

Welcome

Assumption Staff 636.240.3721

Pastor:

Rev. Joseph G. Kempf

Associate Pastor

Rev. Mitch Doyen

Sr. Associate Pastor

Rev. Mark Whitman

Sr. Associate

Rev. Andrew Meiners, C.Ss.R.

Deacons

Jerry Hurlbert Fred Volansky Bill Walbridge

Ext:

Dir of Lay Pastoral Ministry

226 Sarah Beams

Lay Pastoral Associate

240 Amanda Suchara

Director of Administration

225 Jim Hager

Administrative Assistant

232 Janet Schwendemann

Secretary

221 Christine Reinhart

Bookkeeper

234 Mary Knapp

Capital Campaign

235 Rose Tubbs

Youth Ministry

222 Cathy Pescarino

Parish School of Religion

636.240.1020

Derlene Hirtz ext 241

Krista Kenkel (Sec) ext 328

Child Safety Coordinator

Lorraine Niemann

314.837.3757 x224

Sunday Pre School

Denise Hoehne 314.954.0092

Parish Council

Dennis Maher

abvmparishcouncil@gmail.com

Christ Renews His Parish

Jim & Shelly Schneider

636.379.2538



May you find Christ here...

may you bring Christ to the world.

Our 50+ Club invited Paul Kruse from First Step Back Home to speak at their Monday meeting. Paul runs a Faith-Based, Christ Centered Christian Homeless Ministry. After the meeting we received a card of gratitude which said, in part:

"Thank you so very much for your sensitivity to the needs of the homeless being served by First Step Back Home, Inc. ministry. Your donation of \$200 plus a cash offering of \$267 from the event you hosted on October 27, 2014 was a sweet surprise and blessing for us. This helps us continue to say "ves" more often when the calls come in for daily assistance. At this time we're receiving about 30 - 40 calls per day. In the past nine years we have been able to help more than 6000 people with their immediate shelter, food and transportation needs in our region. Support to do all of this has come totally from donations by corporations, churches, community service groups and individuals who have a heightened awareness of this problem."

This Week At Assumption

Sunday, Dec 7 **Prayer Team Ministry** All Masses Church

Hospitality Sunday

All Masses Hall A/B

Nursery

7:45am and 9:45am

8:00am Hall C

9:45am School

Noon Mass

Fair Trade Market

8:30am-1:15pm Parish Center **Sunday Preschool**

New Member Registration

Choral Arts Concert 3:00pm Chapel

Monday, Dec 8

Feast of the Immaculate Conception 8:00am and 7:00pm

School Board

7:00pm Conference Room

Tuesday, Dec 9 **PSR**

6:00pm School

PHD/Benediction 6:30pm Chapel

Liturgy Committee 7:00pm Conference Room Wednesday, Dec 10

MOP's II

9:15am Parish Center

6:00pm School

Extreme Teen 7:00pm Hall C

Thursday, Dec 11 **Advent Penance Service** 7:00pm Motherhouse Chapel

Saturday, Dec 13 Jr High Ministry 6:00pm Hall C

Sunday, Dec 14

Nursery

7:45am and 9:45am

RCIA

8:00am Hall C

Sunday Preschool 9:45am School

Baptism

1:15pm Church



Advent Giving Tree

There are two trees set-up in the Narthex with tags that have wishes for mem-GIVING TREE bers of our community.

Please limit your amount to \$20-\$25 per tag. These gifts will need to be returned to the tree in the downstairs hall, with the tag, no later than December 14, noon mass. Thank you and any questions can be directed to Steve 636.978.4203.

Turkey Drive

The St. Vincent De Paul Society will be collecting turkeys, turkey breasts and hams before Masses this weekend, and again on Dec 13/14. We will be making around 100 Christmas Baskets for families in need in our community. We sincerely appreciate any help that you could give

Want to make difference in the lives of people living in our community? Consider volunteering with our St Vincent DePaul Society. To volunteer or for more information call 636.272.4758 and leave your contact information.



