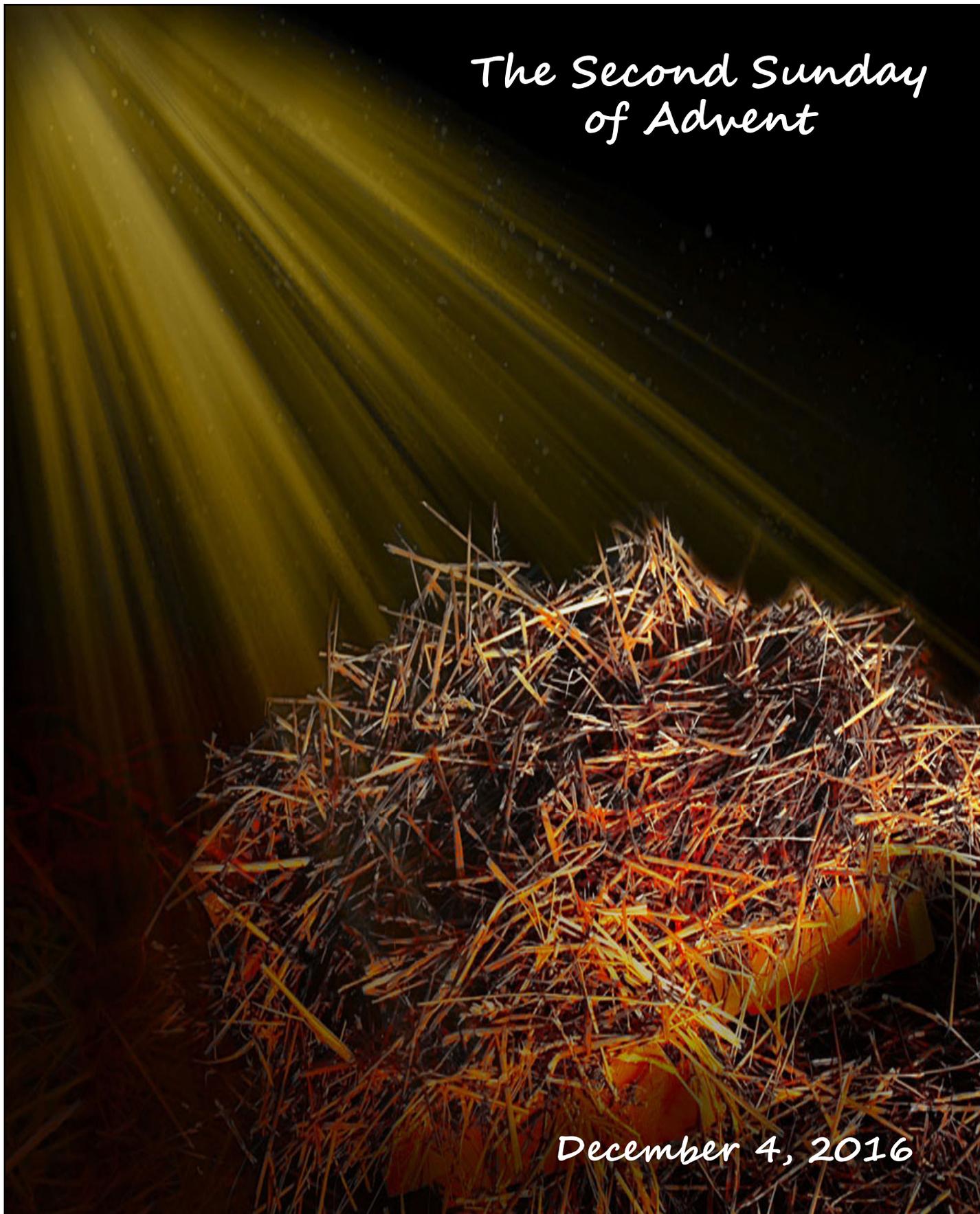


ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH

*The Second Sunday
of Advent*

December 4, 2016



Welcome

Website

www.assumptionbvm.org

Assumption Staff

636.240.3721

Ext:**Pastor**

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

Associate Pastor

325 Rev. Mark Whitman

Associate Pastor

239 Rev. Zachary Povich
ZacharyPovich@archstl.org

Senior Associate

Rev Ronald Rubbelke

Deacons

Jerry Hurlbert - Fred Volansky
Bill Walbridge

Lay Pastoral Associate

247 Jeannette Hamann

Part Time Lay Pastoral Assoc

229 Mickie McCool

Director of Administration

225 Jim Hager

Advancement Office

235 Angie Gloriod

Parish Secretary

221 Christine Reinhart

Bookkeeper

234 Mary Knapp

Director of Youth Ministry

243 Cathy Pescarino

Child Safety Coordinator

224 Lynn Crews
lynn.assumption@gmail.com

Coordinator of Music Ministry

240 Bryan Beams
bryanbeams@yahoo.com

Director of Religious Education

333 Melinda Kruper

Parish Day School/Preschool

Principal: Laurie Zaleuke
636.240.4474

Parish School of Religion

636.240.1020 ext 333

Sunday Pre School

Denise Hoehne 314.954.0092

Parish Council

abvmparishcouncil@gmail.com

Christ Renews His Parish

Men / Kevin Call: 636.578.2324
Women / Mickie McCool:
240.3721 ext:229



Journey Into Darkness

Our journey through Advent begins with a journey into darkness. Isaiah and John the Baptist offer encouragement and challenge; there is no mistaking the hard work of preparing for the dawn of a new creation. Isaiah says, “a shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse and from his roots a bud shall blossom.” John’s message is “A voice of one crying out in the desert, ‘prepare the way of the Lord’.”

Our hope is, right now, in a stump which seems dead; our hope, right now, is in the possibility of a bud finding its way from the dark, cold earth to catch energy from the sun; our hope, right now, is in the voice of a wild man crying out in a desolate place. And here is the good news: our hope will be in the cross of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Really?

Today our movement from darkness to light is grounded in the darkness. Those of us who grew up on farms understand this very well. Much life is unfolding in the darkness, under the earth. God’s Spirit is at work, preparing something beautiful, even when all we can see seems bleak. We must be honest about the darkness if we long to be free in the light.

