

HIS EXCELLENCY
MOST REVEREND EDWARD M. RICE
By the Grace of God and the Authority of the Apostolic See
Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau

DECREE

Regarding the First Diocesan Eucharistic Congress,
the Celebration of the Solemn Pontifical Mass, and the Modification of Parish Mass Schedules on
August 14–16, 2026

Whereas, the Diocese of Springfield–Cape Girardeau celebrates the 70th Anniversary of its canonical erection as a Diocese, having been established by Pope Pius XII on August 24, 1956;

Whereas the Diocese of Springfield–Cape Girardeau will celebrate its First Diocesan Eucharistic Congress in West Plains, Missouri, on Saturday, August 15, 2026, as a principal observance of this jubilee year and as a sacred occasion of worship, renewal, and unity centered on the Most Holy Eucharist;

Whereas, the Eucharistic Congress is intended to gather the clergy, religious, and lay faithful of the Diocese as one diocesan community around the altar of the Lord, manifesting the communion of the Church and our common faith in the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament;

Whereas, after consultation with the Vicar General and the Presbyteral Council, it has been judged pastorally beneficial to encourage the fullest possible participation of the clergy and faithful in this diocesan celebration;

Whereas, the celebration of a Pontifical Mass presided over by the Diocesan Bishop, together with the priests, deacons, religious, and faithful of the Diocese, and the participation of the clergy in the Eucharistic Congress and this solemn diocesan liturgy, will visibly manifest the unity of the local Church gathered around its shepherd, express the communion of the presbyterate with the Bishop, and strengthen the unity of the entire diocesan community nourished by the Body and Blood of Christ;

Whereas, although the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary is not a Holy Day of Obligation in the Year of Our Lord 2026, it remains a feast of great significance for the faithful, and it is therefore pastorally beneficial to provide for the celebration of a Vigil Mass of the Solemnity throughout the Diocese on the evening of Friday, August 14, 2026;

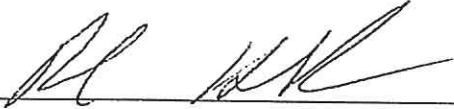
Therefore, by virtue of my authority as Diocesan Bishop and in accord with canons 381 §1 and 838 §4 of the Code of Canon Law, I hereby decree that all regularly scheduled Saturday evening Vigil Masses in the parishes, missions, chapels, and other places of worship within the Diocese of Springfield–Cape Girardeau are canceled on Saturday, August 15, 2026.

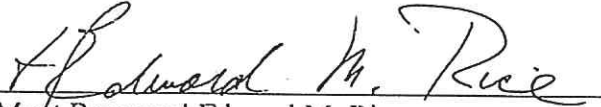
I further decree that pastors and parochial administrators shall celebrate a Vigil Mass of the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary on the evening of Friday, August 14, 2026, according to the liturgical norms of the Roman Rite.

Pastors and Parochial Administrators are hereby directed to make suitable pastoral provision for the faithful by celebrating a Mass on Sunday evening, August 16, 2026, in substitution for the regularly scheduled Saturday evening Vigil Mass that is canceled by virtue of this decree.

