

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

DECEMBER 15, 2024

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

3rd

Sunday OF ADVENT



SACRAMENTS AND PARISH INFORMATION

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office, 636-240-3721. Select Option #2.

BAPTISM

Baptism is scheduled every Sunday at 1:15pm. Baptism preparation class is required. Call Angie Gloriod, 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 Gloriod 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. For more information, call Holly Woytus, 636-240-1020.

FUNERALS

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

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (formally RCIA)

Process through which adults are initiated into the Catholic Church by Baptism or Profession of Faith. Contact 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) Collins
debbiecollins@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
alejandrodeherrera@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: Jamie Burbridge
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,

It is the Third week of Advent and as Christmas gets closer we start thinking more and more about our Christmas traditions. Some of them, because we are anticipating and looking forward to them; some of them, because we have to be sure that we get them in and are considering when we will get them done. We know those related to gifts and the shopping that they require. Others, related to cards and the time it takes to send them out and the reminders we get as we receive different cards in the mail each day. Home decorating traditions can have numerous levels of traditions, from the timing of when the lights go up outside to when and who puts up the Christmas tree (and when it comes down). Then, we also have the traditions of different parties and gatherings we go to: family, friends, or co-workers. With family, some of the traditions will go down to the level of who brings what food, even in what dishes, and where someone sits.

These and other traditions can be very good and an important part of the holidays, but since we still have a little time before we get into the midst of it, I would ask you to be sure to consider how Christ is in each of our traditions. In the Christmas Cards we send out, and the sentiments that we write on them. In the decorations we have and what they mean to us and what they say to others. In the different parties and gatherings we go to and the relationships they strengthen.

I would also ask that you consider how important the Christmas Mass is in your traditions. Sometimes it can seem like it is something we have to fit in with everything else. Or other times, it might be like many of our other traditions, that we always went to, and so that is what we are going to do, even if it just ends up being another stop in a rushed evening, and we might really be able to celebrate the Mass more if we went the next morning. We have numerous options, what is the best way for you and your family to celebrate Christmas Mass? Having a tradition of a certain time and place can be very good and help us continue a good practice that we wouldn't want to lose if we changed something about the tradition. But if it is important enough to us, sometimes a change in the time might actually help us to more fully appreciate and celebrate the Mass and Christmas itself, as other parts of our life have changed.

Building new traditions and dropping old ones can happen over time. When we do this, it is an important time to be sure what we are celebrating, and if we are keeping Christ in our traditions.

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. **Please note: the doors will be locked from 11am-2pm on Tuesdays for safety protocol.**

EXPOSITION is on Tuesdays 9am-10pm, and available through the Rosary at 6:15pm, followed by our Mother of Perpetual Help Devotions and Benediction to close.

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, visit assumptionbvm.weadorehim.com to sign up and choose a time. Thank you!

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 OF

Thomas Wilmes
 father of Fred (Sarah) Wilmes and Carol (David) Nicholson,
 brother of Paul (Vicky) Wilmes and Ron (Dorothy) Wilmes
 brother-in-law of Alfred (Etta) Pieper

50 PLUS CLUB

CHRISTMAS PARTY | DECEMBER 16



The 50 Plus Club Christmas Party is this Monday night, December 16, in Hall C at 6:30 p.m. Doors open at 6 p.m.

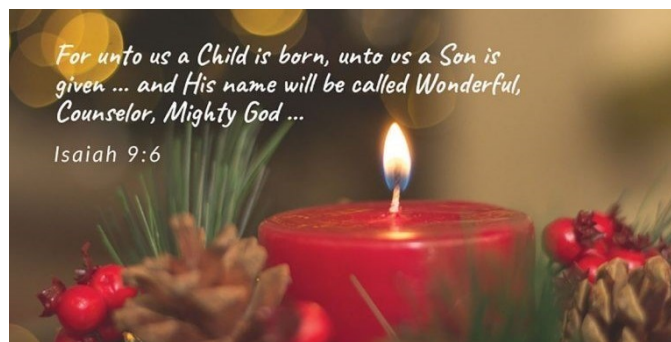
Member Only Event and Reservations are required! \$10 for dinner and \$15 yearly dues must be paid by Sunday evening. Members can make arrangements with Linda Lambing to pay at the event.