STEWARDSHIP

"Prepare the way of the Lord..." Mark 1:3

We are all called to live a holy life. We are all called to invite others to live holy lives. Living a stewardship lifestyle, being grateful and generous with our gifts, does just that – it puts us on the path to holiness and it invites others to be holy, too.



Life, Peace and Justice: Living the Gospel of Joy

Advent in an Age of Protests – What are we Waiting for?

"Comfort, give comfort to My people"
... "a new heaven and a new earth"...

"Be eager to be found... at peace" ... "Prepare the way" ...

Scripture this weekend sounds like it was written for a 21st century city broken by violence, anger, and division. It sounds like it was written for a terrorized people in places like Kenya and Somalia, where citizens are being executed daily for their faith. It sounds like it was written for a people who have grown weary of the heavy darkness of poverty, anxiety, injustice, broken relationships, and broken promises. Scripture – the inspired word of God – is alive, lived out in our existence here, now, today.

We get a glimpse of John-the-Baptist's humility this weekend in his choice to live with radical simplicity and in his words "One mightier than I is coming after me." John represents preparation – readying the way. John lives in the margins, is cut off, though people still seek him out. Jesus, the "One mightier" than John, represents a new order – community... as His followers will come to be known as the Body of Christ, throughout all time.

This is the mightiness that has been passed to us today; this is the light in the darkness: the promise of the eternal community of the united Body of Christ. When we remember our identity, when we claim our place in the gospel of life, we bring tremendous comfort and light to our world. When we forget... when the Body of Christ is broken by our arrogance, self-interest, despair... when we try to amputate portions of the Body of Christ, then there is suffering.

Advent gives us an opportunity to remember who we are and why we're here. Listen carefully to the scripture in the coming weeks, and hear about the place we have in the story. We are no longer waiting for a child in a manger in a faraway Middle Eastern country. We <u>are</u> that child, the Body of Christ, coming to birth for the life of the world. **We**, the Body of Christ, are the light in darkness. To be the Body of Christ, we need one another – we need to remember that we are connected, united by our baptism in Christ's Spirit, molded as "clay by the Potter" into the image and likeness of Christ.

If we are going to say that we are waiting for the coming of Christ, we need to realize that **we** are the Body of Christ. God's

peace, justice, and love will find flesh in our world as we remember our identity – as we do the deep work of unity... learning about one another, respecting our differences, humbly bowing before one another as walking tabernacles – each of us equally carrying divine DNA, meant to be united as One Body – the Body of Christ.

Prayer: God of our Waiting, may the growing light of the Advent wreath light up our minds and hearts, that we may feel Your Love coming to birth around us, within us, and through us. Amen.

What can I do this Advent? This weekend, 12/6 and 12/7, our Life, Peace, and Justice Ministry is hosting a <u>Fair Trade</u> <u>Christmas shop in the prefunction area after all Masses!!</u> This is a great way to connect with others from around the world – to browse their products and artwork and to share it with others. Fair Trade (also known as Equal Exchange) is a type of commerce that ensures artists, growers, and producers receive ethical/fair profits from the sale of their wares.

Fair Trade cooperatives protect worker rights, promote gender equity, and prevent child labor infractions. In exchange for raw materials, Fair Trade co-ops often require growers to contribute a small percentage to village development (hospitals, schools, etc.), so small communities strengthen themselves without having to resort to international aid or loans. Fair Trade establishes long-term, direct trade relationships to ensure quality and ethical integrity, whereas globalized commercial conglomerates are interested in the cheapest possible market options. Fair trade farming co-ops are environmentally sustainable, prohibited from using harmful synthetic chemicals, and are known for their innovative practices of maintaining soil fertility. Commercial markets have no such environmental regulations, nor are they obligated to protect worker rights, or make any contributions to the local community/villages of the artisans/farmers. Shop Fair Trade and give life to the world!