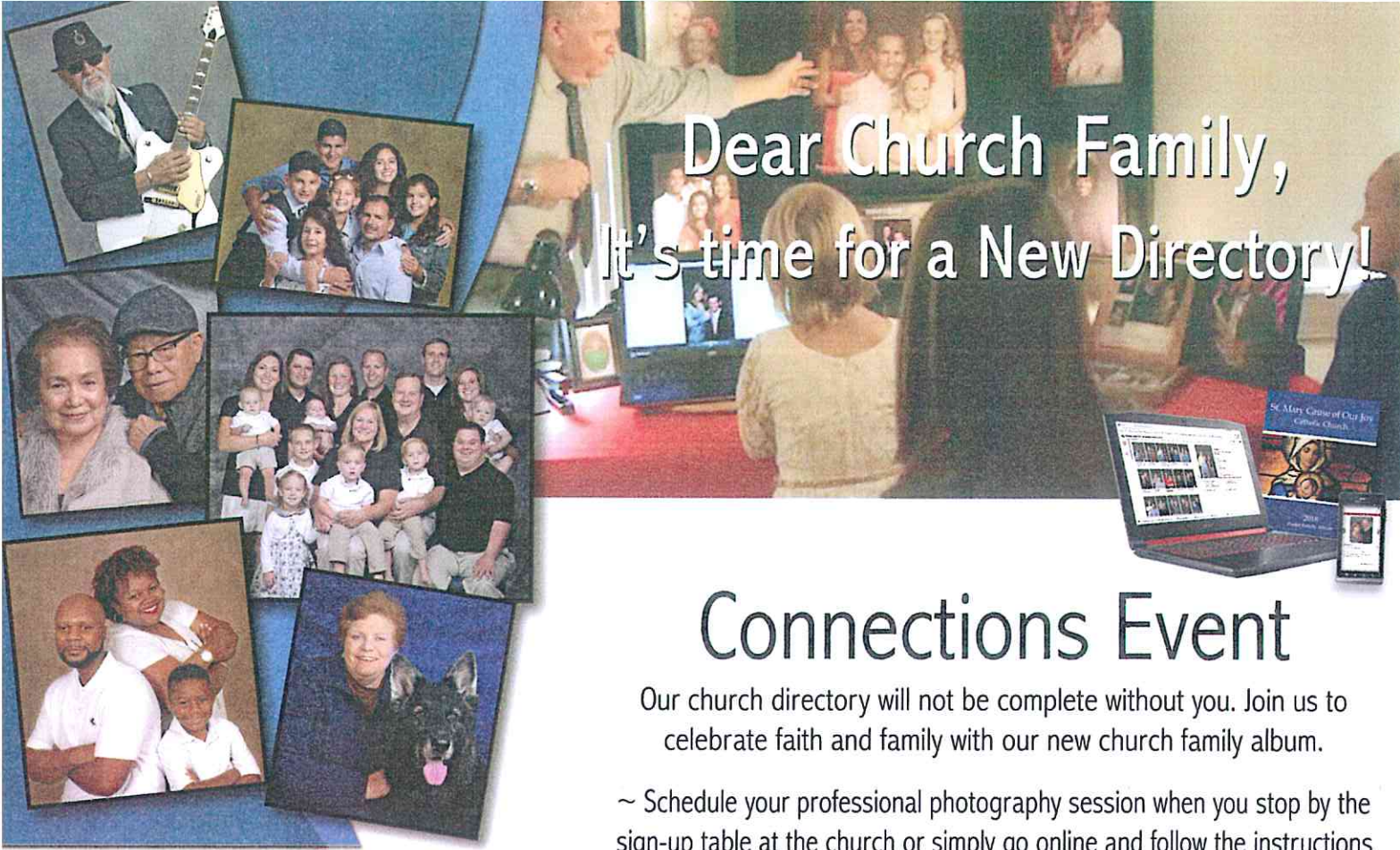
Pastors and Parochial Administrators are further directed to communicate this decree clearly and promptly to the faithful through Diocesan Newspaper, Mirror, parish announcements, bulletins, websites, social media, and other appropriate means.

Given at the Chancery of the Diocese of Springfield–Cape Girardeau on this 24th day of June 2026.


Reverend Deacon Rob Huff
Chancellor


Most Reverend Edward M. Rice
Bishop of Springfield-Cape Girardeau





Dear Church Family, It's time for a New Directory!

Connections Event

Our church directory will not be complete without you. Join us to celebrate faith and family with our new church family album.

~ Schedule your professional photography session when you stop by the sign-up table at the church or simply go online and follow the instructions below. If we don't see your name on our list of appointments, you will receive a phone call inviting you to participate.

~ Every sitting photographed by Universal will receive a complimentary 8 x 10 portrait and a directory!

~ Universal provides a complete professional portrait studio right here at our church! You'll enjoy a variety of poses, backgrounds, portrait sizes, finishes and framing options for the opportunity to purchase portraits to give to your family and friends.

**Set your appointment with
Universal today at ucdir.com!**

Gathering families, Connecting generations.



Directory Committee

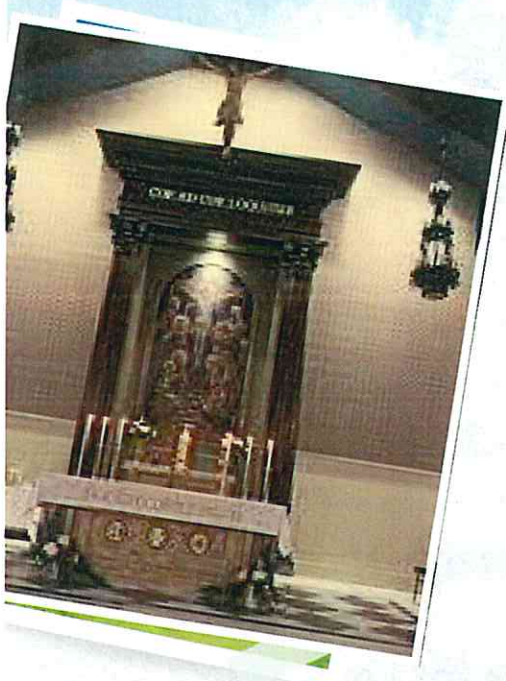
Online Scheduling Available!

