

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

DECEMBER 3, 2023

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



FIRST WEEK OF ADVENT

©LPI

SACRAMENTS AND PARISH INFORMATION

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office, 636-240-3721. You can leave a message after hours.

BAPTISM

Baptism is scheduled every Sunday at 1:15pm. Baptism preparation class is required. Call Angie, ext 235.

CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

Contact the Parish Office six months in advance. One party must be a registered member of Assumption and living an active, practicing Catholic life. Contact Angie at the Parish Office, ext 235.

CONFESSION

Weekdays 7:30–7:50am; Saturdays 4–4:45pm; or by appointment.

CONFIRMATION

Preparation begins in September for students entering eighth grade. For more information, call Holly Woytus, 636-240-1020.

FIRST COMMUNION

Preparation begins in September for students entering second grade.

FUNERALS

Please call Debbie Orf at the Parish Office at 636-240-3721, ext 221.

RITE of CHRISTIAN INITIATION (RCIA)

Process through which adults are initiated into the Catholic Church by Baptism or Profession of Faith. For more information, call Missy Lowrey, 314-630-3983.

Welcome

403 N. Main St.
O'Fallon, MO 63366
assumptionbvm.org

Assumption Staff
636-240-3721 Ext:

Pastor
242 Rev. Nick Kastenholz
nicholaskastenholz@archstl.org

Senior Associate Pastor
226 Msgr. Dennis Stehly
dennisstehly@archstl.org

In Residence
Rev. Patrick Russell

Deacons
Deacon Fred Volansky
Deacon Richard Tadlock
deaconrichard@charter.net
Deacon Bob Hennekes

Parish Manager
225 Mark Vogt
business@abvmtech.org

Parish Secretary
221 Debbie Orf
debbieorf@abvmtech.org

Bulletin Announcements:
bulletin.assumption@gmail.com
(by Tuesdays at 9am)

Bookkeeper
234 Mary Knapp
accounting@abvmtech.org

**Director of Religious
Education and PSR Director**
328 Holly Woytus; 636.240.1020
hwoytus@abvmtech.org

**Baptism/Wedding Coordinator;
Records and Scheduling**
235 Angie Gloriod
agloriod@abvmtech.org

Director of Youth Ministry
243 Becky Whitaker
beckywhitaker@abvmtech.org

Middle School Youth Minister
333 Alejandro DeHerrera
alejandrodesherrera@abvmtech.org

Director of Music Ministry
326 Parker Bishop
music@abvmtech.org

Director of Communication
239 Nancy Gomer
ngomer@abvmtech.org

**Parish Day School/Preschool
Principal: Dr. Patricia Hensley**
636-240-4474

Child Safety Coordinator
Lynn Crews 314-578-0741
lynncrews@abvmtech.org

Sunday Preschool
Denise Hoehne 314-954-3192

Parish Council
Abvparishcouncil3721@gmail.com

School Board
abvmschoolboard@gmail.com

Hello,

I saw this introduction to Advent by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) and thought I would share it with you this year:

Beginning the Church's liturgical year, Advent (from, "ad-venire" in Latin or "to come to") is the season encompassing the four Sundays (and weekdays) leading up to the celebration of Christmas.

The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to Christ's second coming at the end of time and to the anniversary of Our Lord's birth on Christmas. From the earliest days of the Church, people have been fascinated by Jesus' promise to come back. But the scripture readings during Advent tell us not to waste our time with predictions. Advent is not about speculation. Our Advent readings call us to be alert and ready, not weighted down and distracted by the cares of this world (Lk 21:34-36). Like Lent, the liturgical color for Advent is purple since both are seasons that prepare us for great feast days. Advent also includes an element of penance in the sense of preparing, quieting, and disciplining our hearts for the full joy of Christmas.

As we prepare for Christmas, the General Instruction of the Roman Missal notes some differences to the Mass that should be observed during the season. For instance, the priest wears violet or purple during Advent, except for the Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) when rose may be worn (GIRM, no. 346). Aside from what the priest wears, other aesthetic changes in the Church can include a more modestly decorated altar.