Assumption Youth Ministry Fall 2014

Serving the teens of Assumption Church

December

10 – Xtreme Teen - MAMMA MARY – Right after the Feast of the Immaculate Conception we'll come together to talk about our beautiful Mother. Be there and bring friends!!! Hall C 7-9pm

17 – Bible Study/Bother the Father – a great night to dive deeper into The Word! Check it out! Sophia House 7-8:30pm

24 – Christmas Eve – Teen Choir/Band singing at the 4pm Mass

31 – New Years Eve – No event but bring in the new year with a prayer. Amen!

Generation Life

January 21 – 25 - Spots still available to head to Washington DC to attend the ProLife March. \$250.

CHWC – Sign up now! Only 40 spots this year so get your deposits in fast.

Big Events Just Around the Corner

The ProLife March – January 21-25, 2015 - See Flyer in this weekends bulletin.

Like us on Facebook: Assumption Church Youth Group Follow us on twitter



Have You Considered Planning Your Funeral Mass?

Does that sound like an odd question? As people of faith, we know that we are bound for a life beyond this life. Just as many folks take time to draft a will or trust and make arrangements for cremation or burial, it is also a grace-filled process to think about the kind of funeral or memorial Mass you might like... maybe you already know some hymns you would like to have sung, or perhaps you've heard some scripture that you'd like to use.

It's a gift to our loved ones to already have these kinds of things planned, and it's also a way for us to participate in how we're remembered. If you'd like to know more about this or would like to meet with someone to talk about what kinds of things are possible at a funeral Mass, contact Amanda in the parish office 636.240.3721 ext. 240 or amanda.assumptionbvm@gmail.com.



Next Sunday, December 14, is St. Vincent De Paul food Sunday. At this time the pantry is in need of the following items: pancake mix and syrup, grape jelly, tuna helper, chicken helper, frosting, glass cleaner, toilet bowl cleaner, all-purpose cleaner, and laundry deter-

gent. Grocery store gift cards are always welcome.

Thank you for your continued support of the food pantry.

Christ Renews His Parish

(CRHP) is an exciting weekend of faith building, fellowship, reflection, song, and prayer hosted by parishioners for parishioners. The purpose of the weekend is to grow spiritually and closer in your relationship with God and with your fellow parishioners. The women's retreat will be held on January 17-18, 2015. If you would like more information or to register for this exciting weekend call Angela Dowdy 314.605.9852.



December Media Table News

This Christmas, Give the Beautiful Message of Jesus, with one of Father Joe's signed books or DVD's. All Father Joe's products can be purchased in the Parish Center, **this**

weekend, after the 5:00pm Mass on Saturday, December 6 and on Sunday, December 7 during all Masses. For information about purchasing a Gospel Values, Inc. product at any time, please contact Lynn Crews at 294-0821 or email:lynncrews721@gmail.com.

The Gospel Values Media Team would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Invitation to Divorced and Separated Catholics

A 12 week program entitled The Catholic's Divorce Survival Guide begins on January 8, Immaculate Conception (Dardenne). Contact Debi at: debijo@att.net or 314.276.3859 for more info or to register. Cost: \$25.

Mass Intentions

Sunday, Dec 7

8:00am Edward Hoffner 10:00am Kurt Klinghammer 12:00pm People of the Parish

Monday, Dec 8

6:30am Rosemary Hawkins Emil & Catherine Bubash 8:00am

7:00pm Jerry Phillips

Tuesday, Dec 9

Alois Tochtrop 6:30am 8:00am Ed Boyer

Wednesday, Dec 10

Sr Virginia Volkerding 6:30am

Tom Groark 8:00am

Thursday, Dec 11

Deceased Sister of the 6:30am

Most Precious Blood

8:00am Rita Freiburg

Friday, Dec 12

William Sommer 6:30am 8:00am Sara Henke

Saturday, Dec 13

Belmont Family 9:00am 5:00pm Leroy Winkelman

Sunday, Dec 14

8:00am Paul Grawe

10:00am Frank Keeven & Family 12:00pm People of the Parish



We pray for the repose of the soul of:

Frank McGillycuddy **Husband of Nola McGillycuddy**

Virgil Naumann **Brother of Kenneth Naumann**

Orval Vanbooven **Brother of Darlene Winkelmann**

> Norman Bubash Brother in Law of Deacon Bill Walbridge

> **Charlotte Wolf** Mother of Jan Faerber

May God welcome them home, fill them with peace, and bless those who will miss them.

