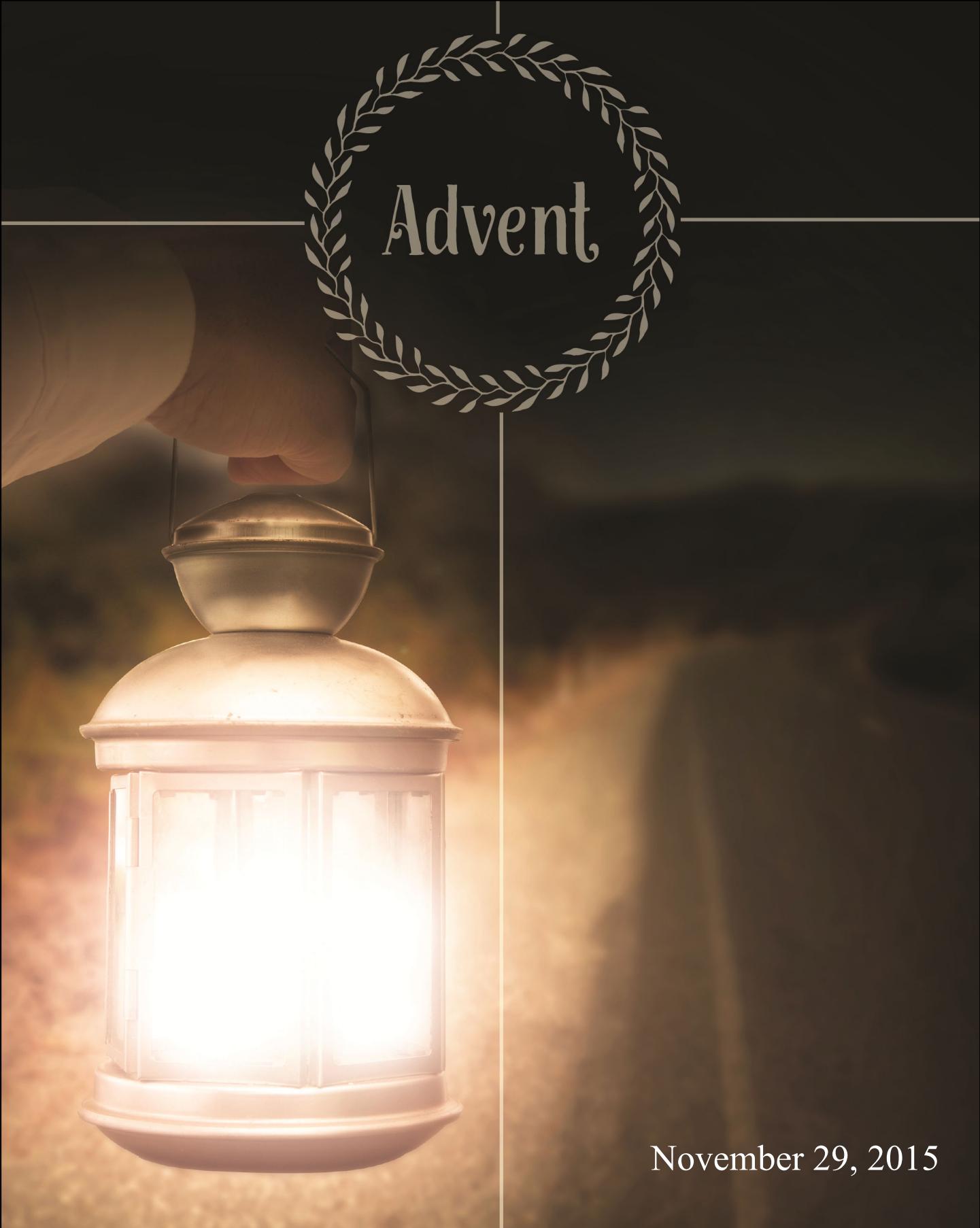


ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH



A photograph of a hand holding a white, lantern-shaped candle holder. The lantern is lit from within, casting a warm, golden glow. Above the lantern, a circular wreath of green leaves is centered over the word "Advent". The background is dark and out of focus.

