Cathedral OF THE *Immaculate Conception*

NOVEMBER 8, 2026 | THIRTY-SECOND 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 8 ISSUE 45

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

THE REVEREND SETH BROWN
RECTOR

THE REVEREND PIUS CHIDOZIE NWIYI
PAROCHIAL VICAR

THE VERY REVEREND DOMINIC VAHLING
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.

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

RECTOR'S COLUMN



Dear Friends,

I love celebrating Mass in our Cathedral.

Here the city of Springfield comes to pray, and not just Catholics. Whether it be for Christmas Midnight Mass, Easter, or any given Sunday, many non-Catholics join us here to worship God, to feel His closeness and experience His goodness.

That is a privilege God grants us.

One fundamental part of the liturgy that draws many to such a grand and holy place as our Cathedral is the exceptionally beautiful music that accompanies it. I'm indebted to our organist and director of sacred music Mark Gifford for his passion to cultivate and offer our best music to the glory of the Holy Trinity. I thank him and all our choir members, cantors, instrumentalists, and musical volunteers for their dedication to their vocation and craft.

During a discussion on music at our Cathedral, Mark offered an idea that we both immediately agreed on and one we now seek to implement and grow: a men's schola (choir) for Saturday evening Mass. Sadly, such groups are too rare, especially considering the profound effect such a choir can have on the liturgy. Men's voices are especially well-suited for chant and many great works of chant and polyphony were written for men's choirs.

Wouldn't it be lovely to hear that here in this sacred place?

Such music, like the windows in our church or the homilies given, evangelizes those present. Such music speaks to our hearts of our for God and God's miraculous response to that desire—the Incarnation.

We're inviting nine to twelve men interested in learning and specializing in singing sacred music to join our Cathedral Men's Schola. Rehearsals are at 3:15pm on Saturday before the Mass. The man need not be Catholic, but let him have a love for worshipping God with music.

Should you have questions, please talk to our director of sacred music, Mark Gifford.

With gratitude and joy for the days ahead!

Father Seth Brown is the Rector of the Cathedral and Vicar for Clergy for the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.

Mass Intentions

Monday, November 9
7am - Howard Beagles
(Paul and Tim Atwood)
5:15pm - Adam Sexson
(Sharon Sexson)

Tuesday, November 10
7am - Joe and Mary Schweska
(McGee Family)
5:15pm - Devin Flach
(McGrath Family)

Wednesday, November 11
7am - Dick Allender
(Family)
5:15pm - Carrie Eichen
(Daniel Schumacher)

Thursday, November 12
7am - Cynthia Crispi
(John Busciacco)
5:15pm - Shirley Logan
(Lisa Logan & Lori Motyka)

Friday, November 13
7am - David Lucchesi
(John Lucchesi)
5:15pm - Intention for Bianca
(DA Drago)

Saturday, November 14
8am - Emery Mapes
(Jesse and Claure Presley)
4pm - Raymond and Eulalia Ohl
(Angela Ohl-Marsters)

Sunday, November 15
7am - Mary Ann Midden
(Bill Midden)
10am - Betty Rogers
(Glen Rogers)
5pm - For the People

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
Rosary 4:30 PM Church Spanish Bible Study 6:00 PM School Library	Grief Share 1:00 PM School Library Adoration 4:00 PM Church	Men's Bible Study 6:00 AM School Library Patriotic Rosary 12:30 PM Church Rosary 4:30 PM Church Choir 7:00 PM Classroom	Bible Study 10:00 AM & 1:00 PM School Library Adoration 4:00 PM Church OCIA 6:00 PM Atrium	Rosary 4:30 PM Church		Family of Faith 6:15 PM Atrium

What's Going on Around the Cathedral?



Senior Social

You are invited to Senior Socials, a monthly event connecting area Catholic seniors. Come meet other retired/senior citizens for an afternoon of games, cards, conversation and snacks. Bring a game you want to play or play one of ours. We will also host BINGO! this month. We meet on the second Wednesday of each month. Our next social is on Wednesday, November 11, 2:30pm-5:00pm in the Cathedral Atrium.

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Volunteer for Cathedral Restored Order Sacrament Liturgies
The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception is seeking men and women to help with its Restored Order Sacrament liturgies throughout the year. More than 30 celebrations welcome approximately 1,300 third graders and 20,000–24,000 family members and guests. Volunteers are needed for registration, greeting, ushering and hospitality. Volunteers age 18 and older must be Safe Environment trained and vetted through their parish. Saturday events: 9 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Tuesday evening events: 5–9 p.m. Questions: ctoalson@dio.org.

Calvary Cemetery Board Members
Calvary Cemetery is seeking new board members. Applicants should be energetic, able to communicate well in a board setting and willing to share their talent and experience to make a difference for the Catholic families of the Springfield area. Calvary wants to establish a board that has a diverse background including finance, marketing, fundraising, management, landscaping or grounds experience, policy development, human resources, etc. The board meets quarterly and may regularly communicate through emails. Please contact Anthony Swingle by November 15th for more information at aswingle@dio.org.