Caroling Christmas Cards

Caroling Christmas Cards bring a musical holiday greeting right to vour door. Members of the Choral Arts Singers will deliver a unique holiday mini concert to the address that you choose-a terrific way to let someone know they are especially thought of during the holidays. Cards will be delivered (O Fallon. Lake St Louis, Wentzville) Dec 15 between 6:30-9:30pm. Reservations limited. For reservations or information call Bonnie 636.887.2899.



The MOPS group will be selling cookbooks this weekend December 7. They are \$10 COOKBOOKS each and we accept cash and checks. We

will also have some cookbooks gift wrapped for the holidays. If you can't make it this weekend call Jennifer Bolinger at 314.603.0872.



Hospitality Sunday Join us today, Dec 7 for Hospitality Sunday after

Feast of the **Immaculate Conception**

Monday, December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and a holy day of obligation. Mass will be celebrated on Monday, December 8 as follows:

6:30am Motherhouse Chapel 8:00am & 7:00pm Church

There will be no vigil Mass.

2014 Holiday **Bulletin Schedule**

Bulletin Date **Submission Date** December 21 Thurs, Dec 11 Wed, Dec 17 December 28 Mon, Dec 22 January 4

Readings for the Week Dec 8 - Dec 14

Mon: Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6. 11-12: Lk 1:26-38

Tue: Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac,

11-13; Mt 18:12-14 Wed: Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10;

Mt 11:28-30 Thu: Is 41:13-20; Ps 145:1, 9, 10-

13ab; Mt 11:11-15

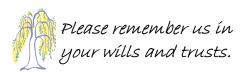
Fri: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab; Jdt 13:18bcde, 19: Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47, or any readings from the Com mon of the Blessed Virgin Mary, nos. 707-712

Sat: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13

Sun: Is 61:1-2a, 10-11; Lk 1:46-50, 53-54; 1 Thes 5:16-24; Jn 1:6 -8, 19-28

Around Town

St. Theodore (Flint Hill) K of C Chicken Fry, Dec 12, 5-7pm



Sunday Offering Our Gifts to God

It takes an average weekly contribution of \$36,000.00 to meet our Parish Offertory Budget.

Total Offertory Year To Date: July 6, 2014 - Nov 02, 2014

Offertory Budget \$ 619,250.00 Actual Offertory \$ 631.020.00 Difference 11.770.00

2015 Lector Workbooks – Ready for Pickup

ATTENTION ALL LECTORS: If you requested to have a workbook for the coming liturgical year, please stop by the Guadalupe Room, pick-up a Lector workbook, and mark your name off the list. If you would like to make a contribution to help cover the cost of the workbooks (\$12) – THANK YOU; simply issue a check payable to Assumption Church and write "Lector Workbook" in the memo line. Checks can be given to Parish Office or deposited in the collection basket.

Christmas Concert

The Concert Arts Assoc invites you to join them **today**, December 7, 3:00pm, in the Chapel, as the Choral Arts Singers present their annual Christmas Concert. This year's program includes a variety of both popular and religious music to celebrate the Christmas season. Admission is free, but donations to support the association are welcome. For additional information and concert dates contact Bonnie Lang at 636.887.2899 or visit concertarts.org

Christmas Novena

Wednesday, December 17 - Tuesday December 23 The Sisters of the Most Precious Blood invite you to join them for a Christmas novena at 7:00pm each evening in the Motherhouse Chapel. Short candlelight service with songs, Old Testament prophecies, readings and prayers. For futher information call Sr Luella Dames 636.542.9510.0

Prayer Team Ministry

This weekend, December 6/7, and each month on the first weekend of the month, you are invited to come forward for prayers after any Mass. Whether you are in need of prayers for yourself or a loved one, we will have prayer teams available in the front of church after the closing song.

