

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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

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Sunday of Advent

They shall beat their swords
into plowshares and their
spears into pruning hooks;
one nation shall not raise
the sword against another.

Isaiah 2:4



December 1, 2019

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Sacraments/Other Information



BAPTISM

2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 1:15pm. Required Preparation Class. 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.



ANOIDTING 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

"Have mercy on me as a sinner"
Saturday 4-4:45 pm and Mon-Fri 7:30-8:00am or by appt.



FUNERALS

Please contact Amanda Suchara, Funeral Coordinator, 636-577-3776, to make final arrangements.



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

Website

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

Associate Pastor

239 Rev. Patrick Russell
patrickprussell@archstl.org

Senior Associate

Rev Ronald Rubbelke

Deacons

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

Director of Stewardship & Liturgy

247 Jeannette Hamann
abvmjeannette@yahoo.com

Spiritual Director

Mickie McCool
314-610-5651

Director of Administration

225 Jim Hager

Parish Secretary

221 Peggy Brewer
Bulletin Announcements:
peggy.assumption@yahoo.com

Bookkeeper

234 Mary Knapp

Baptism/Wedding Coordinator

235 Angie Gloriod

Director of Youth Ministry

243 Phil Lewandowski
440-785-9116
abvm youth@gmail.com

Child Safety Coordinator

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

Coordinator of Music Ministry

240 Mark Sacco
msacco.assumption@gmail.com

Director of Religious Education

333 Melinda Kruper

Parish Day School/Preschool

Principal: Dr. Patricia Hensley
636.240.4474

Parish School of Religion

Coordinator: Ann Quan
636.240.1020

Sunday Pre School

Denise Hoehne 314.954.3192

Parish Council

abvm parishcouncil@gmail.com

School Board

abvmschoolboard@gmail.com

Hello,

Advent is starting already and while it isn't the shortest Advent ever, Christmas is on a Wednesday so we do have 3 days in our fourth week of Advent, but it is the shortest time between Thanksgiving and Christmas that we can have. While some may have had Christmas decorations up and even Christmas songs on the radio from early November, most of us start to seriously think about it once Thanksgiving is over.

One reason we can get a bit ahead of ourselves in the preparation is that we don't wait until Christmas to celebrate Christmas. Civilly it seems like Christmas is being celebrated for a few weeks leading up to Dec. 25th, and then once that day hits it is over. I am not against some Christmas parties ahead of this time and recognize decorations being up beforehand help us in our anticipation, but sometimes this can just take over and the only preparation we did was for the civil celebration of the holiday, and the religious holy day we celebrate gets lost.

Advent is our time to prepare for that holy day. To consider how we can be more open to receive Christ in our lives, to recognize the great gift God has made by coming to us as a man, to reflect on this miracle and what it means to us. I was in 5th grade classrooms this last week and the teachers had asked me to talk about the Incarnation. My first thought was how do I explain some of this to 5th graders? But as I've found when trying to discuss mysteries of our faith with children, it usually is a good opportunity for myself to consider what I know and believe. Sometimes adults may have words that describe and communicate some general ideas, but we can also just get caught up in using the words and not take the time to really ponder what they mean. When we talk about the Incarnation, we are stating that Jesus is both God and man, in the flesh. (Both infinite and limitless as God and yet also taking on a form that is finite and limited as a human.) From the early church on, the temptation to over simplify this mystery has led to many heresies; for example, just considering Jesus as God appearing as man (Gnostic Docetism) or how the Nestorians and Monophysites considered him a man that God then treated or changed in a special way. While we will never fully understand the Incarnation, we can better receive God's gift if we try to gain some appreciation for how incredible it really is!

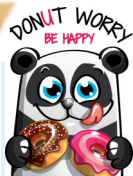
Remember only 24 more days until Christmas, happy Advent.

Peace,

Fr. Nick

P.S. You might also consider that this is the start of flu season. There may be times for some of us when it would be more appropriate to forgo shaking hands for a greeting or sign of peace and a word and a smile may be kinder to accept or give. The flu is not the gift we wish to share this season.





Hospitality Sunday THIS Weekend!

Join us for Hospitality Sunday, TODAY, December 1st, after all Masses, in Halls A/B from 7:30am - 1:30pm. Stop by after any Mass and visit with fellow parishioners and enjoy donuts, bagels, juice, milk and coffee! We welcome all parishioners and guests to visit in friendship and fellowship encouraging them to find Christ here and to bring Christ to the world.



Hospitality Sunday is a wonderful way for fellowship each month!

Thank you to everyone who generously donates every month to our donuts! We are grateful to be able to gather each month in this way and to be able to share fellowship! It costs the parish over \$800 each month for us to gather in this way. If you are able, please be generous when you pass the donation box on the donuts table! *Thank you so very much!*

Blood Drive – Thank You! Thank You! Thank You!

Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center collected twenty-seven units of blood at our recent blood drive. If you came and were able to donate, and even if you were not, may God bless you for your thoughtfulness and generosity! There is always a great need for blood in our community and we are grateful to all parishioners who come to our drives. Your Life Saving Gift will bring healing to 108 individuals in our community. By your act of kindness, you are bringing Christ to the world.

Please mark your calendars for our 2020 Blood

Drives: January 12, May 17, August 4, November 8.

Congratulations to Clayton Russ, Son of Mike and Kathy Russ, upon achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.



Christ Alive Through Mary

The women's witness ministry, Christ Alive Through Mary, will be having its next prayer breakfast on December 7th at the Cardinal Rigali Center. Tina Ferder will be sharing her faith journey and how she has found transformation in God's time. For more information and registration go to the Catholic Renewal Center website at archstl.org/renewal

Register Here



STEWARDSHIP
a way of life

New Member Registration News!

Ready to be an official member of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish??!! **We can't wait to welcome you!** We are changing our format to make it easier for you! There are several ways to register! You can call the parish office 636.240.3721 or Lynn Crews 314.578.0741 and register over the phone; come in to the parish office and register; or we have a link on our web page. Simply click on the link and download the registration form and either email the form to Lynn Crews at: lynn.assumption@gmail.com or print it off and mail it to the parish office or drop it in the collection basket at Mass.

Then, the first Sunday of every month, please plan on joining our wonderful Welcoming Team in the front of Church after the 10:00am or Noon Masses for a brief tour of our Church and facilities. The tour will end in our parish center where we will join our Hospitality Sunday folks for coffee, donuts and more! We'll also answer any other questions your family might have about how we function as a parish and how we live our mission:

May you find Christ here... may you find Christ to the world!



"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

Prayer

Advent Materials

Advent materials are available for children, teens, adults and families in the Narthex, to help us prepare in mind and heart for the Coming of our Lord, Jesus!

Blessing of our Advent Wreath

The use of the Advent Wreath is a traditional practice which has found its place in the Church as well as in the home. The blessing of an Advent Wreath takes place on the First Sunday of Advent.

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 Church on Thursday, December 12, beginning 7:00pm for a communal Penance Service. Immediately following this service, time will be given for individual confessions.

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve:

Tuesday, December 24

4:00pm

4:30pm (Chapel)

6:00pm

10:00pm



Christmas Day:

Wednesday, December 25

8:00am

10:00am

12:00pm



Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Tuesday, December 31:

Vigil Mass, 5:30pm

Wednesday, January 1, 9:00am

Sanguis Christi Spirituality Center

An opportunity for a Four Week Retreat at Sanguis Christi Spirituality Center, 204 North Main, O'Fallon, MO, is being offered again this year. This retreat offers the retreatant an opportunity to continue his/her ordinary activities and find time for God too! The retreatant commits to pray with Sacred Scripture 30 minutes each day and to meet twice weekly with a director at the spirituality center. This retreat is given on an individual basis. If interested contact Sr. Theresa Jezl at 636-515-2883 (cell) or 636-542-9748. (home) or email tjezl@cpps-ofallon.org. We ask for a free will offering. For more information or to register contact Sr. Theresa Jezl.

TWO POSITIONS OPEN: St. Cletus

Parish in St. Charles is seeking applicants for two positions on its parish staff: a business manager and a part-time secretary. If you are interested in either of position, please contact Cindy Clegg at 636-946-6327 or at cclegg@saintcletus.org.

Week at a Glance

| | MONDAY 12.02.19 | TUESDAY 12.03.19 | WEDNESDAY 12.04.19 |
|-------------------------|---|--|---|
| Mass Time / Intentions | 6:30am Jim Hunn 8:00am Joseph Zickel | 6:30am Earl Busby 8:00am Jeanne Donovan | 6:30am Georgia Ann Bauer 8:00am Dorothy Hoeber |
| Readings | 1st Reading: Is 4:2-6 Gospel: Mt 24:37-44 | 1st Reading: Is 11:1-10 Gospel: Lk 10:21-24 | 1st Reading: Is 25:6-10a Gospel: Mt 15:29-37 |
| Reconciliation | 7:30 - 8:00am Church Or by appointment | 7:30 - 8:00am Church Or by appointment | 7:30 - 8:00am Church Or by appointment |
| Other Events/Activities | O.T. Bible Study 10:00am Rooms D/E Finance Council Mtg 7:00pm Meyer 2 CRHP Cont. Committee 7:00pm Multi-Purpose | Bible Study 9:30am Meyer 2 Catholicism Explained 6:00pm Meyer 1&2 Perp Help Dev. 6:15pm Chapel CRHP 7:00pm Rooms D/E | RCIA 6:00pm Multi-purpose CRHP Women 7:00pm Rooms D/E SVDP 7:00pm SVDP Center |

Catholicism Explained

How do you respond when someone asks you about your Catholic faith? This Apologetics series has been written to help adults explain what makes the Catholic faith credible and beautiful! Luke Doyle, Archdiocese of Kansas City Seminarian and current seminarian at Assumption, will teach this class. Topics discussed include: Basic Human Reason 101, Why Believe in God? Who Really Is Jesus? Why Be Catholic?, and Responding to Common Objections Against the Catholic Church. **All are welcome!** Tuesday, 6:15-7:15 on Dec. 3rd in Meyer 1/2. *During PSR.

