

Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

AUGUST 25, 2024 | TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



524 EAST LAWRENCE AVENUE, SPRINGFIELD, IL 62703
CATHEDRAL PARISH OFFICE: 217-522-3342
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FOUNDED IN 1839 | DEDICATED IN 1928 | BUILT ON FAITH, RENEWED IN HOPE IN 2009

Cathedral Weekly

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 34

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

DEACON DAVID BEACH

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.



Praying for Our Seminarians

The longest continuous responsibility that I have had as a priest is serving our diocese as the Director of the Office for Vocations. In fact, all but two of my thirteen years as a priest has had me involved in vocations ministry. Over those eleven years, it has been my experience that there are few other causes that people in our diocese are united around than praying for vocations. We all know how much priests are needed for the continued sacramental life of our parishes, so praying for men to consider a call to the priesthood is a pretty easy ask. In particular, the people of our diocese love praying for our seminarians, those men who have discerned that God might be calling them to the

priesthood, and who have taken a step in faith to enter the seminary. Our seminarians share regularly how supported they feel because of the prayers and other forms of encouragement offered by the good people of our diocese.

Regarding seminarians, there are few things that make a parish prouder than when one of their own enters into the seminary. Here at the Cathedral, we are actually blessed to have two of our current crop of seminarians who call our parish home. First of all, we have Joseph Tuttle, a name that many of you probably do not recognize. Joseph is actually originally from Rockford, but he happens to be Father Dominic Rankin's cousin! When he discerned the possibility of joining our diocese, we wanted to give him a parish with which to be affiliated, and with Father Rankin living here at the Cathedral, it makes sense for him to call this home. You may see Joseph around during some of the breaks from St. Meinrad Seminary in Southern Indiana, where he attends. He has been assigned at different parishes in the diocese the past two summers to get him some more exposure to the diocese. He is beginning his third year of formation, and God-willing, will be ordained a priest in 2028.



Our other seminarian is Steven Kehoe, a name that might sound a little more familiar if you pay close attention to our bulletin. For the past several months, Steven has served as our bookkeeper. He has also been doing a variety of custodial duties as well. Steven spent several months in a religious order and after leaving, began discerning a call to the priesthood. Knowing that entering seminary would still be several months off, he was looking for a job and his skills fit our needs perfectly! Steven would begin just about every day here by attending the 7 am Mass, usually with his parents, Janet and Steve. When the workday was over, he would usually head back to the church to pray, and then would return home a little before 6 pm, usually with his younger sister, Rose, who usually attends the 5:15 pm Mass. Although we are happy for Steven that he is beginning seminary formation, he will be missed here in the office, as he made a big impact on the staff in the short time he was with us. Steven is just beginning seminary, though he already has a college degree. He is looking at about six years of formation, so God-willing, he would be ordained a priest in 2030. He is also attending St. Meinrad Seminary.



So, I invite you to continue to pray for all of our seminarians, and especially for Joseph and Steven. As the Cathedral parish, we have a lot to be proud of already, being the Mother Church of the diocese, and our (healthy) pride is multiplied with these two men from our parish, preparing, God-willing, to be priests one day.

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 26

7am - Ann West
(Carol West)
5:15pm - Deceased Members of the
Greenwald Families (Joan & Rick
Rogers)

Tuesday, August 27

7am - Tim Davlin
(A Cathedral Parishioner)
5:15pm - Cathy Alnory
(Steve Schnelten)

Wednesday, August 28

7am - Mary Conway
(Tom Conway)
5:15pm - Kathleen Alnory
(D.A. Drago)

Thursday, August 29

7am - Ejike Fidelis Chineke
(Jan Militello)
5:15pm - Bessie Tucker Minatra
(Bev & Larry Smith)

Friday, August 30

7am - Louis Bringle
(Vicki Compton)
5:15pm - Mary Ann Laub
(Lou Ann Mack)

Saturday, August 31

8am - Tom Nortrup
(Joann & Rose Lenn)
4pm - Odette Gries
(Greg & Marie Fleck)

Sunday, September 1

7am - Archie Harmon Sr.
(Archie Harmon)
10am - Betty L. Rogers
(Family)
5pm - Cesare Chiaradonna
(Geny Chiaradonna)



St. Alberto Hurtado (Part 2)

Feast Day: August 18th

This week, having ran up the word count and not finished the story last time, we return to the young priest, Fr. Alberto Hurtado, as he began his ministry to the young and poor in Santiago Chile in the 1930s. It is important to note that he didn't try to do all the Lord had put on his heart alone. He could have just ran back and forth from class, to the streets, to spiritual direction, and crash into bed having emptied himself in all of it. Nothing wrong with that, but it's not how Jesus did the Father's will. Jesus called others around him, into friendship with Him, and from there into the mission given to Him by God the Father. So also the first disciples, sent out two by two, and by most saints since. And so also, Padre Hurtado who in the late 1930s began to collect his pupils around him.