Advent

November 29, 2015

Welcome

November 29, 2015

Assumption Staff

636.240.3721

Ext:

Parochial Administrator

242 Rev. Mitch Doyen
doyen.assumption@gmail.com

Associate Pastor

325 Rev. Mark Whitman

Senior Associate

Rev Ronald Rubbelke

Transitional Deacon

239 Peter Terwase Faimega
faimegablase@gmail.com

Deacons

Jerry Hurlbert - Fred Volansky
Bill Walbridge

Ext

Dir of Lay Pastoral Ministry

226 Sarah Beams

Lay Pastoral Associate

240 Amanda Suchara
229 Mickie McCool
247 Jeannette Hamann

Director of Administration

225 Jim Hager

Advancement Office

232 Janet Schwendemann
235 Rose Tubbs

Parish Secretary

221 Christine Reinhart

Bookkeeper

234 Mary Knapp

Director of Youth Ministry

222 Cathy Pescarino

Parish School of Religion

636.240.1020

Dir of Religious Education

Derlene Hirtz ext 241

Secretary

Krista Kenkel ext 328

Child Safety Coordinator

Lorraine Niemann
314.837.3757 x 224

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

Coordinator of Music Ministry

bryanbeams@yahoo.

Prepare

We affectionately call this the holiday season. The beauty of Thanksgiving and the light of Christmas occur so close in time it seems our culture wants to have one continuous celebration. In this season of Advent, though, there is work for us to do; it is time to prepare for the coming of the Lord.



Our readings today proclaim the second coming of the Lord; it will not be until the third Sunday of Advent that we turn our hearts to Bethlehem. Once again as Jesus speaks of the sun and the moon and the stars, we are invited to take an inward glance. Is our mind open to the truth; is our heart ready to love; is our soul in touch with its longing? Is there room in us for the Lord of all creation to make a home? Let us be quiet and empty in these first days of the journey.

Fr Mitch

Advent Materials

Advent materials are available this weekend for children, teens, adults and families this weekend in the Narthex.

Christmas Masses

We will again offer eight masses at Christmas. I cannot encourage you enough to consider the good timing and beauty of all our Christmas masses. While the 4:00pm mass in Church and our 4:30pm mass in Chapel are overflowing with people, we have found that the 6:00pm mass in Church, the 8:00pm mass at the Motherhouse Chapel, the 10:00pm mass in Church and the 8am, 10am and noon masses on Christmas morning all have room for more people. Please consider planning your Christmas schedule in a way that allows you to attend a Christmas mass later on Christmas Eve or on Christmas morning. God bless you.



*May you find Christ here . . .
May you bring Christ to the world.*

We had the most successful blood drive we have had in over a year. Forty-seven people came, 45 were able to donate and we had one double platelet donation. This beautiful act of generosity really is the difference between life and death for many. THANK YOU!

Prayer Team Ministry

Next weekend, December 5/6 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.

This Week At Assumption

Sunday, Nov 29
Advent By Candlelight
Reservations Required

Monday, Nov 30
CRHP Men
7:00pm Sophia House

Tuesday, Dec 1
Eucharistic Adoration
9:00am - 6:30pm Chapel

PSR
6:00pm School

PHD/Benediction
6:30pm Chapel

Wednesday, Dec 2
Bible Study
1:45pm Meyer Room

PSR
6:00pm School

Extreme Teen Studip
7:00pm Sophia House

CRHP Women
7:00pm Conference Room

Centering Prayer
7:00pm Motherhouse

St Vincent DePaul
7:00pm Meyer Room

Thursday, Dec 3
First Reconciliation
6:30pm Church

Friday, Dec 4
KC Fish Fry
5:00pm Parish Center

Saturday, Dec 5
First Reconciliation

Fair Trade Market
4:30pm-6:30pm Parish Center

Sunday, Dec 6
Prayer Team Ministry
All Masses Church

Hospitality Sunday
All Masses Hall A/B

RCIA
8:00am Hall C

Fair Trade Market
8:30am-1:30pm Parish Center

Sunday Pre School
10:00am School

New Member Registration
Noon Mass



New Member Registration

If you are attending Mass here but have not yet formally registered, we invite you to do so. So that we might welcome you personally, we invite you to attend noon Mass Sunday, December 6, for new member registration

ALL Are Invited... to invite a friend to Mass Dec 5/6

Each and every first weekend of the month, you are invited to invite someone you know who may not be church-going on a regular basis to: Come to Mass.