The final days of Advent, from December 17 to December 24, we focus on our preparation for the celebrations of the Nativity of our Lord at Christmas. In particular, the "O" Antiphons are sung during this period and have been by the Church since at least the eighth century. They are a magnificent theology that uses ancient biblical imagery drawn from the messianic hopes of the Old Testament to proclaim the coming of Christ as the fulfillment not only of Old Testament hopes, but of present ones as well.

Advent devotions including the Advent wreath, remind us of the meaning of the season. Today we will be blessing our Advent wreath as we light the first candle and have available various devotional material in the Narthex you might use this Advent Season.

Peace,

Fr. Nick



ASSUMPTION PRAYER CHAPEL



Adoration is available 24/7 in the Chapel (the old church) by using the code at the north transit entrance. You can call or come to the Church Office to receive the code.

EXPOSITION is on Tuesdays after the 8am Mass, and available through the Rosary at 6:15pm, followed by our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions.

During Eucharistic Exposition, when the Eucharist is in the monstrance and exposed, an adorer must be present. If you are interested in being an adorer, please sign up at assumptionbvm.weadorehim.com

PRAY THE ROSARY BEFORE WEEKEND MASSES:

Please join us in Church 30 minutes before each weekend Mass for the Rosary (except 5:30 pm Mass on Sundays.)



We gather and pray before the Holy Family Statue.

IN LOVING MEMORY

Dennis Timme, husband of Gina Timme

PANCAKE BREAKFAST HOSTED BY THE MEN'S GROUP SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3



Join us for a pancake breakfast after the 8 am and 10 am Mass in the Parish Center.

We will have pancakes, sausage links, orange juice, chocolate milk, and regular milk.

Donations will gladly be accepted. Though registration is not required, we ask that those interested in attending, go to abvmmensgroup.org/upcoming-events/pancake-breakfast to register to help us estimate the amount of food needed.



Got questions? Contact the Men's Group at assumptionmensgroup@gmail.com.

UPCOMING ADVENT EVENTS



Friday, December 8: Holy Day of Obligation: The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

December 7, 5:30pm,

December 8: 6:30am, 8am, and 7pm

Sunday, December 10: Christmas Choral Concert

3pm in the Chapel.

Tuesday, December 12 and Wednesday, December 13: Knights of Columbus Christmas Pageant

6:30pm in the Church

Friday, December 15 & Saturday, December 16 Reconciliation Weekend

Confessions heard in the Chapel

Friday, 6-9pm

Saturday, 9am-3:30pm

Tuesday, December 19: Assumption School Christmas Program

6:30pm in the Church

Christmas Masses

Sunday, December 24: Christmas Vigil

4pm, 4:30pm (Chapel), 6pm, and 10pm

Monday, December 25: Christmas Day

8am, 10am, and Noon

Monday, January 1: Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God

9am (no 6:30am or 8am services)

Monday, January 8: Epiphany Concert

7-9pm in the Chapel



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS | HOSPITALITY SUNDAY DECEMBER 3

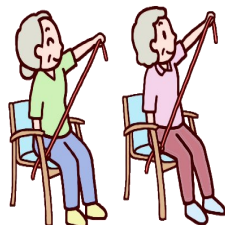


If you registered online as a new member, but have not received your Welcoming Folder, please stop by our New Member Registration table downstairs in the Parish Center on Hospitality Sunday and enjoy the pancake breakfast. We will be at our table after the 8am and 10am Masses to help with any questions you may have about our parish. The Welcoming team will have folders ready for you that include our Parish Directory and lots of information describing the **what's, where's and when's** of both our Church and Chapel.

If you have any questions, please contact Lynn Crews at 314-578-0741 or lynn.assumption@gmail.com.

FIT AND FUNCTIONAL EXERCISE CLASS STARTS DECEMBER 5

The next session of our **Fit and FUNctional Exercise** class will begin next week on Tuesday, December 5. This exercise class, geared towards folks 50+, and taught by a Physical Therapist, is intended to accommodate various activity levels to improve strength, flexibility, balance and mobility. We use resistance bands and small hand weights. Resistance bands are provided in class, or feel free to bring your own. Join us for all or some of the classes! We work hard, but have fun, too! Every effort will be made to make up any snow days.



Usually, sessions run for 8 weeks (at 2x/week), but due to the holidays, and the instructor, Debbie, expecting her first grandchild late January, this session will run for 6 weeks, with the rate reflecting the shortened timeframe. There will likely be a 2-week hiatus after this session while Debbie spends time with the baby!