Many of you share your deepest prayers with me every week: awaiting news after a biopsy; a loved one who is losing a battle with addiction; a child searching for meaning in life; couples breaking up; so many longing for God and not looking for Him in Church; looking for work or better work. Your suffering is real. Your suffering is the soil of the root of Jesse. Your suffering is the sound system for John the Baptist. Your suffering is the darkness which must yield to the dawn. The dawn only breaks in the darkest moment of the night. Our souls must be willing to rest in that darkness. From that place our soul will teach us to sing “O come, O come Emmanuel.”

Then, having faced the darkness honestly, the dawn will come; the light will spring from you...you are the root of Jesse; you are the voice crying in the wilderness; you are God’s glory, the hope of all the nations, revealed in this Advent. The coming of God in our day will be your life emerging from the wilderness, from the cold, from the fear, from the darkness into God’s own marvelous light. This is the power of the Incarnation; not just that God desires to become human, but also that God trusts your humanity to reveal, to bring Christ to the world.



**This Week
At Assumption**

Sunday December 4
Hospitality Sunday
All Masses Hall A/B

Prayer Team Ministry
All Masses Church

RCIA

8:00am Hall C

Sunday Preschool

10:00am School

New Member Registration

Following Noon Mass

Choral Arts Concert

4:30pm Chapel

Monday, December 5

Finance Committee

7:00pm Conference Room

CRHP Men

7:00pm Meyer Room

CRHP Women

7:00pm Room D/E

Tuesday, December 6

Centering Prayer

9:00am Motherhouse Library

Perpetual Help Devotions

6:30pm Chapel

PSR

6:00pm Church

Wednesday, December 7

Bible Study (Fr Mark)

10:00am Sophia House

Youth Group-Studip

7:00pm Sophia House

Advent Penance Service

7:00pm Motherhouse Chapel

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

5:30pm Vigil Mass

Thursday, December 8

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

Holy Day of Obligation

6:30pm Motherhouse Chapel

8:00am & 7:00pm Church

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, December 10

Children's Liturgy of the Word

5:00pm Mass

Be One Concert Series

7:00pm Vigil (Chapel)

Sunday December 11

Baptism

1:15pm Church

RCIA

8:00am Hall C

Sunday Preschool

10:00am School



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 **Wednesday, December 7, 7:00pm** for a communal Penance Service. Immediately following this service, time will be given for individual confessions.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for adoration every week **in the chapel from Sunday at 1pm through Thursday at 7pm.** (Enter the chapel through the north side door and enter code 3721)

Please consider signing up to spend an hour of prayer before our Lord in the Eucharist; the Church asks that at least two people be present anytime the Eucharist is exposed. You can sign up for a slot in the binder in the narthex of church.

