

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

January 8, 2023

We observed His star at its rising and have come to pay Him homage. Matthew 22

Sacraments and Parish Information



BAPTISM

Scheduled every Sunday at 1:15pm. Baptism preparation class is required. Call 636-240-3721 ext 235 to register.



CHRISTIAN MARRIAGE

Those preparing for marriage should 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, xt 235.



ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the Parish Office 636-240-3721



RITE of CHRISTIAN INITIATION of ADULTS

(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.



RITE of CONFESSION

Weekdays 7:30 - 7:50am Church
Saturdays 4:00 - 4:45pm Church
Or by appointment



FUNERALS

Please call the Parish Office 636-240-3721



CONFIRMATION

Preparation begins in September for all students who are entering 8th grade. Please contact Ann Marie Quan at 636-240-1020 for more information.



FIRST COMMUNION

Preparation begins in September for all students who are entering 2nd grade. Please contact Ann Marie Quan at 636-240-1020.

Welcome

**403 N. Main St. O'Fallon,
MO 63366**

www.assumptionbvm.org

Assumption Staff

636.240.3721 Ext:

Pastor

242 Rev. Nick Kastenholz
nicholaskastenholz@archstl.org

Senior Associate Pastor

226 Msgr. William Mc Cumber
wmccumber@archstl.org

In Residence

Rev. Patrick Russell

Deacons

Dcn. Fred Volansky
Dcn. Bill Walbridge (Retired)
Dcn. Richard Tadlock
deaconrichard@charter.net
Dcn. Bob Hennekes

Parish Manager

225 Mark Vogt
mvgot.abvm@gmail.com

Parish Secretary

221 Peggy Brewer

Bulletin Announcements:

peggy.assumption@yahoo.com
(by Tuesdays at 9:00am)

Bookkeeper

234 Mary Knapp

Director of Religious

Education and PSR Director

328 Anne Marie Quan
636.240.1020

Baptism/Wedding Coordinator

235 Angie Gloriod

Director of Youth Ministry

243 Becky Whitaker
becky.assumptionlt@gmail.com

Director of Music Ministry

326 Parker Bishop
parker.assumptionmusic@gmail.com

Director of Communication

239 Nancy Gomer
nancy.assumption@yahoo.com

Parish Day School/Preschool

Principal: Dr. Patricia Hensley
636.240.4474

Child Safety Coordinator

Lynn Crews 314-578-0741
lynn.assumption@gmail.com

Sunday Pre School

Denise Hoehne 314.954.3192

Parish Council

Abvparishcouncil3721@gmail.com

School Board

abvmschoolboard@gmail.com

Hello,

In the Christmas season that we are celebrating there are quite a few great feast days. This last Tuesday we celebrated the feast of the Holy Name of Jesus. One of the ways this was promoted and spread was by using the inscription IHS to stand for Jesus. Looking up some things about this, I found out that what was most prominent in my mind for what IHS stood for was actually wrong, at least in a way. I knew somewhere in there that it was letters denoting Jesus's name, specifically the first three letters in the Greek name for Jesus, ΙΗΣΟΥΣ, *iota-eta-sigma*, or ΙΗΣ. More dominant in my mind was the connection to "Jesus, Savior of men", or "Jesus Hominum Salvator" in Latin. Reading a variety of sources on this, one source (Wikipedia - although they actually give some respectable references for this entry) refers to this interpretation as a backronym, that people worked backwards to explain what it meant, and didn't exactly get it right.

In this case that can be kind of interesting since IHS may have originally been simply an abbreviation for the name Jesus. However, if the actual context in which it was written and the person who wrote it considered that they were expressing "Jesus, Savior of men", then the second interpretation is actually correct, even if it was founded on a mistake. If we start using the second interpretation on something where it wasn't meant that way, we may be adding things that were not intended. Since we normally use this symbol (IHS) by itself, that isn't a great concern. It is reminding us of Jesus, or of Jesus, Savior of men, both are good things but is still a distinction to be aware of.