When: Tuesday/Thursday, 8:45-9:45am,
December 5, 2023-January 18, 2024

Where: Hall A of the Parish Center

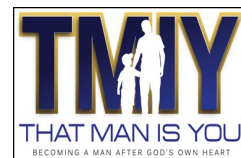
Cost: \$37.50 for 6 weeks/12 sessions

Questions? Contact Debbie Gentry, PT at
314-306-2697 or AtHomePartnersLLC@gmail.com

ATTENTION MEN OF ASSUMPTION PARISH:

Our Church and our World needs you, man of God!

Join us **December 9** in the lower hall of the Knights of Columbus building for another amazing session of TMIY. Our start time is **7:15am** with breakfast, a short video, table discussion, and then we'll have you on your way by **8:30am**. We will continue to learn how to be better men of God, better husbands, better sons, better fathers and be Men after God's own heart!



This week's session: "My Son, Jonathan"

Speaker Jeff Joaquin

- ◆ In Our Own Woundedness, We Become a Source of Life for Others
- ◆ How My Son Changed Everything
- ◆ Steps to the Healing Process
- ◆ A Seemingly Incurable Pain
- ◆ A Letter from a Father to His Son
- ◆ Power is Made Perfect in Weakness
- ◆ The Superabundant Mercy of the God of the Universe

For more information, contact Deacon Richard at
DeaconRichard@charter.net or 314-397-2433.

Mass Times and Intentions

Reconciliation

SUNDAY 12.3.23

8:00am Marvin Birkemeier
10:00am Mildred and Igtius
Budzilowski
12:00pm People of the Parish
5:30pm Floyd Cotton
By Appointment

MONDAY 12.4.23

6:30am Joseph Pham
8:00am Marlene Pieper

7:30-7:50am Church
or by appointment

TUESDAY 12.5.23

6:30am Tim Flick
8:00am Pat Luetkenhaus

7:30-7:50am Church
or by appointment

WEDNESDAY 12.6.23

6:30am Tim Flick
8:00am William Grumich

7:30-7:50am Church
or by appointment

**LADIES AUXILIARY KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #2269
COOKIE SALE**

DECEMBER 9 AND 10 | HALL A

Having company for the holidays? Want to buy a teacher's gift that's one of a kind? Going to Christmas parties and need a hostess gift? **Don't fuss and leave the baking to us!**

The Ladies Auxiliary of Knights of Columbus Council #2269 will host their first ever cookie sale the weekend of December 9 and 10 in the Parish Center.

The ladies will help you select a custom box, then you can pick and choose which holiday cookies you want to purchase for \$8 a pound. The cookie sale will be after the 5pm Mass on December 9 and after 8am, 10am, and 12pm Mass on December 10.

Questions? Contact Paula Thomson at 314-477-6488.



**CHRISTMAS CHORAL CONCERT
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10 | 3PM**

The Choral Arts Singers invite you to join us for our 52nd year of musical performance on Sunday, December 10 at 3pm as we present our annual Christmas Concert here at Assumption Parish in the CHAPEL.



"A Season of Joy" features songs by Bach and Marcello, Chestnuts Roasting and several other fun Christmas favorites. We hope that you can join us for a fun and festive afternoon of music with our new director Dr. Jeffrey Heyl.

Admission is free, but donations are appreciated to help the Concert Arts Association 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 and Facebook (Choral Arts Singers).

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #2269
CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12 AND
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13 | 6:30 PM**

This years show will be on Tuesday, December 12 and Wednesday, December 13 at 6:30pm in the Church. Please come to watch the kids of our Parish reenact Jesus Christ birth account. The kids will sing traditional Christmas carols during the performance. Make plans to attend this free event!

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT NEEDS PRE-K KIDS!

Parents, if you have a Pre-K child who would like to be a sheep or bell ringer in this year's shows, please contact Ken Thornhill, 918-430-8035 or gocurtis28@gmail.com.