Pope Francis said, "Those who have opened their hearts to God's love, heard his voice and received his light, cannot keep this gift to themselves. Since faith is hearing and seeing, it is also handed on as word and light."

Let's be inexplicably kind, patient, compassionate, and thankful. Let's let our unconditional, unwarranted goodness and joy take others by surprise and stir them to wonder why we're like that. Then, let's be ready to extend the gentle invitation: "Come with me and find out."

Prayer – Jesus, may others know You through me.

PRAYER • PARTICIPATION • GENEROSITY

STEWARDSHIP

"But when these signs begin to happen, stand erect and raise your heads because your redemption is at hand." Luke 21:28

We celebrate Advent each year in preparation of the birth of Jesus, His first coming, as we await his second coming. In this Advent season, use the sacrament of Reconciliation to strengthen your relationship with Jesus. It's never too late.

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation

December 8 is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and a holy day of obligation. The Immaculate Conception means that the Blessed Virgin Mary, whose conception was brought about the normal way, was conceived without original sin or its stain—that's what

"immaculate" means: without stain. The essence of original sin consists in the deprivation of sanctifying grace, and its stain is a corrupt nature. Mary was preserved from these defects by God's grace; from the first instant of her existence she was in the state of sanctifying grace and was free from the corrupt nature original sin brings. We will celebrate Mary's state of being "immaculate" and "full of grace" with Mass times listed here:

Mass Times:

Monday, December 7:

5:30pm Vigil Mass - Church

Tuesday December 8:

6:30am (Motherhouse Chapel)
and 8:00am, and 7:00pm - Church.

Dedication of the Lourdes Grotto

Join us on December 8, the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, at 7:30am, as we dedicate the new "Lourdes Grotto" located on the property of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood (Main St, O Fallon).



As we enter into the Advent season with the need for peace in our world and the hope and expectation for redemption and healing, the Prophet Isaiah reminds us to take comfort in God and

Clear a path through the wilderness. Make a straight road through the desert for our God! Let every valley be filled in, every mountain and hill be laid low; let every cliff become a plain, and the ridges become a valley! ~ Isaiah 40:3-4

How will you prepare for peace in patient waiting for the Christ Child in today's world? When will you clear a path in your life to learn about, act upon, and pray for: a more peaceful heart, voice and home; reverence towards ALL life; the courage to become more involved in restorative justice?

Dear God, you ask us to both wait and act. Please provide us with the grace to do each of these.

Christmas Concert

The Concert Arts Assoc. invites you to join them for their 44rd season of musical excitement on Sunday, December 13 at 3:00pm as the "Choral Arts Singers" present their annual Christmas Concert here at Assumption Parish in the Chapel. "The Stories of Christmas" includes a variety of both popular and religious music to celebrate this wonderful Christmas season. Admission is free, but donations are welcome to help the Concert Arts Assoc. continue their efforts of bringing musical enjoyment to our community.

For additional information and concert dates, contact Bonnie Lang at 636.887.2899 or visit concertarts.org.

St Vincent DePaul Thrift Store Donations

Did you know . . . The St Vincent DePaul Thrift Store now has a donation box located on Parking Lot D.

The box is for **clothing only!**

Thank you for supporting the St Vincent DePaul Society!!