Stuff a Truck Food Drive
The Knights of Columbus and CCCW are partnering in a "Stuff a Truck" event to collect non-perishable food items for Thanksgiving food baskets. Look for the Red Trucks before & after all Masses November 7 and 8! All non-perishable items as well as personal care items are needed. Cash donations will also be collected so the food pantry can purchase any additional needs. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

Church Cleaning
The Cathedral Council of Catholic Women (CCCW) will be washing pews & kneelers on Tuesday, November 24th from 9am-12pm & 6pm-8:30pm.
All supplies will be provided. This is a perfect opportunity to earn service hours or for a family service experience. We invite anyone interested in spending a few hours to make our Church Home Shine to join us!

Volunteers Needed - Livestreamers
The Cathedral is in great need of volunteers to livestream Mass on Sunday mornings at 10:00am. It's fun, and easy to learn! We'll train you one-on-one, and you can serve at your convenience. Please contact Haley Dutton (hdutton@cathedral.dio.org) if you are interested in serving in this ministry or have questions about what this ministry entails. Volunteers must be Safe Environment trained and background checked.

Gospel Meditation

My first instinct upon waking is to grab my phone and start scrolling. Sometimes I do it for 20 or 30 minutes, and it makes me feel distracted and agitated. I feel guilty, too, for wasting my first moments of the day. So recently, I committed those minutes to reading a book that would focus my mind on Jesus. I enjoy the fact that I am not scattering my attention as much. I feel more peaceful and focused on God.

In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks about attention. He contrasts wise and foolish virgins, and then sums up the teaching by saying, "Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour" (Matthew 25:13). The basic currency of the human heart is attention. The foolish bridesmaids are not immoral or malicious; they are unfocused, distracted, and unprepared. They assume that borrowed oil will suffice, that someone else's readiness can make up for their own lack. But the attention which is love cannot be outsourced. A relationship with God requires personal attentiveness cultivated over time.

This Gospel leaves us with an honest question. What am I giving my attention to each day, and am I forming a heart that is awake, watchful, and ready to meet the Lord when He comes? How can I use key moments of my day to focus my attention where I need it to be?

Father John Muir
©LPi

Stewardship of Treasure

October 31st & November 1st

Envelopes:	$6,261.00
Loose:	$4,383.00
Maintenance:	$845.00
Total:	$11,489.00

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

Martha Goodwin
Date of Death: 10/23/2026

Virtues, Explained! Kindness

In the modern lexicon, the quality of "kindness" is often equated with politeness — but real, virtuous kindness is so much more. Virtuous kindness is a way of seeing others through the eyes of God.

God is not polite — God is kind, and His kindness is abundantly evident in all of creation. It was suspicion of this divine kindness that precipitated the fall of Adam and Eve (CCC 214), and it was this unfailing kindness that facilitated our own adoption as God's children, conformed to the image of His son (CCC 257).

Also known as benevolence or beneficence and derived from the theological virtue of charity, kindness is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22) and is a central theme in the famous parable of the Good Samaritan. In practicing kindness and seeking the good of another without prejudice or condition, the Samaritan reflects God's own plan of loving kindness for us.

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AROUND OUR DIOCESE AND BEYOND

Outside the Wedding Feast

Every time my husband tells me he needs to take our car in for an oil change, I groan: “Didn’t we just do that, like, six months ago?”

“Yeah,” he replies. “And like I told you six months ago, that’s roughly how often it needs to be done.”

If I didn’t have him, I would forget to change that oil until the engine came to a grinding halt in the middle of the interstate. It’s not that I’m incapable — I remember when we’re about to run out of butter, when we need to scrub out the kitchen sink so it doesn’t get nasty, when it’s time to schedule the kids’ annual doctor visits. I just don’t even think about the oil.

Why would I? My husband’s on top of it.

Our brains reflexively prioritize certain tasks, delegating the rest to the care of others we trust. I do it with the oil in the car. My husband does it with the groceries.

Sometimes — too often, in fact — we do it with our spiritual lives. We let it go. We don’t think about it. We trust. God’s got us. We’ll focus on that tomorrow.

It’s beautiful to have a relationship with God based in confidence, not in anxiety. But do we sometimes take this further than is healthy? In trusting that God loves us unconditionally, do we slip into the habit of de-prioritizing him? Do we linger too long outside the wedding feast, trimming our neglected lamps, forgetting that once the door closes, it also locks?

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman
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Around the Diocese

- **St. Cabrini Parish will be hosting their 2026 Nativity Festival** “O Night Divine” on Saturday & Sunday, December 5 & 6. Please call St. Cabrini’s Parish Office if you are interested in loaning us a Nativity Set for the Event, 217-522-8555, or email parishoffice@stcabrini.dio.org for more information. The dates and times to bring your Nativity Sets are: Sunday, November 15, 2026 from 10 to 11 a.m., Tuesday, November 17, 2026 from 1 to 3 p.m., and Friday, November 20, 2 to 6 p.m.

- **Dive Deep Podcast: Why The Devil Hates Mary More Than Jesus** – Why does the devil really hate Mary more than Jesus, do Catholics really worship Mary, what can Mary actually do for us, and why is the Rosary so powerful? We talk all things Mary with Fr. Tony Stephens, Rector of the National Shrine of Our Lady of Champion in Wisconsin, the only approved Marian apparition site in the U.S. 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.