

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY PARISH

DECEMBER 25, 2016 | CHRISTMAS



She wrapped him
in swaddling clothes
and laid him in a manger,
*because there was no room for them
in the inn.*

~ Luke 2:7

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

Amen

On behalf of myself, Fr. Mark, Fr. Zac, Fr. Ron and all our parish staff I wish you and all whom you love a blessed Christmas.

“The Word became flesh...(Jn 1:14).” Around all the beautiful scenes of Christmas remain small hints of fear and darkness; an honest nod to the work which remains for us as we become living testimony to the truth of “Emmanuel, God with us.” We have seen the glory of God shining in our children...but why can't they put their dirty clothes in the laundry bin on Christmas morning? We thank God for the saving power of our spouse who is literally bringing us to heaven, but how could he/she forget to stop at the store when we are preparing for a thousand guests at Christmas? There is a reason the beauty of Christmas is revealed in the middle of the night. Our “Amen,” our yes to God's glory shining all around us, must be summoned from the depths of our soul; and even in the light of abundant grace, insurmountable evidence of God's love, something within us hesitates. The angels say to us, “Be not afraid;” John reminds us that the darkness cannot overcome this light being revealed in you right now. “The Word became flesh...And made his dwelling among us.” The newborn King is all around us and in us. Let our “Amen” be sustained until all God's children see it together.

Please take a copy of author, Matthew Kelly's book *Resisting Happiness* as our Christmas gift to your family. This easy read, together with prayer and perseverance in faith, will inspire us to live the truth and beauty of Christmas every day of the year. Let us walk these days of the Christmas season with Mary, our mother; let us come to cherish the “salvation prepared in the sight of all the peoples, a light to the nations and the glory of God's people, Israel (Lk 2:31-32).” *Fr Mitch*





Mass Intentions

Sunday, December 25

8:00am Shawn Reesor
10:00am Frank Keeven
12:00pm People Of The Parish

Monday, December 26

6:30am Venancio and Mary Ann Salas
8:00am Grace Bittick

Tuesday, December 27

6:30am Matthew Layton
8:00am Carnela Bamert

Wednesday, December 28

6:30am Living and Deceased Parents
and Relatives of Sisters
8:00am Cecilia Scully

Thursday, December 29

6:30am Sister Delores Emge
8:00am Juanita Lister

Friday, December 30

6:30am Mary Jane Shalk
8:00am Donna Fluhr

Saturday, December 31

9:00am Andrew Heggemann
5:00pm Marcela Bamert

Sunday, January 1

8:00am Patrick Fallon
10:00am James and Phyllis McCurren
12:00pm People Of The Parish



**A Year of Mercy With Pope Francis
He Has Shared Our Journey**

(Jesus) has entered our history; he has shared our journey. He came to free us from darkness and to grant us light. In him was revealed the grace, the mercy, and the tender love of the Father; Jesus is Love incarnate. He is not simply a teacher of wisdom, he is not an ideal for which we strive while knowing that we are hopelessly distant from it. He is the meaning of life and history, who has pitched his tent in our midst. -Homily, December 24, 2013

Mercy



Reflection: Because God became man, he has endured the struggles, fears, and questions that we endure. He has experienced pain as we've experienced pain. He has shared our journey. This knowledge can help us receive his mercy with gratitude, knowing that Jesus also looked to the mercy of his father. Think about the meaning of Christmas and let it give you inspiration and hope for the future.

**CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH
WINTER RETREATS**

CRHP is a process designed to make us more aware of God's presence in our daily lives.

This renewal experience allows us to discover how our walk of life is interwoven with our journey of faith.

A parishioner said this after attending: "I was invited two or three times before I finally ran out of excuses. At the end of my weekend, I wondered why I ever waited so long to attend one of these retreats. The weekend that I spent meeting new friends and growing closer to God was one of the best weekends I ever experienced."

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

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

This is your time... this is your invitation...
so reserve your spot to experience this AWE-some weekend!

Perhaps this would be a wonderful way for you to begin the New Year...

Reserve your spot – TODAY!





THE FOUR PILLARS OF PARISH STEWARDSHIP

The four pillars of **hospitality, prayer, formation and service** invite parishioners to experience, witness and live the stewardship way of life in response to their baptismal call to discipleship. Individually, each baptized person is called to give of time, talent and treasure to strengthen these four pillars that support the parish community. Conversely, by making our parish a place of **hospitality, prayer, formation and service**, we provide greater opportunities for the sharing of time, talent and treasure.

This week we want to focus on the importance of **PRAYER**: As a stewardship parish, we strive to nourish our souls through prayer. *“Prayer is as necessary to our souls as food is to our bodies.”* (Characteristics of a Christian Steward). **Prayer** and the sacraments dispose a soul to receive God’s abundant graces, which are necessary to grow in holiness. It is through **prayer** that we nurture our personal relationship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. While parishioners find great fulfillment in giving themselves to parish life, **prayer** purifies and intensifies the intention of the steward. **Prayer** increases our yearning to receive the source and summit of our Catholic faith, the Eucharist. As a parish family, we gather together to worship and praise God in the Mass. Nourished by the Word of God and the Eucharist, we are strengthened as a parish family to go out and to serve the Lord.