Reconciliation

In addition to the penance service on December 7, the Sacrament of Confession will be available in the chapel on Thursday evenings from 6-7pm, followed by Benediction and on Saturday's from 4:00pm - 4:45pm.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve: Saturday, December 24

4:00pm

4:30pm (Chapel)

6:00pm

8:00pm (Motherhouse)

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: Sunday, December 25

8:00am

10:00am

12:00pm

Feast of Mary, Mother of God

Saturday, December 31: Vigil Mass: 5:00pm

Sunday, January 1: 8:00am, 10:00am, 12:00pm



VIGIL

LIVE IN CONCERT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2016



- SPONSORED BY -

First State Bank
Member FDIC

7 PM: ASSUMPTION CHAPEL IN O'FALLON
ALL AGES SHOW

TICKETS: \$15 & \$30

Vigil: A multimedia resource for deep prayer and authentic encounter with God produced by a community of artists, musicians, and filmmakers.

Order tickets at universe.com/beonevigil

or call the Parish Office, 636-240-3721 X240

Group discounts for parties of 15 or more and youth ministry member discounts: Leave a message at 636-240-3721 X240



Assumption Youth Ministry

Middle School Ministry

January 13 – SAVE THE DATE
Skiing at Hidden Valley
Get updated and stay in the loop at:
assumptionbvm.org/Youth-Ministry/

High School Ministry

December

7 – Core Team Meeting 6-7 pm
STUDIP 7-8:30 pm Sophia House
14 – Xtreme Teen – Immaculata 7-9pm Hall C
21 – Bible Study 7-8:30 pm
Core Team Christmas Party 8:30 pm - am? Sophia House
28 – No Event - Christmas Break
Check out our webpage at:
assumptionbvm.org/youth_ministry

Stay in the loop on social media...

Facebook: Assumption Church Youth Group

Twitter: ACYG Youth Ministry@acygyouth

Instagram: acyg.youthministry

Questions:

abvmyouth@gmail.com

636.240.3721 x243

Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Dec. 8, 2016

We celebrate the Immaculate Conception and remember that Mary 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. 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.

The Feast of the Immaculate Conception is a holy day of obligation and we will celebrate Mass on: Wednesday, Dec. 7 – Vigil Mass at 5:30pm in Church; Thursday, Dec. 8 – 6:30am (Motherhouse); 8:00am and 7:00pm in Church.



Hospitality Sunday

Join us for Hospitality Sunday **today** after all Masses in Hall A/B.

Dear Beloved Assumption Parishioners,

It is with joy, excitement and yes, even sadness, that I announce my departure as an employee of Assumption Parish.

It has been an honor to serve and work with you these past 21 years. I started working here when my daughter was in kindergarten. She and my son graduated from Assumption School. I was married in the chapel. The first funeral in the new church was my father's. I have a long history and strong connection to this parish.

My son, Andy, and his wife live in South Carolina and my daughter, Katie, and her husband are days away from making me a first time grandmother. (By the time you read this my granddaughter, Claire, may already be born.) During my tenure, I always approached my work with, "what is the best for the parish?" I have served with great love of parish and Church.

Though I am not quite at retirement age, I have decided to leave now; my heart is pulled in another direction. I move on knowing this is the best for me. I have many plans that will keep me busy and thriving.

May God bless each of you and may God continue to bless the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish.

With love and gratitude,
Janet Schwendemann



Giving Tree

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 \$25 per tag. These gifts will need to be returned to the tree in the downstairs hall, with the tag, no later than December 11, noon mass. Thank you and any questions can be directed to Steve 636.978.4203



The next meeting for Assumption Women's Group will be a party! The festivities will take place on Thursday, December 8 at 8pm, AFTER Mass for the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. The party will

take place in Parish Center Halls A/B.