School Uniform Sweatshirts

Purchase now and throughout the school year at A.M. PRINTS, 717 Sonderen St, O Fallon, MO 636.272.1825 Hours: Tues, Wed, & Fri, 9am - 5pm.



Advent Penance Service

Advent is a time of preparation, reconciliation, and hope. Looking for a way to prepare your heart, to fill your soul with peace? Join us in the Motherhouse Chapel on Thursday, December 11, 7:00pm for a communal Penance Service. Immediately following this service, time will be given for individual confessions.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve: Wednesday, December 24

4:00pm

4:30pm (Chapel)

6:00pm

10:00pm

Our 6:00pm Christmas Eve Mass will be particularly family-friendly. Families are invited to bring the baby Jesus figurine from their Nativity sets, to be used as part of a special blessing that will be given during the Mass.



Christmas Day: Thursday, December 25

8:00am 10:00am

12:00pm

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Wednesday, December 31: Vigil Mass: 5:00pm Thursday, January 1: 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm



Parish Christmas Wish List

In the spirit of St. Nicholas, perhaps you will add the mission of Assumption Parish to your list of those to

receive gifts at Christmas. We are deeply grateful for your ongoing generosity and commitment to bring Christ to the world. If you are considering year end giving this year, here are some recommended stocking stuffers which would enhance our capacity to proclaim Good News to the ends of the earth:

Sponsor one month of Electricity for our church \$4,000

Sponsor altar wine for 3 months \$900

Sponsor altar bread for 2 months \$400

Provide or sponsor 40 copies of the book "Cricket in Times Square" by George Selden \$250

Sponsor a pallet of ice melt to keep our pathways safe in winter \$250

Sponsor carpet shampooing in a PreK classroom \$150

Sponsor supplies used by our school nurse \$100

Provide or sponsor a dozen 8GB "Flash drives" for our school teachers \$60

Provide or sponsor tools for the school's outdoor classroom (shovel, rake & gloves) \$40

Provide lumps of coal for four rectory stockings on Christmas morning \$1,000

Thank you again for living our mission so well!

Healing Companions

Do you have a loved one who is sick or recovering from a recent surgery/procedure? Have questions about how to care for him/her? We have a ministry for that!

Our Healing Companions ministry is staffed by medical professionals, who are available to answer your questions, help connect you with supports/resources, or even visit with your loved ones as they are in the healing process to address any of their concerns.

If you need help navigating the world health care for you or your loved ones, call Ruth at 314.750.4816 or send her an email kare4dky@aol.com and she will connect you with one of our Healing Companions.

Young Adult Group Christmas Party!

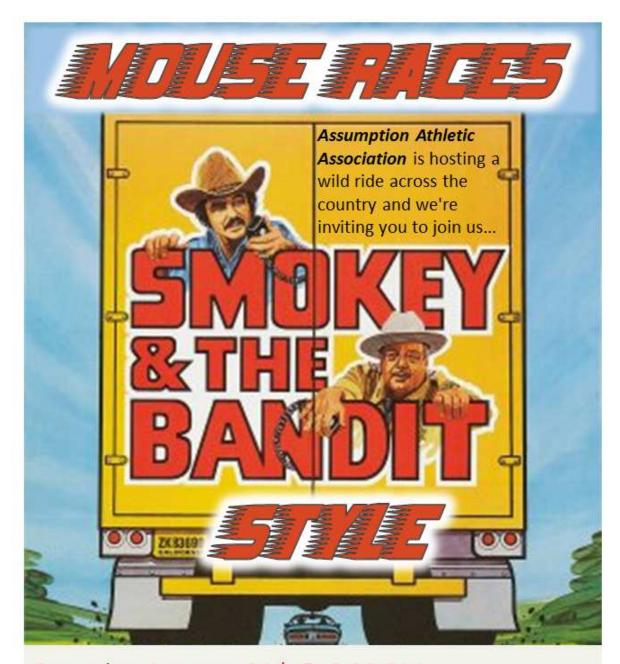
When: Saturday, Dec 20 Where: Sophia House Time: 6:00pm

- . Ugly /weater conte/t!
- . Rob your neighbor game!
- . fun. food.drinks!