A similar difference can be considered for how we read Scripture at times. We might be struck by certain words or phrases in a passage. They might even lead us to an epiphany of sorts (the feast we celebrate today), but we need to be careful how we put that understanding in the rest of the passage, or chapter, or book. If it wasn't meant that way, we might get a wrong interpretation of the greater passage, forcing our will and desires on the reading instead of being open to God's message to us. For example, the IHS being read as "Jesus, Savior of men" is fine by itself, but if that is imposed in a passage where it is meant to simply say "Jesus", we might be emphasizing the divinity of Christ at a place where it is meant to show his humanity. Since I'm not usually reading Scripture in the original Hebrew or Greek, this is always something to be aware of as we are struck by small passages, to recognize how they fit in the entirety of Scripture.

While we still have one more day of the Christmas season (we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord tomorrow and then ordinary time begins on Tuesday - a weird schedule this year) in the Church, I realize that most of our lives have gone back to our regular daily schedules. Like the words and smaller passages in Scripture that might have inspired us for the moment, hopefully we realize they were also not meant to stand by themselves, but are meant to be a part of all of our lives. The real celebration of Christmas does not mean that we only remember Christ on that day, or week, but it only truly makes sense if Christ is to be a part of every one of our days.

Peace,

Fr. Nick





Adult Formation

"...living the truth in love, we should grow in every way into Him...from whom the whole body, held and joined together by every supporting ligament brings about the body's growth and builds itself in love."

Becoming Catholic

RCIA

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults

Happy New Year. This weekend we return from Christmas break and through the readings on this Epiphany Sunday we ponder where our star leads us.

In celebrating the Epiphany of the Lord, we celebrate the revelation that Jesus was born as the Son of God. Today's gospel illustrates this revelation through the story of the three wise men who traveled to visit Jesus following his birth.

They embarked on a journey of faith, following the star of Bethlehem until they reached the manger where Jesus laid. They brought gifts that symbolized their revelation of his divinity: gold, which associated Jesus as a king; Frankincense, which was often used in worship, and symbolized the holiness of Jesus; and myrrh, a perfume used for embalming, which symbolized that Christ would one day die for our sins.

We are reminded of how our group also follows a star, a star of new beginnings and where will their light shine?

As we start a new calendar year, it's a time of rejuvenation for many of us. A chance for a new beginning. A chance to discover new things and make our own revelations. As the wise men in today's gospel did, you too can continue to follow your faith throughout this year. The wise men had a revelation that the Son of God was coming, and they were not afraid to follow their hearts. Do not be afraid to follow your heart when you hear God's call.

Fr. Nick gave a talk on Holy Orders. Several team members talked about the Sacrament of Marriage and shared stories of how God is the center of their marriage.

IN LOVING Memory

Irwin Dierkes
Husband of Mary Dierkes

Rose Linda LaSauce
Sister of Liz Allmeyer

John Conley
Brother of Tom Conley

Children's Sunday Mass Bags

The "Children's Sunday Mass Bags" include a coloring page based on the Sunday readings, crayons; a board religious book; and Bible Story lacing cards. So, the little ones can get a little catechesis with their entertainment!

You'll notice a stand in the back of church - where we will keep the Mass Bags. As you enter church with your children, please grab a bag to take to your pew. As you leave, simply please put the bag back on the stand!



The Assumption Athletic Association plays their CYC 1st-8th baseball and softball games at Knights of Columbus. The CYC is in need of umpires this summer, April-June. Boys and girls, ages 13+, flexible schedule, great way to earn money this summer! If you are interested, please contact Matthew.j.flick@gmail.com or 228-233-9388 to sign up.



Prayer

"For thus says the Lord: When you call Me, and come and pray to Me, I will listen to you. When you look for Me, you will find Me. Yes, when you seek Me with all your heart, I will let you find Me..."