We will be doing an ornament exchange at the party, so please bring a wrapped Christmas ornament under \$10. This will be a fun and festive evening, and we hope you will join us!





Valu Foods Truckload Sale

Benefitting Assumption Youth Ministry



Friday Dec 9 - Sunday Dec 11
 Assumption Parish Parking Lot - O Fallon, MO.
 Friday 10:00am - 6:00pm
 Saturday 9:00am - 6:00pm
 Sunday 8am - 2:00pm
 Accepted Payments: Cash, Debit Card, or Credit Card

Products to be offered include:

- Meatballs - Potato Wedges - Chicken Tenders
- Chicken Breast Fillets - Hash Browns - Honey Buns
- Pizzas - Crab Rangoon - Pies - Chicken Wings

Everything \$10/case

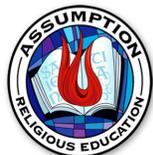
Don't miss this great opportunity to get restaurant quality food at wholesale prices!
\$0.50 of every dollar goes to Assumption Youth Ministry

PSR Volunteer Opportunities:

Do you enjoy spending time with 6-13 year olds? Do you have 1 ½ -2 hours either Tuesday or Wednesday evening that you can give to a program that supports children to know and love our God?

Are you looking for ways for your own spirituality to increase? If you answered yes to any of those questions, please prayerfully consider volunteering in one of the many facets of our PSR program. There are immediate openings for classroom teachers and assistants, substitute teachers, and traffic patrol.

Please contact the PSR office at 636.240.1020 for more information about how you can become involved.



Club 50+ News

Our Christmas dinner party is December 12, 6:00pm in Halls B/C. We will have a catered meal but welcome fruit dishes and desserts. The entertainment for the evening will be the sounds of Grand Reunion.

All paid members are welcome. Call Jan 636.240.4267 or Martha 636.294.3367 to RSVP. If you sign up but find you are unable to attend please call either Jan or Martha. We remind everyone to bring white tablecloths and any extra help would be appreciated!



Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 4
8:00am George & Mary Forbeck
10:00am Dottie Norman
12:00pm People Of The Parish

Monday, December 5
6:30am Shawn Reesor
8:00am Evelyn Loeffler

Tuesday, December 6
6:30am Mary Jane Schalk
8:00am William Grumich

Wednesday, December 7
6:30am Sr Mary Lou Talmon
8:00am Floyd Lindsey
5:30pm Ellen Jose

Thursday, December 8
6:30am Sr Ann Hipp
8:00am Mary Mattingly
7:00pm Kathleen Eisenbath

Friday, December 9
6:30am Edna Hoeckelman
8:00am Bob Capstick

Saturday, December 10
9:00am Sr Janice Bader
5:00pm Tom Groark

Sunday, December 11
8:00am George & Mary Forbeck
10:00am Emily Linneman Schroer
12:00pm People Of The Parish

A Year of Mercy With Pope Francis Impossible to Persevere

It is impossible to persevere in a fervent evangelization unless we are convinced from personal experience that it is not the same thing to have known Jesus as not to have known him, not the same thing to walk with him as to walk blindly, not the same thing to hear his word as not to know it, and not the same thing to contemplate him, to worship him, to find our peace in him, as not to.

Mercy

It is not the same thing to try to build the world with his Gospel as to try to do so by our own lights. Evangelii Gaudium



Reflection: Is your life different because of Jesus? How and to what extent? In what ways do you need to change in order to walk more closely with him? What priorities do you need to rearrange?

ASSUMPTION YOUTH MINISTRY



A very special thank you to all those who made this year's musical GREASE such an amazing experience for all! And THANK YOU, our Parish Family, for supporting all we do!!!

Got PRAYERS?

Assumption's Prayer Teams will be available after all Masses this weekend to pray with and for you!

Here are some amazing facts about the prayer teams:

- Prayer teams are parishioners who bring Christ to the world through prayer.
We'll pray for you, your loved ones, your friends...anyone whom you'd like to lift in prayer.
We pray for intentions big AND small! If it's on your heart, bring it to Christ!
Teams will do ALL the praying if you'd prefer! Just bring yourself and your intentions.
Want to give thanks and praise to God? We love to do that!