Some he went deep, offering spiritual direction and directing retreats for groups of the boys. As it was for Alberto in his younger days, so also for these men it was a profound gift. They learned to pray, to discern, to strive for heroic sanctity. Some would go on to be priests, others good Christian fathers and leaders in their communities. The seeds planted by a priest willing to really befriend them would impact the world for the better for decades to come. But Padre Hurtado didn't just engage them one-by-one or in small groups, he also enlisted whole cohorts of them into another Sodality of Our Lady. He taught them the catechism, and taught them how to teach the catechism to those stuck on the streets. So it was that his two loves – for the poor, and the young – was combined and multiplied as all of them grew in wisdom and grace.

And those studies and intelligence that he had been given he was about to unleash in a much bigger way in his pursuit to love the least brothers and sisters of Christ. In 1936, he wrote "The Priesthood Crisis in Chile", depicting starkly the many little (and poor) towns who had no priest to bring them the sacraments. He also pointed to the dismal lack of formation for catechists, with many men enlisting to teach the faith but few of them receiving the formation they would need for that (much less to discern becoming a priest). For the leaders of the country (and the Church, the political party having a strong sway over the Church hierarchy) this was an unwelcome message. These were problems in the little places far from the important, prosperous, and politically impactful cities.

And Hurtado wasn't done. In 1941, he published "Is Chile a Catholic Country?" For a country that was 94% Catholic, his answer – "not yet" – was shocking. But he pointed to the poor on every street and asked the provocative question: If people are starving, hurting, and abandoned, can we really say we are Christian? Or, similarly, if only 9% of women, and 3.5% of men, regularly attend Mass and receive Holy Communion, was Chile really Catholic?

In 1946 his most famous message was sent: he bought a green pickup truck. The backstory was that a year or two earlier he had encountered one of his beggars on a cold night, shivering on the streets, with no where to find shelter. A few days later he was leading a retreat for women when he spontaneously began talking about that man:

*Christ roams through our streets in the person of so many of the suffering poor, sick and dispossessed, and people thrown out of their miserable slums; Christ huddled under bridges, in the person of so many children who lack someone to call father, who have been deprived for many years without a mother's kiss on their foreheads . . . Christ is without a home! Shouldn't we want to give him one, those of us who have the joy of a comfortable home, plenty of good food, the means to educate and assure the future of our children?
"What you do to the least of me, you do to me," Jesus said.*

Soon after, with those women's generosity, the first Hogar de Cristo (Home of Christ) was begun. It was modeled after Fr. Flanagan's Boys Town in Nebraska, though over time he would open ones for children, then women, and then men. Some were trade schools, some rehabilitation centers, all of them offering shelter and food, but the deeper nourishment of mind and soul as well. Over the next 6 years 850,000 children alone received help as the homes opened across the country.

As for the truck, as he drove it around picking up the suffering and impoverished, it became an emblem of this crazy wonderful priest, and the crazy wonderful life that Christ means to bring to everyone through His Church.

In 1952 he was stricken with intense pain and diagnosed with pancreatic cancer. In every newspaper and in broadcast media the entire country watched his decline. Throughout it all, having been faithful to the Lord in so many ways, the priest only said "I am content Lord."

Fr. Dominic Rankin is inspired this week to risk bigger things for Jesus. What could happen if we all simply did God's will each day? What would happen if we lived our lives like a saint? What if our vehicle was known across the country as an emblem of Christ?

Stewardship of Treasure

August 17th & 18th

Envelopes:	\$5,055.00
Loose:	\$3,604.00
Maintenance:	\$150.00
Total:	\$8,809.00

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!