If you have a reservation, please bring a salad or dessert to share!

Questions? Contact Kim Thornhill at 918-381-7459 or Linda Lambing at 314-599-8429.



ADVENT SEASON MASSES AND EVENTS



Sunday, December 15 and Wednesday, December 18:
Knights of Columbus Christmas Pageant
 Sunday, 1:30-2:30pm in the Church
 Wednesday, 6:30pm in the Church

Thursday, December 19 and Friday, December 20:
Assumption School Christmas Program
 Thursday, 6:30-7:30pm in the Church
 Friday, 9:30-10:30am in the Church

Christmas Masses

Tuesday, December 24: Christmas Vigil
 4pm, 4:15pm (Chapel), 6pm and 10pm (Christmas musical prelude at 9:30pm)

Wednesday, December 25: Christmas Day
 8am, 10am and 12pm

New Years Eve/New Years Day Masses

Tuesday, December 31: New Year's Eve
 5:30pm

Wednesday, January 1: New Year's Day
 Feast of the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
 8am and 10am

Confessions Schedule

Monday-Friday: 7:30-7:50am before 8am Mass (Church)
 Saturdays: 4-4:50pm before 5pm Mass (Church)

Reconciliation Weekend

Friday, December 13, 6-9pm (Chapel)
 Saturday, December 14, 9am-3:30pm (Chapel)



PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE | MAIN STREET PHASE 3 ROAD PROJECT

Join us Monday evening, December 16 from 4-6pm in Hall A for an open house to discuss Phase 3 of the Main Street project. O'Fallon City representatives will have diagrams and be available for questions related to the project.

The improvements in this project include, but are not limited to, intersection improvements at Main Street and Third Street, street lighting improvements, a new 8' multi-use path with 2' stamped concrete along the east side of the road, a 5' minimum sidewalk on the west side of the road and a two way turn lane from Third Street to St. Joseph.

Project feedback can also be submitted by scanning this QR Code and completing a brief survey. (This will only be available between December 16 and December 20.



Another open house will be held at City Hall on Tuesday, December 17. If you have any questions, please email engineeringprojects@ofallon.mo.us or call 636-379-1721.



ASSUMPTION BLOOD DRIVE COMING IN JANUARY



Assumption Parish will be hosting another blood drive and you are encouraged to consider making a donation of the Gift of Life. ImpactLife will be in the parish hall on **Sunday, January 12, 2025, 9am-1:30pm**, and we look forward to welcoming you there!

If you have not donated blood since November 17, you are eligible to donate at this drive.

Donations are by appointment only. To schedule: go to bloodcenter.org/group, using group code 9007 or call ImpactLife at 800-747-5401 for assistance in scheduling.

MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKENDS



Worldwide Marriage Encounter presents weekend experiences for married couples to rekindle romance, enhance meaningful communication, and deepen and renew commitment. Weekend experiences are at the Courtyard Marriott in St. Peters. Sign-up now as space is limited. For more information or to apply, go to wwme.org, or call Terry and Eric Engholm at 314-649-7317.

- ◆ January 31–February 2, 2025
- ◆ April 4–April 6, 2025
- ◆ June 13–15, 2025

	SUNDAY 12.15.24	MONDAY 12.16.24	TUESDAY 12.17.24	WEDNESDAY 12.18.24
Mass Times and Intentions	8:00am James O'Brien 10:00am Herbert O. Simon and Jiri W. Simon 12:00pm Jack Begley 5:30pm People of the Parish	6:30am Michael David Moore Sr. 8:00am Marie Schepker	6:30am Pat Dolan 8:00am Kevin Hale	6:30am Robert DeBroeck 8:00am Sandy Hottovy
Reconciliation	By Appointment	7:30–7:50am Church or by appointment	7:30–7:50am Church or by appointment	7:30–7:50am Church or by appointment



**O'FALLON KNIGHTS
OF COLUMBUS #2269
UPCOMING EVENT**

Queen of Hearts raffle: Join us every Tuesday for our weekly raffle. Doors open at 5pm with drawing at 7pm. Food and beverages available for purchase.



