, a religious vocation means stability – think of Benedictines (who make a vow of stability to live their life in a particular monastery) or Carmelites, or Poor Clares and other cloistered orders who similarly dedicate themselves to a common life in a particular place. Jesuits are sort of the opposite of this. They commit their lives to live wherever their order, and above all wherever the Holy Father, sends them. Such was the share in Christ's poverty that Alberto embraced again. But he also discovered in this a relentless joy that could come from no one except Jesus. "Here you have me, finally a Jesuit," he wrote to a close friend, "as happy and content as one can be on this earth!"

He completed his novitiate and was then sent for two years to Cordoba, Argentina studying humanities. Then it was off to Barcelona, Spain to study philosophy and theology, though in 1931 the Jesuits were suppressed in that country and so he had to move on to Louvain, Belgium. There he completed a doctorate in pedagogy and psychology in 1935 having been ordained a priest in 1933. Again, we pause at this point to ask where the heart of the newly ordained Padre Hurtado was after 12 years of ever more advanced studies, so many travels and extraordinary experiences? Well, the first thing he did when he got back to Chile was to begin teaching religion at San Ignacio, pedagogy at the Catholic University of Santiago, and – as it turns out, most important to him – teaching catechism to the poor. He still loved the young, and the poor, more than anything.

Fr. Dominic Rankin has also had his fair share of travels and studies in his own path to the priesthood. This is both a blessing, and a challenge, and Fr. Hurtado life reminds him to think back to the "first love" that carried him into seminary. Perhaps all of us this week could recall where our heart was at 18 or 20. What were our dreams then? How had the Lord fashioned our hearts back when we were young? Have we given up on that call or just let it wither as the years have gone by or allowed life's blessings and burdens to stretch and grow our hearts?

Stewardship of Treasure

August 10th & 11th

Envelopes:	\$5,365.00
Loose:	\$4,220.51
Maintenance:	\$90.00
Total:	\$9,675.51

July EFT

\$19,237.67

July Second Collections

\$429.64

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!

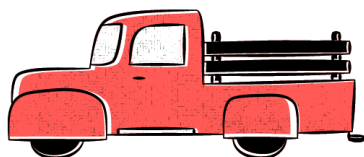
WEEK OF AUGUST 19

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Rosary 4:45 PM Church	Adoration 4:00 PM Church OCIA 6:00 PM School Library	Men's Bible Study 6:00 AM School Library Rosary 4:45 PM Cathedral Bible Study 6:15 PM Parish Library	Summer Bible Study - Living in The Father's Love 1:00 PM School Library Adoration 4:00 PM Church K of C Meeting 6:00 PM School Classroom Night Bible Study- Living in the Fathers Love 6:15 PM School Library	Rosary 4:45 PM Church	Stuff A Truck After 4:00 PM Mass Parking Lot	Stuff A Truck After All Masses Parking Lot

What's Going on Around the Cathedral?

STUFF A TRUCK FOOD DRIVE

FOR THE HOLY FAMILY FOOD PANTRY



BEFORE & AFTER
ALL MASSES
AUGUST 24 & 25

Stuff a Truck Food Drive

The Knights of Columbus and CCCW are partnering in a "Stuff a Truck" Food Drive for the Holy Family Food Pantry. Look for the Red Trucks before & after all Masses August 24 & 25! Suggested items for donations include (no glass please): Dry pasta, Spaghetti sauce w meat, Canned complete meals, Peanut butter & jelly, Mac-n-cheese box mixes, Fruit & veggies, Box mixes of any kind, Pancake Mix & Syrup, Fruit & Pudding cups, Potatoes, Paper products, Oral Hygiene items, Feminine Hygiene items, Laundry items, Diapers.

STUDENTS: This a great opportunity to earn service hours! Thank you in advance for your generosity!