Jeremiah 29:10-13

PLEASE NOTE

The Epiphany Concert is being held at Immaculate Heart of Mary Church In New Melle

The Sisters of the Most Precious Blood offer an Open House Tour of their beautiful historic chapel and heritage area. To schedule a tour or for more information, contact Sr. Cecile Gunelson at 636-293-8013. **Address:** 204 North Main Street. O'Fallon. MO

Directions: Use the entrance at Main and 3rd street and take the first right. Parking is available on the south side of chapel. Chapel is handicapped accessible.

Join us for the 1st annual

Epiphany Concert

Presented by the Catholic Parishes of Area 10
in the Archdiocese of St. Louis:

St. Gianna · St. Barnabas

Immaculate Heart of Mary (New Melle)

St. Joseph (Cottleville)

Immaculate Conception (Dardenne Prairie)

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (O'Fallon)

with Guest Parish **St. Paul** (St. Paul)

Monday, January 9, 2023
7:00pm

Hosted by
Immaculate Heart of Mary
8 West Highway D
New Melle, MO 63365

Mass Times/Intentions

Reconciliation

MONDAY 1.9.23

6:30am Bruce Kreycik
8:00am Alma Pratt

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

TUESDAY 1.10.23

6:30am Priest Intention
8:00am Bruce Kreycik

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

WEDNESDAY 1.11.23

6:30am Priest Intention
8:00am Joe Grivois

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



Assumption Adoration Chapel

Adoration at Assumption is available 24/7 in the old church by using the code at the North transit entrance. (please call the parish office for the code, 636-240-3721.)

EXPOSITION is on Tuesday and begins after the 8:00am Mass.

We are always in need of Adorers.

Please sign up at:

assumptionbvm.weadorehim.com.



PRAY, PRAY Every Tuesday in Chapel!



Everyone...PLEASE come to pray the Rosary on Tuesdays at 6:15pm followed by Perpetual Help Devotions and Benediction.



PRAYER:
A heart to heart with God "Our strength comes from the Eucharist"

Pray

We at Assumption are blessed to have two beautiful houses of worship! Our Modern and Spacious Church and our Historic Chapel.

Just like our own houses, God's houses require constant attention so they are comfortable, functional and look nice. We can do some of this work in-house, but the larger projects require outside contractors, especially for air conditioning, roofing, tuck-pointing, and electrical work.

Our chapel was constructed over 90 years ago. It is a sacred place, the site of numerous weddings, baptisms, funerals and other blessed events that integrate the history of our parish. Unfortunately, the chapel has maintenance challenges that are typical for a structure built in the 1930's.

If you would like to provide financial support to keep our chapel in good condition, here are two options for you to consider:

1. You can write a check directly to Assumption Church and include a note that it should be used for the upkeep of the chapel. As a restricted gift, the Parish Office can spend the money at any time, as long as it is used for the upkeep of the chapel.
2. You can make a contribution to the chapel's endowment fund at the Roman Catholic Foundation of Eastern Missouri (RCF). An endowment fund is similar to a permanent savings account. The principal stays in the account forever, but the income in the account can be used for the chapel. Contributions to the endowment do not go through the Assumption Parish Office, and the checks should not be made payable to Assumption. Instead, please contact Michael Weisbrod, RCF Senior Gift Planning Officer, at 314.918.2893 or michael.weisbrod@rcfstl.org. He will provide instructions for you.

Option 1 helps us address the immediate needs of the chapel, including utilities, maintenance and repairs.

Option 2 helps build up a source of investment income that can pay for the upkeep of the chapel in future years.

Whatever option you decide, we welcome and appreciate your support of God's historic house.



THURSDAY 1.12.23	FRIDAY 1.13.23	SATURDAY 1.14.23	SUNDAY 1.15.23
6:30am Priest Intention 8:00am Joe Grivois	6:30am Priest Intention 8:00am Rose Linda LaSauce	8:00am Partners in Mission Group 5:00pm Juanita Pfeiffer	8:00am Donny Spotanski 10:00am Robert Hoffman 12:00pm Clarence Thessen
7:30 - 7:50am Church Or by appointment	7:30 - 7:50am Church Or by appointment	7:30 - 7:50am Church Or by appointment	5:30pm People of the Parish By Appointment

**FORMATION**

Continuous
conversion
of mind and
heart

"Following
Jesus is the
work of a
lifetime"



After the January 8th Epiphany 10am Mass, we invite all children to greet the "Wise Men" in the Narthex after Mass and receive a gift of a chocolate, a blessed Holy Family medal, and a holy card. We will have blessed chalk at each exit for you to take home for this blessing.