Assumption Youth Ministry

Prolife March

Still spots open! Grab a flyer at any youth ministry event or check it out online at [### Catholic Heart Work Camp](http://assumptionbvm.org>YouthMinistry/HighSchoolNewsEvents</p>
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Flyers coming soon for our mission trip this summer to Groton, MA. June 19-26, 2016

Email: abvmyouth@gmail.com

Phone: 636.485.5221

Like us on Facebook: Assumption Church Youth Group

Follow us on twitter: ACYG Youth Ministry@acygyouth

WE NOW HAVE INSTAGRAM: acyg.youthministry

Ham or Turkey Donation

December 12-13

The St Vincent DePaul Society prepares Christmas food baskets to be given to families that have been helped throughout the year. As such, we are asking for donation of either ham or frozen turkeys to be included in the baskets for our families. The ham or turkey should be dropped off and placed in the coolers stationed in the hallway of the Parish Center on the weekend of December 12/13 before or after all masses. St Vincent DePaul provides food baskets to 80-100 families. Thank you for all your love and support.



Advent Giving Tree

There are two trees set-up in the Narthex with tags that have wishes for members of our community. Please limit your amount to \$20-\$25 per tag. These gifts will need to be returned to the tree in the Parish Center, with the tag firmly attached to the gift, **no later than December 13**, noon mass. Thank you and any questions can be directed to Steve 636.443.5854.



What if in a day and a half you were given one chance to be a happier you... a better parent... a better spouse... find true peace... or even have your faith COMPLETELY energized? Or, maybe for the first time, feel the presence of God calling your name. If given this chance... to invest a day and a half... would you? Sound impossible?

MIRACLES happen... lives are changed **FOREVER...**
YOU are invited to attend a:

CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH RETREAT

Mark your calendar now... more information to come!

2016 Retreats

Women's Retreat: January 16-17

Men's Retreat: February 20-21

This is your time...

This is your invitation...

Come and experience this **AWE**-some weekend!

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.

Get Connected

If you long to express your faith, grow in friendship and deepen your relationship with God, consider joining a Small Church Community. Call Mickie McCool in the parish office at x229 or email MyMcCool@gmail.com.



Mass Intentions**Sunday, Nov 29**

8:00am Peggy Vassallo
10:00am Betty Wiesehan
12:00pm People of the Parish

Monday, Nov 30

6:30am Bernice Klocke
8:00am Leo & Bernice Schmersahl

Tuesday, Dec 1

6:30am Kayla Wooten
8:00am Anna Fallert

Wednesday, Dec 2

6:30am Sr Margaret Helen Schuette
8:00am George Klevorn

Thursday, Dec 3

6:30am Cathy Bert & Family
8:00am Bernice Bowden

Friday, Dec 4

6:30am Vocations
8:00am Martha Boehmer

Saturday, Dec 5

9:00am Cindi Reller
5:00pm Elmer & Catherine Erard

Sunday, Dec 6

8:00am Wes Tucker
10:00am Michael Hammon
12:00pm People of the Parish



*Please pray for the repose
of the soul of:*

Patrick O'Daniel
Father of Christy Heath
and Katie Supp

Frederick Clark
Uncle of Barbara Stettner

Ted Mueller
Husband of Mary Mueller

James Pihir
Father of Carolyn Bequette

David Burkemper
Husband of Virginia Burkemper

Jack Thomas
Husband of Renee Thomas

Caroling Christmas Cards

Caroling Christmas Cards bring a musical holiday greeting right to your door. Members of the "Choral Arts Singers" will deliver a unique holiday mini-concert of 5 selections 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 on Monday, December 14 from 6:30pm to 9:30pm in the O'Fallon/Lake St. Louis/Wentzville area for a donation of \$50.00. A limited number of cards are available, so reserve yours today. For reservations or additional information, contact Bonnie Lang at 636.887.2899.

**Hospitality Sunday/**

Join us Sunday, December 6, for Hospitality Sunday after all Masses in Hall A/B.

Knights of Columbus**Fish Fry**

The KC Fish Fry on Friday, December 4 will be held in the Assumption Parish Center beginning at 5:00pm.