Readings for the Week

Dec 5 - Dec 11

- Mon: Is 35:1-10; Ps 85:9ab, 10-14; Lk 5:17-26
Tue: St Nicholas
Is 40:1-11; Ps 96:1-3, 10ac, 11-13; Mt 18:12-14
Wed: St Ambrose
Is 40:25-31; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10; Mt 11:28-30
Thu: Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1-4; Eph 1:3-6, 11-12; Lk 1:26-38
Fri: St Juan Diego
Is 48:17-19; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mt 11:16-19
Sat: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11; Ps 80:2ac, 3b, 15-16, 18-19; Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sun: Is 35:1-6a, 10; Ps 146:6-10; Jas 5:7-10; Mt 11:2-11



Christ Renews His Parish

Have you ever wanted to just get away? Do you feel the desire to have just a few hours to yourself? Do your batteries as a mom, wife, friend, sister, or colleague need recharging? If you said YES to any of these questions,

please sign up for the Christ Renews His Parish Women's Retreat in January 2017!

Women's Retreat – Jan 21/22 : Contact: Diane Reynolds – 314.941.8331 dianereynolds03@gmail.com

Men's Retreat – Feb 11/12: Contact: Jason Thomas – 636.332.8191 jthomas1027@gmail.com

My name is Jeni Willis . . . I have been a member of Assumption Parish for a little over three years and I've taught at the day school for ten years. I attended the CRHP Women's Retreat two years ago and it was such an amazingly beautiful weekend. You will laugh, cry, learn about yourself and others all while deepening your relationship with Jesus Christ. You will meet truly remarkable women and you will not regret giving yourself 30 hours of just YOU time! Please consider joining us!

Visit the CRHP table downstairs after Mass to learn more about how to renew YOUR relationship with Christ and YOUR parish!



Stewardship is... a Way of Life

At the heart of it all is our relationship with Christ:

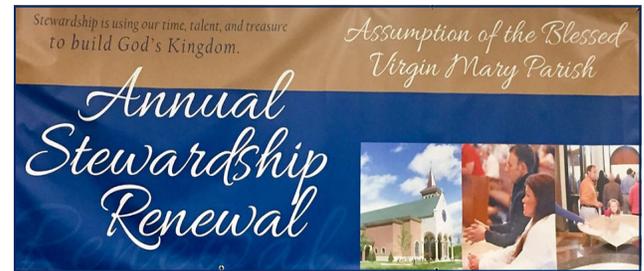
Living as disciples, our very lives become a reflection of that relationship. Living life as a steward isn't always easy. Being a steward of so much requires us to think about how we are using all we have been given, to grow in gratitude for these abundant blessings, and to challenge ourselves to stretch beyond what is comfortable, to sacrifice. The Gospels tell us that that is the way Jesus lived His life. When we share our presence, our prayers, our gifts, and our service, we continue Christ's mission, transforming the world one person at a time.

There is still time to turn in Your Commitment Card

We're still in the midst of our annual Stewardship Renewal. If you haven't returned your Commitment Card, you still can mail it to the parish or drop it by the parish office. Returning your card is an important part of being an active member of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish.

Please take this opportunity to express your support for our parish with your time, talent, and treasure!

Build my Church...



**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 6, 2016		Jul 3, 16 - Nov 6, 2016
Envelopes (584) & On Line	\$	43,954	\$	603,635
Loose	\$	1,478	\$	19,269
Total	\$	45,432	\$	622,904
			Budget	634,318

Loan Balance as of 10/30/16: \$2,115,657

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

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1Peter 4:10



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

Neal Lovelace
of Our Parish Community

Frank Regan
Husband of Patricia Regan

Edward Griesenauer
Husband of Lois Griesenauer

Keith Nelson
Father of McKenzie Nelson



St Vincent DePaul Ham or Turkey Donations

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 a donation of either ham or frozen turkey to be included in the baskets for our families. The ham or turkey should be dropped off and placed in the boxes stationed in the front entrance of the Church or in the hallway of the Parish Center on the weekend of December 10/11 before or after all masses.

In lieu of the ham or turkey, a grocery store gift card would be accepted. Any gift card should be dropped off in the same area as the ham or turkey collection. St Vincent DePaul provides food baskets to 85 – 105 families. Thank you for all your love and support.