Epiphany Home Blessing

One interesting custom for Epiphany is for families to ask God's blessing on our own homes. The ritual calls for parents to mark, with blessed chalk, the main entrance door with the initials of the Magi and a code of the current year. This year's mark will be:

20 + C + M + B + 23

The numbers stand for the year in which the blessing is inscribed (2023). The letters stand for the names traditionally given the Magi who found the Christ Child: Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar. They are also an abbreviation for the Latin blessing: *Christus mansionem benedicat*, or "Christ bless this dwelling."

Blessed chalk will be available after Masses the weekend of January 7/8. Gather your family at the main entrance to your home.

All make the sign of the cross.

Parent: **"Let us praise God, who fills our hearts and homes with peace.
Blessed be God forever."**

Family: **"Blessed be God forever"**

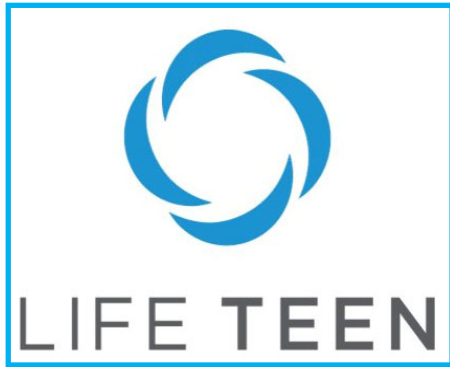
Parent or reader: *(reading from Sacred Scripture)* **"And behold, the star that they had seen at its rising preceded them, until it came and stopped over the place where the child was. They were overjoyed at seeing the star, and on entering the house they saw the child with Mary his mother. They prostrated themselves and did him homage."** *Matt 2:10-11*

Parent imparts the blessing: **"Lord God of heaven and earth, You revealed Your only begotten Son to every nation by the guidance of a star. Bless this house and all who inhabit it. Fill them with the light of Christ, that their concern for others may reflect Your love. We ask this through Christ, our Lord."**

Family: **"Amen"**

Then the parent sprinkles holy water on those gathered and sprinkles it about the home.





Youth Formation

Happy New Year from Assumption Youth Ministry! We have seen the Holy Spirit move in such beautiful ways in our teens and middle school youth this past semester.

We begin 2023 with grateful hearts for all the ways that the Lord has drawn us closer to Him and each other, **looking to the future with hopeful expectation** that there is more to come!

Sunday, January 8

Life Teen: Bunco Bonanza! 6:30 – 8:45pm

All teens are invited to join us for our Spring Semester kick off, featuring food, fun, and fellowship! Bring a friend!

Wednesday, January 11

Edge Spring Kick Off ~ 6:00 – 7:30pm

All 7th and 8th graders are invited to join us for the Spring Semester kick off of Edge!

2023 SAVE THE DATES:

March 3-5: Luke 18 Retreat

June 26-30: Life Teen Leadership Conference

July 7-10: Steubenville Youth Conference

July 23-29: Life Teen Camp Covecrest

Yay!



Connect with us on Social Media:

Instagram:

@assumption_life_teen // @assumption_edge

Facebook:

Assumption Life Teen // Assumption EDGE

QUESTION? Contact **Becky Whitaker, Dir of Youth Ministry**
636-240-3721 ext. 243 or becky.assumptionlt@gmail.com



Take a Chance to Win a Golf Cart and Help Raise Money for Assumption!