Server Schedule**Saturday, Dec 5**

5:00pm	Clayton Arrowood
	Claire Albrecht
	Henry staebell

Sunday, Dec 6

8:00am	Alex Fluhr
	Jacob Dearing
	Caleb Stoddard

10:00am	Breckyn Russell
	Joey Friedel
	Reece Askin

12:00pm	Ella Boeding
	Grace Henderson
	Nathan Konikkara

Stewardship
Our Gifts to God and Parish

We are grateful to you for your presence, your participation,
and your financial support of Assumption Parish.

	Nov 1	Jul 1, 15 - Nov 1, 15
Envelopes (600)	\$ 31,194	\$ 475,984
Online Giving	\$ 6,266	\$ 97,572
Loose	\$ 1,079	\$ 18,628
Total	<hr/> 38,539	<hr/> 592,184
Budget		617,223

It takes an average weekly collection of \$36,000
to sustain our parish mission.

"Every man according as he purposes in his heart, so let him give;
not grudgingly, or of necessity, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2Cor 9:7



Life Peace Justice

Dear Assumption Parishioners,



Each week our Life, Peace, and Justice articles center around one of these seven themes. We strive to educate, to call to action, and to encourage prayer as one would do who cares about a child, a parent, or a dear friend.

The Church's social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society. In these brief reflections, we highlight several of the key themes that are at the heart of our Catholic social tradition.

Life and Dignity of the Human Person

The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is discarded from **abortion** and **euthanasia**. The value of human life is being threatened by **cloning**, **embryonic stem cell research**, and the use of the **death penalty**. The intentional targeting of civilians in **war** or terrorist attacks is always wrong. Catholic teaching also calls on us to work to avoid war. Nations must protect the right to life by finding increasingly effective ways to prevent conflicts and **resolve them by peaceful means**. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the **life and dignity** of the human person.

Call to Family, Community, and Participation

The person is not only sacred but also social. **How we organize our society** -- in economics and politics, in law and policy -- directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. **Marriage and the family** are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened. We believe people have a right and a duty to **participate in society**, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.

Rights and Responsibilities

The Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental **right to life** and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities--to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the **needs of the poor and vulnerable first**.

The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

The **economy must serve people**, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected--the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative.

Solidarity

We are **one human family** whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers and sisters keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has **global dimensions** in a shrinking world. At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Pope Paul VI taught that if you want peace, work for justice.¹ The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.

Care for God's Creation

We show our respect for the Creator by our **stewardship of creation**. Care for the earth is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.

This summary should only be a starting point for those interested in **Catholic social teaching**. A full understanding can only be achieved by reading the papal, conciliar, and episcopal documents that make up this rich tradition. For a copy of the complete text of **Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions** (No. 5-281) and **other social teaching documents**, call 800-235-8722. Or go to <http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/seven-themes-of-catholic-social-teaching.cfm>



16 days to “Orange The World”

Just a reminder now through December 10, Human Rights Day, the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence aim to raise public awareness and mobilizing people everywhere to bring about change. All are asked to **wear something orange now through December 10** as a reminder to themselves and others they meet to end violence against women and girls.

See more at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/end-violence-against-women>

Matching Gifts Program

All Boeing, Tyco, McDonald Corp, Verizon, Well Fargo, Bank of America, First Data, Home Depot, Monsanto, IBM, Merrill Lynch, MasterCard, UPS, Ameren employee and retirees!!!

Did you know that . . . These companies offer a matching gift program for private elementary schools and Assumption School qualifies?

Did you know that . . . by designating your weekly contribution to the school and with the matching gift funds Assumption School receives, the parish subsidy for the school is reduced?

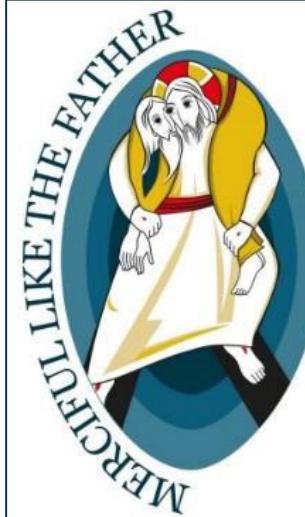
If you work or are retired from one of these companies, please consider taking advantage of their matching gift program.