To schedule your photography appointment online, simply go to www.ucdir.com, click on photography appointment scheduling login on the right side, enter **mo410** the Church Code field and enter **Hope** in the Church Password field.

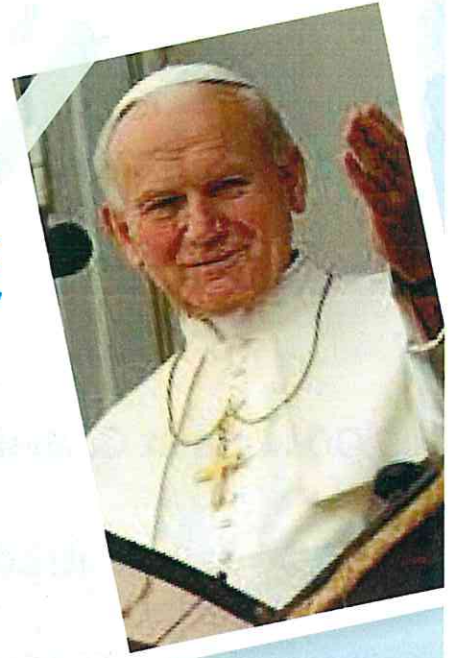
Follow the prompts to schedule your family's appointment time. If you have 6 or more in your family please use 2 consecutive time slots. The online scheduling option is available Monday through Friday. **Appointments fill up quickly, so schedule as soon as possible to secure your preferred date and time.**



THEOLOGY OF THE BODY
EDUCATORS
LEARN • LIVE • GIVE



THEOLOGY OF THE BODY Conference WEEKEND

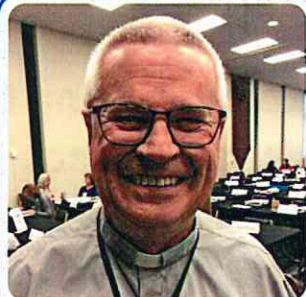


Rediscovering the Human Person Through the Teachings of St. John Paul II

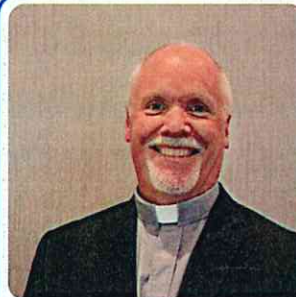
SPEAKERS



**Genevieve
Scherer**



**Deacon Alvin
Stoverink**



**Deacon Thomas
Schumer**



**Nicholas
Koeppel**



**Madeline
Doucet**



**Early Bird Price: \$30 until Aug. 15
SEMO Students Free.**



Location:
Catholic Campus Ministry, SEMO
Cape Girardeau, MO

September 12-13

Register Here



Cape Girardeau, MO



www.tobeducators.com



tobeducators@gmail.com

Schedule

Saturday September 12

- 9:00 Mass at Catholic Campus Ministry chapel - Fr. Patrick Nwokoye
- 9:40 Registration
- 10:00 Talk 1 Introduction to Theology of the Body - Nick Koeppel
- 11:00 break
- 11:30 Talk 2 Genevieve Scherer: Made for Love
- 12:30 Lunch break (go out)
- 2:30 Madeline Doucet
- 3:00-4:15: Small groups - men and women groups
- 4:15 Dinner Together at CCM
- 6:00 Talk 3 Deacon Thomas Schumer: "The Grace of Unitive Love"
- 7:00 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions
- 8:30 Finish with Social and Dance

Sunday September 13

- Breakfast at home/accomodation
- 9:30 Sunday Mass at CCM
- 10:30 Brunch together (simple provided)
- 11:00 Talk 5: Deacon Alvin Stoveriink: "Life in Grace: Intimacy with the Bridegroom"
- 12:00 Q and A Panel with all the Speakers
- 2:00 Finish