Would you like to take a chance to win a brand new electric golf cart? This beautiful 2022 ICON i40L Caribbean Blue, four-person Golf Cart, courtesy of **STL Custom Cartz** and the Carrino family, is being raffled off at the 2023 Assumption School Gala (**Dinner Auction**): Prom Through the Decades on Saturday, April 22.

Tickets are \$20 each or six for \$100, and can be purchased with cash, check (made out to Assumption), and online at abvm.home.qtego.net. There is no limit on the number of tickets purchased. Tickets will be available in the month of April.

To participate in the golf cart raffle, please send the completed golf cart raffle ticket with payment in a sealed envelope to Assumption School. Attention: 2023 Gala committee (which is the Auction Committee), or drop it into the church donation basket.



Assumption Gala 2023 GOLF CART RAFFLE TICKET

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Seller: _____

Seller phone #: _____
(or homeroom teacher)



Assumption Gala 2023 GOLF CART RAFFLE TICKET

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Seller: _____

Seller phone #: _____
(or homeroom teacher)



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

- 1 Peter 4:10

Hospitality



Assumption Pro-Life Meeting

Please join us....

January 9th at 8:45am (following 8:00am Mass)
in the parish center, Rooms D/E.

Questions? Please call Sylvia at 636-978-8803

Our Gifts to God and Parish

STEWARDSHIP
a way of life

Weekly Offertory

	December 18, 2022	YTD 7/1/2022 - 12/2022
Actual Collections	\$ 32,389	\$ 899,537
Budget Target	\$ 41,000	\$ 954,500
Surplus / (Shortfall)	\$ (8,611)	\$ (54,963)

The Bible Teaches It (Mal 3:10-12)
We Believe It (Acts 4:32-36)
God Honors It (Gen 14:18-20)

TITHING

Loan taken out in 2013 for expansion of our school

Original Loan	\$ 3,306,127
Current balance owed	\$ 988,349
Monthly payment	\$ 20,923

Last expected payment, August 2026

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



HOSPITALITY:
Christian
kindness
"We are ALL
hospitality
ministers"

Hospitality

Please Pray For Our Troops

Service Members on Our Prayer List:

Christopher Schneider
Anthony Horvath
Scott Boatright
Thomas Townsend
Shaun Brown D.O.
Aaron Davis
Jason Jones
Dustin Hesscamp
Austen Thomas
Alexander Boden
Christopher Weber
Gabriel Gage

Alex Struckoff
Connor Smit
Sydney Smith
Miranda Gerringer
Marissa Johnson
Michael Pabst
Garrett Einggeli
Robert Rodamaker
Brian Cole
Calvin Pieper
Brenden Seibert
Ellie Prinster
Caroline Victor
Anthony Northway
Jeffrey Northway
Virginia Brawley
Joseph Gibbons
Graham Mullin
Jason Nickell
Tanner Swafford
Caleb McDowell

Alex Murphy
Drew Huskey
Logan McCummisky
Cody Wade
Anna Bello
Justin Dimitry
Sabrina Huddleston
Shaun Brown
David Baine
Samuel Davis
Colin Emge

Son of Shelly and Jim Schneider
Nephew of Judy Horvath
Son of Mary and Don Boatright
Grandson of Lorraine Cully
Son of Rick and Andrea Wild
Son of Tammy and Tim Davis
Grandson of Joyce Hunn
Grandson of Joyce Hunn
Son of Jeanine Thomas
Grandson of Bob and Jan Weber
Grandson of Bob and Jan Weber
Nephew of Madeline and Larry Gage
and Grandson of Julitta Gage
Nephew of Keith and Jean Boal
Nephew of Keith and Jean Boal
Niece of Keith and Jean Boal
Granddaughter of Keith and Jean Boal
Great Granddaughter of Ruth Ell
Son of Cathy and Chuck Pabst
Grandson of John and Sherry Busken
Great Grandson of Clarence Schneider
Grandson of Henrietta Cole
Grandson of Howard and Carol Pieper
Grandson of Larry and Shirley Boyer
Granddaughter of Henry & Norma Prinster
Granddaughter of Henry & Norma Prinster
Grandson of Mary Lou Becker
Grandson of Mary Lou Becker
Granddaughter of Walter and Pat Curtis
Grandson of John and Sharon Gibbons
Grandson of Norbert and Mary Stoverink
Nephew of Larry & Sue Buehler
Grandson of Marilyn Shaffer
Great Grandson of Larry & Dolores
Lantegne
Grandson of Larry & Dolores Lantegne
Son of Karla & Bret Falkner
Great Grandson of Arnold & Dottie Becker
Son of Mike & Beth Wade
Niece of Tina Cay
Nephew of Gary & Jan Doerr
Granddaughter of Maribeth Huddleston
Nephew of Angela Ward
Son of Larry and Elizabeth Baine
Son of Tim & Tammy Davis
Great Grandson of Ruth Rothermich