THURSDAY 12.7.23

6:30am Priests Intention
8:00am Jerry Schoenherr
5:30pm Chris Scholten

7:30-7:50am Church
or by appointment

FRIDAY 12.8.23

6:30am Francis and Alice McHugh
8:00am Jim Begley
7:00pm People of the Parish

7:30-7:50am Church
or by appointment

SATURDAY 12.9.23

8:00am Pat Luetkenhaus
5:00pm Nita Kaltenbach

4:00-4:45pm Church
or by appointment

SUNDAY 12.10.23

8:00am Cecil Bess
10:00am People of the Parish
12:00pm Shirley Mackey
5:30pm Ron Hanebrink

By Appointment

ASSUMPTION STUDENTS AND SVdP MINISTRY WORK TOGETHER TO FIGHT HUNGER THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Assumption School students recently raised enough money to purchase **112** “No Hunger Holiday” dinner boxes for local families in need this Thanksgiving. The students accomplished this by purchasing \$1 feathers from the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) before school between November 6–17 as part of the Turkey Feather Competition between Dr. Patricia Hensley, Assumption Principal, and Holly Woytus, Director of Religious Education.

Dr. Hensley won the competition by securing the most feathers, and had to dress up and “gobble... gobble... gobble” like a turkey at school on November 21, the same day the Assumption St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) ministry distributed the food boxes purchased with the funds raised.

A special thank you to our Assumption School families and the Assumption SVdP ministry for making the holiday a little brighter for those in need this Thanksgiving Day.



ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT

A special thanks to all who jump-started the Advent season at our annual Advent By Candlelight celebration, Sunday, Nov. 26. The evening of prayer, music and fellowship featured Sister Theresa Jezl's inspiring message, “When Hope Is Our Candle,” as well as musical worship with The Life Teen Band.

Heavenly Father, give light to our eyes and peace to our hearts... May the Lord find us watching and waiting in joy when He comes... We pray in Jesus' name. Amen!



PRINCIPAL'S PEN

Veterans Day Celebration

On Friday, November 10, Assumption invited all family members who have served as military or who are currently serving to join us for our annual Veteran's Day Mass and Reception. For a donation of \$1, students were able to dress in red, white, and blue. Students raised a grand total of \$474, which was donated to O'Fallon's very own St. Charles County Veterans Museum, located just a few blocks away from our campus. We wanted to show our veterans and active military members how thankful we are for their service to our country. May God bless them always!



Remembering the US Wars

Blessing the Veteran's Medals



Blessed St. Michael Medals given to each Veteran



Deacon Richard Visits the First Graders

Deacon Richard Tadlock visited the First Graders to teach them about what a Deacon is and his job in the church. He leads the Penitential Act, proclaims the Gospel, and can proclaim the petitions. But he does so much more than help during Mass! Deacon Richard is a spiritual director for the Knights of Columbus, the Men's Club, a Chaplain for the Saint Charles County Police Department, the SWAT Team, and the dispatchers. He is the Database Administrator for Fr. Bob's Outreach, (an outreach to the poor in St. Louis City), and he visits First Graders to talk to them! When a First Grader asked who he works for he replied, "God," before explaining he is retired from his job, but all his jobs are volunteer now.

Deacon Richard showed the vestments that he wears and compared them to a priest's vestments. First Graders also learned about the hierarchy of priests that goes all the way up to a Pope! Then he gave us an illustration of the interaction of the Holy Trinity.

We are so thankful that he could come in and speak to us, Thank you Deacon Richard.



Thanks for reading about Assumption School,
Dr. Pat Hensley

2023-2024
Assumption
Theme

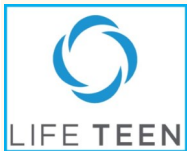


**THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL
THANKS YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR 2023 CHRISTMAS PROGRAM**

On December 9, our neighbors-in-Need will enjoy picking up their Giving Tree gifts plus other donated items and holiday treats for their families. **Please drop off the wrapped and tagged gifts that you purchased for them in the Parish Center under the Christmas Giving Tree no later than Noon on December 3, so our volunteers can sort the gifts before distributing to the families.**

Your generosity will bless **136 families** this year and bring joy to their homes this Christmas. May God bless you abundantly for your generosity.

If you have any questions, please call Georgia, 717-919-7312 or Linda, 636-248-6385.