Sacraments

Deaths

Anita P. Bates
Date of Death: August 8, 2024

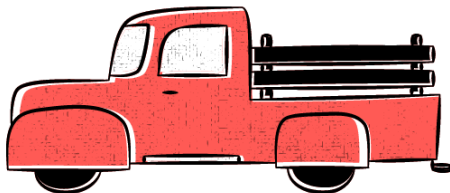
WEEK OF AUGUST 26

<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 - Living in The Father's Love 1:00 PM School Library Adoration 4:00 PM Church Night Bible Study- Living in the Fathers Love 6:15 PM School Library	Rosary 4:45 PM Church Ladies Paint Night 6:30 PM Atrium		

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 **this weekend** 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!

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.

Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Please join us for a special celebration of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary on Sunday, September 8, 2024, after the 10am Mass at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Come early and pray the rosary before Mass at 9:30am. All are welcome. Invite a friend and enjoy birthday cake and snacks in the atrium immediately following Mass. Contact Donna B. 217-622-8576 with questions or if interested in assisting

Ignatius Book Fair at Cathedral

The Cathedral is hosting an Ignatius Book Fair as a faithful alternative to nationally known book fairs. Ave Maria University and Ignatius Press have partnered to offer this unique opportunity, collaborating with well known publishers, including Magnificat, Bethlehem Books, and Augustine Institute. The collection includes captivating Catholic titles along with children's classics and wholesome modern books. The Book Fair will be open in the Cathedral School cafeteria on Thursday, Sept 12 6:00-8:00pm, Friday, Sept. 13 1:00-5:00pm, Saturday, Sept. 14 3:00-6:00pm, Sunday, Sept. 15, 8:00am-12:00pm (closed during Masses)

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>

To Whom Shall We Go?

A friend of mine, who is a far better Christian than I can ever hope to be, once shared with me that her family sneers at her belief system and lifestyle.

She believes in fairy tales they tell her. She's looking for simple solutions from a kind-faced man in the sky because she doesn't want to grapple with complicated answers to complicated problems.

Religion, they argue, is the easy way out.

As she spoke about this, her voice became unsteady. Not with anger, but with emotion. "I would never call this life easy," she said. "If I was looking for something that was easy, I wouldn't choose Catholicism."

What was unspoken was why she has chosen Catholicism. I know the answer, but only because I know her. I knew her before she chose it wholeheartedly, and I know her now, and I see the difference. I see that these words are written so clearly across the days of her life: "Master, to whom shall we go?"

Once the truth is known in your soul, you see, it can never be unknown.

Following Christ is not about easy answers and simple teachings. Sure, it all sounds very basic: love one another as I have loved you. What could be more straightforward?

But what does that mean? What does that look like in daily, modern life, in a world full of the fallen, whose flaws have given us rough edges and weakened wills?

I'll tell you what it looks like — it looks like a struggle. It looks like failure and mess and confusion and losing your way and finding it again, all because you remembered that within you there is a compass pointing due north. It's a constant state of wandering in the dark, following a Voice that asks you to go where you're afraid to go. And you follow the Voice not because it's the only voice there is and not because it's the voice that says what you want to hear, but because it's the only one that speaks the truth, and the truth pulls on you in a way you can't quite resist.

When Christ asks, "Do you also want to leave?" he is not gaslighting us. It's a genuine question. We are free to go. We are not prisoners.

But we have heard the words of everlasting life, and now we can only have peace if we follow where they lead.

"As for me and my household, we will serve the Lord." — Joshua 24:15

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman
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Around the Diocese

- **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.
- **6 Little Known Culprits That Keep you Exhausted & The Fastest Way to Increase Energy for Good**, presented by Mike Thomas, pharmacist, board certified health coach and public speaker passionate about helping people regain their energy and vitality. Learn about the 6 major factors that sap energy without us noticing, a simple strategy to overcome the mid-afternoon slump and four energizing foods that can boost daily vitality. St. Joseph The Worker, Chatham, Tuesday September 3, 2024, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM
- **Fried Chicken Dinner, Resurrection Parish, Illiopolis**, September 8, 11am-2pm, fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, iced tea, coffee, and choice of homemade pie or cake; \$10 for children, \$15 for adult. 50/50 raffle drawing at 2pm.
- **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
- **The Church of the Little Flower Bus Trips**, hosted every month through the end of the year. The next trip is scheduled for September 12, 2024. For further information, and how to sign up please contact Dee Stern at 217-494-4747.
- **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 as 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.