What to bring: \$10 max small gift Side dish or appetizer to share



RSVP By Dec17 to frmark1995@gmail.com



Saturday, January 31st @ 6:30 PM

Your Ticket Includes:

- Beer & Set-Ups
 50/50 Drawings
- Poker Table
- Valuable Door Prizes
- Silent Auction
- Awards for Best Dressed

Register at: AssumptionMouseRace2015.eventbrite.com

Early-Bird Pricing (in December): \$15 Ticket Price in January: \$20

Memorial Cards

In the sadness and grief of losing someone we love to death, some may wish to do something tangible and create a special way to remember them. At Assumption, we have memorial cards that can be used to remember a loved one through a general donation to the church. The donations will be used to meet a current need of the parish. As they are received, we will remember your loved one in a special way in prayer.

There are cards available in the Narthex of church. Please pick up one or two cards to take home with you. The cards are also available at local funeral homes upon request.

Baptismal Preparation Class

All parents are required to participate in a class of Pre-Baptismal instruction before having their child/children baptized at Assumption. For expectant parents it is often better to attend this class before baby is born. Call the Parish Office at 240.3721 to schedule a class.

Meals For the Homeless

The Peace & Justice committee prepares and serves food to the working poor and homeless twice a month at the Economy Inn (Wentzville). If interested in helping in this effort contact LaVina Eickoff 314.323.3501.



Free gift cards available for your special occasion, which read:

A GIFT FOR YOU

You will be enriched in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God. 2 Corinthians 9:11

On the occasion of (name and celebration):

(Birthday, Anniversary, Graduation, Baptism, First Communion, Confirmation, Wedding, Christmas, Easter, Ordination, Extraordinary Generosity, or Other Celebratory Event.)

a donation has been made to the Growing Project for the relief of chronic global hunger and poverty.

Because you live, I pray that others might also live!

Signature:

On the back of the card, the recipient can read more about the Growing Project...

If you would like to make a donation and receive a free gift card to send to your loved one, please contact Sarah Beams, Director of Lay Pastoral Ministry at 636.240.3712 or just stop by the parish office.

CELEBRATION OF THE MASS

Weekend Masses

Saturday 9:00am (Motherhouse Chapel) Vigil 5:00pm Sunday 8:00am 10:00am 12:00pm

Daily Mass

Weekdays 6:30am (Motherhouse Chapel) 8:00am

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 4:00–4:45pm

BAPTISM

2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 1:15pm. Required Preparation Class.
Call 240.3721 to register.

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

Those preparing for marriage should contact the rectory at least one year in advance. One party must be a registered member of Assumption and living an active, practicing Catholic life. Contact Janet at the Parish Office.

RITE of CHRISTIAN INITIATION of ADULTS

(RCIA) Process through which adults are initiated into the Catholic Church by Baptism or Profession of Faith. For information Missy Lowrey 314.630.3983.

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Religious instruction in the Catholic faith. Call Derlene Hirtz, 636.240.1020 for information or to register.

CATHOLICS RETURNING HOME

For inactive Catholics returning to Church. For more information call Steve King, 699.9961 or Dee King 734.3437.

MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

For one-on-one grief support, contact Kris Bohn at 379.8567, and for information regarding our grief support series, which is held twice per year, contact Lynn Crews at 294.0821.

OFFICE INFORMATION

403 N Main Street O'Fallon MO 63366 636.240.3721 Parish Office 636.240.3722 Fax Office Hours - Weekdays 8:30am–4:00pm

ASSUMPTION SCHOOL

Principal: Genny Callier 636.240.4474

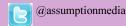
BULLETIN NOTICES

Submit to Parish Office by Tuesday 9:00am

WEBSITE

www.assumptionbvm.org





CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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SOFTWARE

MSPublisher 2007 Adobe X Windows XP

PRINTER

Toshiba e-Studio 4555

TRANSMISSION TIME

Wednesday 4:00

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION

Dec 7, 2014

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

1 THROUGH 11

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Please send 1550 copies of the bulletin!

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