For more information please contact Jim Hager in the parish office at 636.240.3721 ext 225.



Wanted: Bicycles For Local Children

Sts. Joachim & Ann Care Service is looking for bicycle donations to provide to needy children participating in the annual Adopt-A-Family Christmas program. Last year, more than 350 bikes were given to children in the area for Christmas. The Loyal Order of the Squirrels will refurbish, fix and clean the bikes that are donated. All bikes must be dropped off at the garage located behind the Care Service at 4116 McClay Road in St. Charles. **Please Note: Assumption is unable to accept donated bicycles.** For more information, contact Amy Armour at 636-441-1302, ext. 266.



The Jubilee

Year of Mercy begins on December 8, 2015, the fiftieth anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. Here are a few important themes for reflection during this important year.

Jesus is the “face” of the Father’s mercy

Jesus of Nazareth, Pope Francis writes in *Misericordiae Vultus*, the Bull of Indiction of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, is the “face” of the Father’s mercy—he reveals the mercy of God by his words, actions, and person. We follow Jesus’ example when we open ourselves to the Father’s mercy by looking “sincerely” into the eyes of our brothers and sisters, including those “who are denied their dignity.” How have you experienced the Father’s mercy in your own life? How might Jesus be calling you to look “sincerely” into the eyes of those who are denied their dignity?

Pope Francis’ Prayer for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

You are the visible face of the invisible Father, of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy: let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.

You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error: let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing, so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord, and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed, and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this through the intercession of Mary, Mother of Mercy, you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.
Amen.

Excerpted from Pope Francis’ Prayer for the Jubilee Year of Mercy

*Join us for shopping,
food samples and more!!*

DECEMBER 5 & 6

PARISH CENTER
4:30 - 6:30 on Sat
8:30 - 1:30 on Sun

An ideal place to get unique gifts for the holidays. Buying fair trade items creates opportunities, prohibits child labor, supports safe and empowering working conditions, and supports living wages for our brothers and sisters around the world.

What you buy impacts the world!

Shop for sterling silver and rhodium religious jewelry. A portion of the proceeds goes to organizations that help survivors of sexual abuse heal from their emotional scars.

<http://www.compelling-creations.com>

Gifts with a purpose

fairtrade

**Christmas
Market**



<http://www.plowsharing.org>

A Grateful and Generous Heart

Pope Francis says the Church “urgently needs the deep breath of prayer.” Prayer, he says, is finding and cultivating “an interior space” (*The Joy of the Gospel*, 262 and 2). In silence and stillness, we come to know Jesus. We learn to follow Him. We realize the value of our relationships, our life, and even our material possessions. We see everything as gifts from God. Stewardship is a conscious choice to live for God and neighbor, to put others before ourselves, to reflect God’s love in all we do. As we grow in His love, we experience tranquility, stillness and peace. We desire to share our gifts with others. Our hearts become grateful and generous. We live as true stewards of our many gifts.

For all the countless ways you minister to the needs of our community with your time and talent, we thank you! Please pray about how God might be calling you to share your gifts of time, talent and treasure as we together continue to “*Build God’s Church*” through prayer - here – at Assumption parish.

“Glorify God and bear Him in your body, that the life of Jesus may be made manifest in you.”
-Archbishop Robert J. Carlson



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.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

636.272.4758 (Helpline)

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



facebook.com/
assumptionparish



@assumptionmedia

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

Assumption Church #083750
403 N. Main Street
O'Fallon, MO 63366

TELEPHONE

636 240-3721 EXT 235

CONTACT PERSON

Rose Tubbs

SOFTWARE

MSPublisher 2007
Adobe X
Windows XP

PRINTER

Toshiba e-Studio 4555

TRANSMISSION TIME

Wednesday 4:00

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION

Nov 29, 2015

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

1 THROUGH 11

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Please send **1450 copies of the bulletin!**