**THANK YOU FOR
YOUR GENEROUS GIFTS**

Through your generosity and kindness, and the help of the Holy Spirit, Assumption Parish exceeded the goal for our iGiveCatholic appeal—raising \$11,185 this year. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for helping Assumption continue our legacy by supporting our efforts.

During this global day of giving, we raised 112% of our goal in support of our parish school, which has shaped thousands of children's lives of faith for more than a century.

Your generous gifts will be used to construct and restructure three separate activity areas on our school campus, beginning with a new Early Childhood Playground.



HANDMADE QUILTS FOR SALE

If you are looking for the perfect gift this Christmas, look no further! The Assumption Quilters are selling beautiful handmade quilts this Christmas Season! These one-of-a-kind coverlets are perfect for anyone on your Christmas list. Each quilt is hand-stitched with care by our very own Assumption Quilters. There are several styles and sizes to choose from including a lap quilt, full size quilt, baby quilts, and bed runners.

To view all the quilts and details about each, please visit our website at assumptionbvm.org.

If you are interested in purchasing a quilt, call Mary Pieper at 636-272-8292 and leave a message. Quilts can be purchased for cash or a check made out to "Assumption Quilters."



**Bed Runner
34"x84"**



**Baby Quilt:
Wilderness
Animals
6.5"x49"**



**Baby Quilt:
Pink Gift
39"x37.5"**

THURSDAY 12.19.24

6:30am Fr. Gerry Welsch
8:00am Blanche Nanney

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

FRIDAY 12.20.24

6:30am Fr. John Deken
8:00am Ginny Bonnell

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

SATURDAY 12.21.24

8:00am Philomene Orf
5:00pm Stephanie Carpenter

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

SUNDAY 12.22.24

8:00am People of the Parish
10:00am Ron Hanebrink
12:00pm Betty Bruegenhemke
5:30pm Joseph Pham

By Appointment

ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT HELPS US TO PREPARE THE WAY

Thank you to the 235 ladies who celebrated the start of the Advent Season with a beautiful evening filled with fellowship, an inspirational faith-filled message, musical worship, prayer and food. It was the perfect evening to quiet our hearts as we prepare the way for Jesus' birth.



Assumption would like to especially thank Madyson Ludwig, Elizabeth Smith, Bonnie Lang and Becca Perhacs for making the evening so special. Many claimed you could hear a pin drop as Mady shared her powerful story of faith, and the three singer's as they sang about the birth of Christ and proclaiming the Christmas story.

If you missed us this year, please be sure to join us next year, Sunday, November 30, 2025 for a new program.





ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. LOUIS

Office of the Archbishop

Cardinal Rigali Center
20 Archbishop May Drive
St. Louis, Missouri 63119
p) 314.792.7841
f) 314.792.7842
www.archstl.org

December 1, 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On May 9, 2024, Pope Francis issued "SPES NON CONFUNDIT" (Hope does not disappoint), Bull of Induction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025. The Holy Father invited "everyone to an intense experience of the love of God" and "calls on all Christians to become Pilgrims of Hope."

The Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope will begin on December 24, 2024, with the opening of the Holy Door at the Basilica of St. Peter in Rome and continue until the closing of the Jubilee Year on January 6, 2026.