Stewardship is a lived response of the disciple to follow this command. There is a deep connection between the Eucharistic celebration and stewardship

In one of the prefaces of the Eucharistic prayers it says, *“Lord, our desire to thank you is itself your gift.”* The Third Eucharistic Prayer states, *“All life, all holiness comes from you through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, by the working of the Holy Spirit... And so, Father, we bring you these gifts. We ask you to make them holy by the power of your Spirit, that they may become the body and blood of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, at whose command we celebrate this Eucharist.”* All we are and seek to become is strengthened and becomes more perfect through the Eucharist. It is in the Eucharist where we again recognize our total dependence upon God for everything. All that is good is a gift from Him. It is not that we have loved Him, but that He first has loved us by giving His Son. In both our personal and communal prayer, we turn toward God to discern properly our talents and gifts. In a steward’s response, we place those gifts at the service of God and one another. At the heart of the steward’s prayer is the petition, *“Thy Will be done.”*

Excerpts taken from the Diocese of Wichita

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 27, 2016	Jul 3, 16 - Nov 27, 2016
Envelopes (461) & On Line	\$	31,411	\$ 692,039
Loose	\$	<u>1019</u>	\$ <u>21,887</u>
Total	\$	32,430	\$ 713,926
			Budget 730,271

Loan Balance as of 11/30/16: \$2,089,506

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:**

Victor Landendecker
of Our Parish Community

Elizabeth Aton
Sister of Joan O’Loughlin

Patricia Nelms
Mother of Robert Nelms



Assumption Youth Ministry



Middle School Ministry

DON'T MISS THE NEXT EVENT FOR 2017

January 13 - Edge Event -

Skiing at Hidden Valley, 6-10pm, Eureka, MO



High School Ministry

December

28 – NO EVENT TONIGHT –

Happy Christmas Break!!!

assumptionbvm.org/youth-ministry

January

4 - STUDIP – it was a busy holiday, so come on up and chillax with all your favorite people. Sophia House 7-8:30pm

11 – PROLIFE TRIP MEETING – ProLife Trip Meeting 6pm – Hall C

XTREME TEEN – New Year, New You – 6pm Hall C

18 – GREASE THANK YOU DINNER – Parish Hall 6pm

No Bible Study – Come and help – we need you!

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

2017- MARK UR CALENDARS

ProLife March - Stand up for LIFE. Space has opened up. January 25-29

Call asap to go. 636.485.5221

Annual Winter Retreat for High School Teens – February 17 & 18



Luke 18 – March 31-April 2
Applications coming for the team leaders

Catholic Heart Work Camp – South Carolina. June 17-25



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, January 8, 2017. Registration begins at noon Mass and continues in Hall C from 1:00pm - 1:45pm.

Got PRAYERS?

Assumption's Prayer Teams will be available after all Masses the weekend of January 7/8 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!



Hospitality Sunday

Join us for Hospitality Sunday, January 8, after all Masses in Hall A/B.

Readings for the Week

Dec 26 - Jan 1

- Mon:** Saint Stephen
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
- Tue:** Saint John Apostle
1 Jn 1:1-4; Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12; Jn 20:1a, 2-8
- Wed:** The Holy Innocents
1 Jn 1:5 — 2:2; Ps 124:2-5, 7b-8; Mt 2:13-18
- Thu:** 1 Jn 2:3-11; Ps 96:1-3, 5b-6; Lk 2:36-40
- Fri:** The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Col 3:12-21 [12-17]; Ps 128:1-5; Mt 2:13-15, 19-23
- Sat:** 1 Jn 2:18-21; Ps 96:1-2, 11-13; Jn 1:1-18
- Sun:** Nm 6:22-27; Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8; Gal 4:4-7; Lk 2:16-21



“All my hopes in this world are now fulfilled”

Around Town

New Year’s Celebration, St Paul Knights of Columbus, Sat, Dec 30.

Dinner, Dancing, Open Bar. \$30pp. Proceeds benefit SDHS Project Graduation. To purchase tickets call Nancy 636.795.1137 or email:nancylg11@yahoo.com

Euchre Tournament: Jan 7, 7pm Flint Hill KC Hall \$10.00 per person, keep your own partner.

St Joseph (Cottleville) Trivia Night, Jan 21, 7:00pm, for reservations: stjomensclub@gmail.com

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 ext 235 to schedule a class.

A Letter From the Archbishop

Christmas 2016

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Rejoice! The weeks of Advent waiting are over, and Christ is born!

We rejoice in our Savior’s birth—remembering the great gift of faith He has given us through the mystery of His incarnation and the saving power of His death and resurrection.

Each year, the people of our archdiocese have been asked to make a special gift on Christmas Day to support our seminarians at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. The men of our seminary, who have responded to Christ's call to follow Him, are truly a gift to the Church and to the Archdiocese of St. Louis. It is these men who will bring the faith given to us by Christ 2000 years ago to future generations here in the Archdiocese of St. Louis.

I ask you, once again, to pray for vocations and for all our priests and seminarians. I also ask you to be generous in your donation to the Christmas Day collection, which helps pay the day-to-day expenses and maintenance of our seminary.

Please be assured of my prayers for you during the season of Christmas. May the Lord of life come into your hearts and homes in a special way during this holy time of year.

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Robert J. Carlson
Archbishop of St. Louis

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



@assumptionmedia

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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403 N. Main Street
O'Fallon, MO 63366

TELEPHONE

636 240-3721 EXT 235

CONTACT PERSON

Christine Reinhart

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

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