JOIN US AT THE CATHEDRAL FOR A

Ladies Paint Night

AUGUST 30

6:30 PM

CATHEDRAL ATRIUM



Ladies Paint Night at the Cathedral

All ladies are invited to a paint night at the Cathedral on Friday, August 30th at 6:30pm! Grab your favorite snacks and a friend or two and get ready for a night of painting fun! \$30 per person; spots are limited (40 total). To register, visit <https://dio.ccbchurch.com/goto/forms/91/responses/new>. Payment will be due at time of registration; if you prefer to not make an online payment, please contact the Parish Office at 217-522-3342 to make arrangements (payment will be due within 3 days of registration, if by phone). Registration closes **August 18th!** Any questions can be directed to Kim Gunter (kgunter@cathedral.dio.org) or Haley Dutton (hdutton@cathedral.dio.org). We hope to see you there!

Cathedral First Friday Concert

SEPTEMBER 6, 2024

7 PM - 8 PM

Featuring
Vocal Students of Justin Johnson

September First Friday Concert Series

Join us on Friday, September 6, 2024 at 7pm in the Cathedral for a First Friday Concert! September's concert will feature Vocal Students of Justin Johnson. The First Friday Concert Series is sponsored by the Staab Family, directed by Mark Gifford, and is free and open to the public. All are welcome!

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Have You Been Married 50+ Years? Time to Celebrate!

On September 22 at 2 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Springfield, all couples married 50 years or more are invited to attend a special Mass honoring their marriage vocation! The Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Thomas John Paprocki. A reception will follow after Mass. Please register for the Mass by going to dio.org/events. When you register, please upload (not mandatory) a photo from your wedding day and present day, as we'll be showcasing a slide show during the reception.

CCCW/Knights of Columbus Scholarship News

The CCCW and the Fr. Tolton Council 16126 Knights of Columbus have updated requirements for the 2025-26 scholarship opportunity. Active Cathedral parishioners who are students at SHG will be required to have at least 20 hours of service for Cathedral Parish. Such activities may include, but are not limited to the following in order to meet the service requirements:

1. Confirmation/1st Communion masses held at Cathedral (Tuesdays and Saturdays) and the night before to help set up.
2. Donut Sunday
3. Bake Sale (Will be announced in the bulletin)
4. Garage Sale
5. Hand out bulletins after Sunday Masses
6. Choir
7. Altar Servers *
8. Lector (Must be 16 years old) *
9. Eucharistic Minister (must be at least 16 years old) *
10. Greeters *
11. Ushers *
12. Live Streamers *

All of those marked with an * must be trained. Please contact the Parish office 217-522-3342 or Vicki Compton at vcompton@cathedral.dio.org if you require training. All service hours will need to be sent to Kim Gunter in the Parish office for approval: kgunter@cathedral.dio.org.

Evening Bible Study for Women

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, Thursday evenings, Aug 22 – Sept 26 @ 6:15pm \$20 workbook.

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

Thank You, Adrienne Andrews!

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Adrienne Andrews for her 20+ years of service as the Faith Community Nurse for the Cathedral! Adrienne has decided to step back from leading this apostolate, though she plans to continue to help out as other opportunities present themselves in the future. May God bless Adrienne for sharing generously with our parish the gifts she has developed as a nurse.

Peoria Chiefs Game

Join Fr. Augustine Tolton Council #16126 and Cathedral parishioners at the final Peoria Chiefs game of the season on Sunday, September 8th at 2:05pm at Dozer Park in Peoria, IL. For \$40 you get a seat in the Batter's Box VIP Concourse Area with a lunch buffet featuring hot dogs, cheeseburgers, baked beans, chips, popcorn, canned soda, and bottled water. Individuals will need to provide their own transportation to and from the game. For questions, please contact Nick Gray at graynicholasjohn@gmail.com. A limited number of seats are available in this VIP area so reserve your tickets today! Spots can be reserved at the following link: <https://tinyurl.com/toltonchiefs>

The Fullness of Life

Like any other child of the '90s raised by budget-conscious parents, I've spent my fair share of Sunday mornings in line at an Old Country Buffet, hot plate in hand. Kids ate for chump change on Sundays, and I never left that fine establishment without getting our money's worth. I always came away stuffed to the gills.

But I never, ever remember feeling satisfied.