I invite all the faithful to join Bishop Mark Rivotuso to celebrate the solemn opening of the Jubilee on Sunday, December 29, 2024, at the 10:00 a.m. Mass at the Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis, 4431 Lindell Boulevard. The Jubilee will conclude locally on December 28, 2025. As part of the Jubilee, the faithful of the Archdiocese of St. Louis will be able to obtain the grace of the Jubilee Indulgence by making a pious pilgrimage to any sacred Jubilee site under the usual conditions. I have designated nine Jubilee pilgrimage sites across the archdiocese:

Cathedral Basilica of St. Louis
Basilica of Saint Louis, King of France
Holy Spirit Adoration Sisters at the Mount Grace Covent and Chapel
Carmel of Saint Joseph at the Chapel of the Most Precious Blood
Saint Mary's of the Barrens National Shrine of Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal
Monastery of Saint Clare of the Immaculate Conception
Passionist Nuns of St. Louis
Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church in New Melle
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church in Union

If you wish to learn more about the Jubilee Indulgence and for a complete list of the pilgrimage sites, please visit: archstl.org/2025jubileeyear.

Please visit the following links for much more information about the Jubilee Year:

The Vatican Jubilee 2025 website: <https://www.iubilaeum2025.va/en.html>

The USCCB Jubilee 2025 website: <https://www.usccb.org/committees/jubilee-2025>

I am confident that this Holy Year will be a time for rediscovery and unity, opening hearts to receive the fullness of God's love and mercy through a personal encounter with the Lord, Jesus Christ.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Mitchell T. Rozanski
Archbishop of St. Louis

CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (FORMERLY RCIA)

Last weekend our topic for discussion was The Trinity. The Catholic concept of the Trinity is the teaching that God is one being in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Trinity is a central mystery of the Catholic faith and Christian life. It is the mystery of who God is, and is the source of other mysteries of faith.

Our focus this weekend is sacraments. Imagine a picture of a milk bottle on a blackboard and “filled” with white chalk. The bottle is our soul, and the white is grace that God poured into us through sacraments. The original word for “sacraments—the one the apostles used—is “mysteries.” Sacraments are mysteries, like the mystery of being in love. Try to explain the mystery of being in love to a child, and you see how limited our explanation can be. We can only tell them our story. The secret to how sacraments work is different for everyone. We have to listen to the church and to the stories of others and to the promptings of the Holy Spirit and then, finally, figure it out for ourselves. Every sacrament has a mystery to it that we have to discover for ourselves. The last few weeks we started looking at Sacraments.

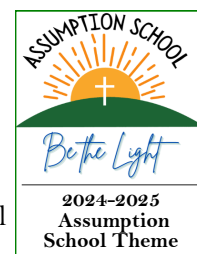
A Sacrament is an action of Christ and the Church that brings about what it signifies. For example, the water poured at Baptism is both an external sign and a spiritual reality. In this sacrament, the external and visible sign of washing with water actually accomplishes the interior and spiritual reality of cleansing the soul from all sin, making the person a new creation. When this is understood and believed, the Sacraments are able to take full effect in our

PRINCIPAL’S PEN



As we reflect on this season of giving, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your incredible generosity. I am wowed by our community and just truly overwhelmed by your support for our playground projects, which has allowed us to surpass our one-day giving goal through igivecatholic! Your generous contributions are paving the way for an environment that encourages creativity, physical activity, and social connections among our children. Having a vibrant and well-equipped playground is essential in providing our children with opportunities to engage in play, which is a crucial aspect of their development.

Thank you for investing in this dream and helping us create a nurturing space within our community where children can thrive. Together, we are shaping a brighter tomorrow for our children, and we are deeply grateful for your support.



Blessings,
Jamie Burbridge

THANK YOU FROM ST. VINCENT de PAUL



The Assumption SVdP Conference is truly blest. With the support of the parishioners, the Knights of Columbus, Ladies Auxiliary, Religious Education Program, O’Fallon Fire District, and a dedicated group of Vincentians, we were able to provide Thanksgiving dinners to over 100 families in need and a Merry Christmas for over 100 families again. This was accomplished through our No Hunger Holiday and Christmas Program. Food drives by Boy Scout Troop #506 and Thanksgiving food donations have restocked our pantry shelves.



Thank you all for your generous offerings of time, talent and treasure.