HELLO FROM ASSUMPTION YOUTH MINISTRY

We had an incredible weekend on Life Teen Fall Retreat a few weeks ago—the Lord was truly present among us in community, prayer, and the Sacraments. We also had SO MUCH FUN! Thank you for your prayers! Here's what's going on this week:

**Sunday, December 3 | Life Teen: Advent
6:30–8:45 p.m. in the Parish Center**

All teens are invited to join us for a great night of fun, community and prayer! We will be diving into the meaning of the season of Advent. We can't wait to see you there!

**Wednesday, December 6 | EDGE—Written in the Stars
6–7:30 p.m. in the Parish Center**

All seventh and eighth graders are invited to join us for a great night at EDGE, focusing in on the meaning of the season of Advent. Middle schoolers, you can expect fun, faith, and fellowship. Bring a friend!



2024 Save the Date:

March 8–9: Luke 18 Retreat

July 29–August 3: Life Teen Camp Covecrest and New EDGE at Camp Hidden Lake!

Connect with us on Social Media:

Instagram:

@assumption_life_teen // @assumption_edge

Facebook:

Assumption Life Teen // Assumption EDGE

QUESTIONS? Contact **Becky Whitaker**, Director of Youth Minister
636-240-3721 ext. 243 or beckywhitaker@abvmtech.org

Alejandro DeHerrera, Middle School Youth Minister, ext. 333
alejandrodeherrera@abvmtech.org



**RCIA: THE RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS
SPIRITUAL RETREAT DAY 2023**



***RCIA SPIRITUAL
RETREAT DAY
November 19, 2023***



SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DURING DECEMBER

As stewards of the monetary gifts that God has bestowed on us, we are called to give back to His Church and to other worthy causes. During the month of December, please support the general needs of the parish through the Sunday offertory, and consider the following specific causes and needs:

- ♦ **Christmas Day, December 25: Kenrick-Glennon Seminary.** The Archdiocese of Saint Louis is fortunate to have its own seminary, located in Shrewsbury. Your support helps form the seminarians into healthy, holy, joyful priests who are ready to engage in our own time and culture and accompany God's people the same way Jesus did throughout His ministry.
- ♦ **Christmas Flowers:** Make our Church and Chapel joyous and bright for the Christmas season! Your contribution will help pay for the numerous poinsettias and other greenery that make our worship spaces more beautiful than ever!
- ♦ **Respect Life:** The Respect Life Apostolate at Assumption strives to build a Culture of Life through prayer services and education on pro-life issues and events.
- ♦ **Education Fund:** Contributions to the Education Fund are used to provide tuition assistance to parents that want a Catholic education for their children but can't afford it.

If you use online bill payment through your bank, please send a separate payment for the fund(s) of your choice and specify the name of the cause in the memo field of your payment instructions.

Thank you.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD AND PARISH

Weekly Offertory	Nov. 12, 2023	YTD 7/1/23 - 11/12/23	Loan taken out in 2013 for expansion of our school	
Actual Collections	\$42,487	\$717,187	Original Loan	\$3,306,127
Budget Target	<u>\$35,000</u>	<u>\$749,500</u>	Current balance owed	\$736,586
Surplus / (Shortfall)	\$7,487	\$(32,313)	Monthly payment	\$20,923

Last expected payment, August 2026



The Bible Teaches It (Mal 3:10-12)

We Believe It (Acts 4:32-36)

God Honors It (Gen 14:18-20)

TITHING

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

If you would like to give online, please go to:
assumptionbvm.org/Our-Parish/Online-Giving
 or scan the QR Code



SCAN ME

OFFICE INFORMATION

ADDRESS/PHONE/HOURS

403 N Main Street, O'Fallon MO 63366
 636-240-3721 Parish Office
 Hours: Monday–Thurs 8am–4pm
 Friday 8am–3pm

ASSUMPTION SCHOOL

636-240-4474

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

636-272-4758 (Helpline)

BULLETIN NOTICES

Submit to Parish Office
Bulletin.assumption@gmail.com
 by Tuesday 9am

SOCIAL MEDIA

Website: assumptionbvm.org
 facebook.com: @assumptionparish
 @assumption media

PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Religious instruction in the Catholic faith.
 Call 636-240-1020 for information
 or to register.

MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION

For one-on-one grief support, or
 information regarding our grief support
 series, which is held twice per year,
 contact Lynn Crews at 314-578-0741.