Next Sunday, Dec. 11th. is St. Vincent De Paul food Sunday. At this time the pantry is in need of the following items: powdered milk, saltine crackers, tuna helpers, chicken helpers, cranberry sauce,

hot chocolate, and deodorant.

Grocery store gift cards and always needed and appreciated.

Thank you for your continued support.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, for all those that helped Saint Vincent DePaul with the Boy Scout Food Drive. We collected over 10,000 food items that will help our neighbors in need. With all your support over the past year, you have made it possible to provide food to over 860 people. Without you, this could not have happened.

Thank You and God Bless You
Saint Vincent DePaul
Assumption Conference



Overflowing With Thanks



HELP FEED THE HUNGRY

FILL THE TRAILER WITH NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS

All items will be donated to St. Vincent De Paul Food Pantry.

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in."

MATTHEW 25:35



The Assumption 24 Seven Men's group will be holding its annual food drive through this weekend to help the homeless and hungry in our area. All donations will be given to the St. Vincent Food Pantry here in O'Fallon. The 24 Seven Men's Group will be staffing the trailer prior to the weekend masses. Your help is greatly needed this holiday season.

Server Schedule

Saturday, December 10,

5:00pm Jessica Roesch
Rachelle Geusz
Delsin Puchalski

Sunday, December 11

10:00am Casey Sachs
Emma Ek
Jacob Dearing

Sunday, December 11

8:00am Joey Friedel
Brendan Deters
McKenzie Nelson

12:00pm Breckyn Russell
Elisha Butryn
Blake Thien



“All my hopes in this world are now fulfilled”

Around Town

St. Paul (St. Paul) National Night of Prayer for Life, December 8, 8:00pm

Christmas Country Church Tour
The National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal (Saint Mary’s of the Barrrens Church) in Perryville, MO along with 32 other churches and chapels. The tour will take place December 15/16, from 2:00pm – 9:00pm If you have any questions, please call the Association of the Miraculous Medal at 573.547.8343, or visit our website at www.amm.org

Car Repairs Can Help Your Parish

If you have car repairs done at J & D Auto (909 N Main St, next to Dairy Queen), they will donate 5% OF THE TOTAL BILL TO Assumption. There is no need to register and no form to fill out. Just tell them that you are with Assumption Church when you pay your bill. Several of our sister parishes have participated and have found it beneficial.

Christmas Concert

The Concert Arts Assoc. invites you to join them for their 45th season of musical excitement **today**, December 4 at 4:30pm as the “Choral Arts Singers” present their annual Christmas Concert here at Assumption Parish in the **Chapel**. “The Glory, The Wonder” includes a mix of both popular and religious selections to ignite the glory and the wonder inside each of us this 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.

SCRIP Gift Cards Hospitality Sunday

Is your family one of the nearly 100 that have already taken advantage of the SCRIP gift card fundraising program to raise money for the school? Is this the first you're hearing of SCRIP? Either way, there will be a SCRIP table set up outside Hall A during Hospitality Sunday **today**. Stop by the table to place your order. SCRIP cards not only make holiday gift giving easier and helps the school, but can also be great for personal use and holiday shopping.

We have many grocery cards that can be used for purchasing your holiday meals or donating to charities. Just bring your cash or check on Hospitality Sunday and then stop back by the following Sunday, December 11 to pick up your order. If you have questions any time about the SCRIP program or want to place an order online, please feel free to contact Sarah Summers at 260.312.8983 or SarahSummers1020@gmail.com.

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

Thursday 6-7pm (Chapel)
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 parish office at least one year in advance. One party must be a registered member of Assumption and living an active, practicing Catholic life. Contact Christine 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 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 636.795.2611, 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
636.272.3838 Fax
Office Hours - Weekdays 8:30am-4:00pm

ASSUMPTION SCHOOL

Principal: Laurie Zaleuke
636.240.4474

BULLETIN NOTICES

Submit to Parish Office
by Tuesday 9:00am

WEBSITE

www.assumptionbvm.org



[facebook.com/assumptionparish](https://www.facebook.com/assumptionparish)



[@assumptionmedia](https://twitter.com/assumptionmedia)

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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

TELEPHONE

636 240-3721 EXT 235

CONTACT PERSON

Christine Reinhart

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Windows XP

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1 THROUGH 11

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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