Wishing all a blessed Christmas and 2025.
The Assumption SVdP Team



HELLO FROM ASSUMPTION YOUTH MINISTRY!

Advent greetings from Assumption Youth Ministry! It has been a dynamic and powerful semester with both EDGE and Life Teen – the Holy Spirit is on the move! We are so proud of the ways the young Church here at Assumption enters deeply into prayer, welcomes others, and is embracing their call to holiness as young people.

**Sunday, December 15 | Life Teen: Christmas Party
6:30–8:45pm | Parish Center**

All teens are invited to join us for our annual Christmas party! Expect dinner, fellowship, fun, community and powerful prayer.

**Wednesday, December 18 | EDGE: Christmas Play
6–7:30pm | Church**

EDGE will be attending our parish Christmas play. Families are invited to join their middle schoolers for this great event that reminds us of the true joy that is found in the Incarnation at Christmas.

These are our final Life Teen & EDGE Events for 2024. We will resume in January. We wish you all a blessed Advent, a very Merry Christmas, and a happy New Year!

2025 EVENTS:
March 7–9: Luke 18 Retreat
June 1–7: EDGE Camp Hidden Lake
June 23–27: Life Teen Leadership Conference
July 18–20: Steubenville Youth Conference
July 27–August 2: Life Teen Camp Covecrest



Follow us on Social Media:

Instagram:

@assumption_life_teen and @assumption_edge

Facebook:

Assumption Life Teen and Assumption EDGE

QUESTIONS? Contact Becky Whitaker,

Director of Youth Minister; Life Teen Youth Minister
636-240-3721 ext. 243 or beckywhitaker@abvmtech.org

Alejandro DeHerrera, EDGE Youth Minister (Middle School)
636-240-3721 ext. 333 or alejandroherrera@abvmtech.org

DON'T FORGET ABOUT YOUR FREE CHURCH DIRECTORY PHOTO SESSION

For those who scheduled your professional photography session for our new Church directory, please **DO NOT FORGET** to come! **For those who have not scheduled an appointment, the January shoot dates are:**

- ◆ Tuesday, January 14 from 2–8:30pm
- ◆ Wednesday, January 15 from 2–8:30pm
- ◆ Thursday, January 16 from 2–8:30pm
- ◆ Friday, January 17 from 2–8:30pm
- ◆ Saturday, January 18 from 10am–4:30pm

A reminder email will be sent to all who have a January appointment, so please check your email!

The **NEW** Church Photo Directory will not be the same without you! There is no charge to participate and no obligation to purchase anything. Every family photographed will receive a complementary 8" x 10" portrait and complementary printed directory, as well as the opportunity to win a raffle for participating. Pets are welcome and multi-generation photos encouraged! Families with 6 or more members should book two back-to-back sessions.



CLICK HERE to book your photo session and use:

- ◆ Church Code: mo373 and Church
- ◆ Password: photos, and then follow the prompts.

PLEASE NOTE: As soon as the January dates are full, the appointment dates for the week of February 11-15 will be available.

If you need more assistance registering or need to change or cancel your photography session, contact Nancy Gomer, 636-240-3721 ext. 239.

OUR GIFTS TO GOD AND PARISH

Weekly Offertory	Nov 24, 2024	YTD 7/1/24 - 11/24/24	Loan taken out in 2013 for expansion of our school
Actual Collections	\$53,233	\$821,418	Original Loan \$3,306,127
Budget Target	<u>\$40,000</u>	<u>\$840,000</u>	Current balance owed \$386,152
Surplus / (Shortfall)	\$13,233	\$(18,582)	Monthly payment \$20,923
			<i>Last expected payment will be in May 2026.</i>



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 and create an account.



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 9am on the Tuesday before Sunday's
 edition (five days prior)

SOCIAL MEDIA

Website: assumptionbvm.org
 Instagram: @abvmofallon
 Facebook.com: @assumptionparish
 Youtube: @assumptionmedia1

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.