Do you have family or friend who are currently serving in the Armed Forces? If so, we would like to pray for them by name as a community! To **add** or **remove** a name from our list, please call the parish office, 636-240-3721. Thank you for your prayerful support to help keep our troops serving our country safe!



A Soldier's Prayer

Lord, hold our troops in
Your loving hands.
Protect them as they
protect us. Bless them
and their families for the
selfless acts they perform
for us in our time of
need. We ask this in the
name of Jesus Christ our
Lord and Savior. Amen

Pray for our Nation and for our Troops.

*"Be joyful in hope, patient in suffering, faithful in prayer."
Romans 12:12*



NOMINATIONS FOR PARISH COUNCIL!!

We need nominations for parishioners to serve on our Parish Council over the next three years. The Parish Council is comprised of 12 people who serve three year terms each, requiring four new people each year. The Parish Council assists the pastor in fostering pastoral activity, they provide communications with the parish commissions and other committees as well as providing consultative advice at monthly parish council meetings.

I would ask that you consider if you or someone you know may be called to serve our parish in this manner. To nominate yourself or someone else for the parish council please e-mail me at nicholas.laskastenholtz@archstl.org or fill out the form below and return to the parish office or in the collection basket. Once we have received our nominations they will be contacted and we will have an evening where the nominees can find out more specifically about what is involved as a Parish Council member to help them discern if this is appropriate for them. New council members will be drawn from those accepting their nomination at Mass. Any questions... please contact Fr. Nick or any of our current Parish Council members.

Parish Council Nominee

I am nominating _____ for Assumption Parish Council.

Their contact information is: Phone: _____

Email: _____

My name is (if not nominating yourself) _____

My contact information is: Phone: _____

Email: _____



“...living the truth in love, we should grow in every way into Him... from whom the whole body, held and joined together by every supporting ligament brings about the body's growth and builds itself in love.”
- Ephesians 4:15-16

Adult Formation

Important

**BLOOD
DRIVE**

ImpactLife
**GOOD
GIVING**

GIVE BLOOD 11/14-1/15
AND GET YOUR CHOICE OF A
GIFT CARD OR A DONATION
TO FEEDING AMERICA.

Sunday, January 15

9:00 am - 1:30 pm

Parish Hall

405 North Main Street

Masks optional. Appointments required.
To schedule an appointment, scan QR code
call ImpactLife at 800.747.5401
or go to [bloodcenter.org/group, grp #9007](http://bloodcenter.org/group_grp_9007)

**WE NEED
YOU!**



Electronic gift card values:
\$25 for first time donors &
\$20 for returning donors.

Assumption Catholic Church

OFFICE INFORMATION

403 N Main Street, O'Fallon MO 63366

636.240.3721 Parish Office

Hours - Mon-Thu 8:00am-4:00pm

Fri 8:00am-3:00pm

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

636.272.4758 (Helpline)

ASSUMPTION SCHOOL: 636.240.4474

BULLETIN NOTICES

Submit to Parish Office

(peggy.assumption@yahoo.com)

by Tuesday 9:00am

WEBSITE: www.assumptionbvm.org

facebook.com/@assumptionmedia
[assumptionparish](http://assumptionparish.org)

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, 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 314-578.0741.