In fact, if I recall correctly, most of the time I felt rather empty. I was always thinking about the food I didn't get to eat — whatever I couldn't fit on my plate, or whatever they were bringing out from the kitchen just as we were about to leave.

As I've gotten older, it's a feeling I've encountered again and again, and not just at buffets. Haven't we all? The people you think are perfect reveal themselves to be deeply flawed. The things you want the most are never as satisfying to possess as they are to long for. The experiences you anticipate the most end up being letdowns, when instead it's the ordinary moments — maybe even the hard moments, the painful moments — that stand out, that become cherished memories.

Today's scripture readings equate wisdom and fullness with an acceptance of something that makes no sense, that defies scientific explanation, cultural norms, and even common sense: the Real Presence of our God in the Eucharist.

Is it strange to believe that we are consuming the Body and Blood of Christ in our worship, and that only by doing so will we ever achieve everlasting life?

Perhaps. But we are asked to do many strange things as Christians. We are asked to love when we do not feel like loving, when the object of that love has not earned it. We are asked to forgive even when the recipient of that forgiveness does not seek it or merit it. We are asked to believe, in moments when belief feels impossible.

Socrates says that the only wisdom is in knowing that you know nothing. Perhaps the only spiritual fullness is in knowing that there is only emptiness to be had here in this world, that there is no physical experience or indulgence that can really make you feel satisfied and strong. That the only food that really nourishes you in a way that lasts is a small white Host you can barely taste on your tongue.

"My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink." — John 6:55

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman
©LPI

Around the Diocese

- **Women's Day of Recollection**, Thursday, August 22, at Sacred Heart Church (730 S. 12th St., Springfield), from 12:45 p.m. to 2:45 p.m. There will be a meditation given by a priest, time for silent prayer and reflection, a doctrinal talk, and Benediction. Confession and spiritual direction with the priest will be available. All women throughout the diocese are invited to attend.
- **SDCCW 95th Annual Convention**, August 28, 2024 at the Lake Williamson Retreat Center in Carlinville, IL. Kelly Wahlquist, speaker, and Donna Cori, singer, will be sharing their message as women who are "Sent On Mission & Fortified By The Eucharist." There will be the church basket silent auction raffle, the quilt and garden statue raffles, vendors and the 50/50 drawing. Please call the Parish Office at 217-522-3342 for the registration form.
- **Faithful Citizenship-Civilize It Course**, Mondays, September 9, 16, 23, 30 6:30pm @ St. Agnes; This 4 week course will NOT discuss political partisanship, parties, conservatism or liberalism or party positions on any issue. But, IT WILL discuss how Catholic Social teaching intersects with our informed consciences, how to be a media literate Catholic (to view media with a critical eye) and how to have civilized conversations with others who may not agree with us. For more information contact Cathy Becker at cbecker@stagnescatholicparish.org or 217-793-1330
- **Taizé Prayer Service**, September 17, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in St. Francis of Assisi Church, 4867 LaVerna Road, Springfield. The Service is free and open to the public. Taizé Prayer, a form of Christian prayer, is a simple, meditative form of worship, calling participants to be mindful of Christ's presence with chant-like songs, silence, readings, and prayer.
- **St. Aloysius and St. Cabrini Parish Mission**, Sunday, September 29 - Thursday, Oct. 3, 2024, at St. Aloysius Church. The theme of the mission is Faithfully Renewed Forever and Ever. Amen. The mission will feature Father Pete Schavitz, a Redemptorist priest as the presenter. Each day will have a different theme and will center on one's personal faith journey. We will gather in church to pray, sing, listen and receive an invitation to grow. The mission is for everyone, young and old, for those with many questions, those with a few questions and those just starting their faith journey. There will be Liturgy of the Word for children occurring at the same time the evening sessions. Childcare and transportation will be available. Each day will conclude with a creative social filled with good food, drinks, and conversation. The mission will begin with rosary at 6:00pm each evening. For questions, please contact either Parish Office, St. Aloysius @ 217-544-4554, or St. Cabrini @ (217) 522-8555.