Pray the Rosary Before Weekend Masses:

Join us in Church 30 minutes before each weekend Mass, for the Rosary. We will gather and pray before the Holy Family Statue.

Advent Prayer Day

Join us for an Advent Day of Prayer, Birthing Hope, on Saturday, December 14, 2019 from 10:00 – 3:00 at the Sanguis Christi Spirituality Center at 204 North Main, O'Fallon, Mo. (Mass at 9:00 is optional.) Our presenter is Kathleen Geraty Davis, spiritual director and retreat leader, the cost is \$35.00, lunch included and the deadline for registration is Wednesday, December 11th. For information or to register contact Sr. Carol Orf at corf@cpps-ofallon.org or 314-560-1028.

Deanery Advent Reflection Sunday

Join others in the St. Charles Deanery for an Advent reflection on Sunday, December 15, from 5-7pm at All Saints Parish in St. Peters. The day will include a reflection by Fr. Don Wester, a meal, and an opportunity to donate to those in need. Please RSVP by end of day December 6th to - www.catholicfaithstl.com/catholic-faith-stl-adults.

Perpetual Help Devotions and the Rosary:

Would your Block rosary be interested in also praying the Perpetual Help prayers? Join us each Tuesday evening at 6:15pm and you can do both—pray the rosary and pray the perpetual help prayers. Each Tuesday evening there will be a recitation of the Rosary, live organ music, and perpetual help prayers.

TMIY Men of Assumption Parish

Come and Join us for Session 12, Saturday, December 7th at 7am in the Lower Level of the Knights of Columbus Hall. Below are the session topics. Contact Deacon Richard with ANY questions at 314-397-2433 or DeaconRichard@charter.net

Session 12: The Cry of the Child

- POW Example of Facing the Brutal Truth
- How Men Have Succumbed to Temptation
- The Attack on Fatherhood is Real and Relentless
- A Father's Legacy
- The Story of Eminem
- Failed Leadership Always Has a Personal Price



PRAYER:

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

Prayer

THURSDAY 12.05.19

6:30am Zach Gasich
8:00am Pam Blalock

1st Reading: Is 26:1-6
Gospel: Mt 7:21, 24-27

7:30 - 8:00am Church
Or by appointment
Legion of Mary 7:00pm Rooms D/E

FRIDAY 12.06.19

6:30am Vocation to the Priesthood and Religious Life
8:00am William Grymich Jr.

1st Reading: Is 29:17-24
Gospel: Mt 9:27-31

7:30 - 8:00am Church
Or by appointment

SATURDAY 12.07.19

9:00am Sr. Rose Marie Mersinger
5:00 pm Elizabeth Luetkenhaus

1st Reading: Is 30:19-21, 23-26
Gospel: Mt 9:35—10:1, 5a, 6-8

4:00-4:45pm Church
Or by appointment
Breakfast with Santa 10:00am The Parish Center

SUNDAY 12.08.19

8:00 am Cletus Swagman
10:00 am Norbert Rothermich
12:00 pm Dennis Spisak
5:30 pm People of the Parish
1st Reading: Is 11:1-10
2nd Reading: Rom 15:4-9
Gospel: Mt 3:1-12

Baptism 1:00pm Church
Choral Arts Concert 1:00pm Chapel
Life Teen 5:30pm Hall C



“...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

The Advent Wreath Tradition & Meaning

For many Christians, Advent wreaths are a favorite way to celebrate the month of December leading up to Christmas Day. Although Advent Wreaths are popular among Christians, many are not aware of the rich meaning and symbolism embedded in the tradition. If we learn this meaning, we can appreciate it all the more!



DARKNESS AND LIGHT

The Advent candles readily demonstrate the strong contrast between darkness and light. In the Bible, Christ is referred to as the “Light of the World” contrasted with the darkness of sin. Human history spanned long ages before our prophesied Savior would finally make his appearance, and God’s promise to make all things new through him.

As his Advent, or “coming,” draws nearer another candle is lit, with each candle dispelling the darkness a little more. Thus, the Advent wreath helps us to spiritually contemplate the great drama of salvation history that surrounds the birth of God Incarnate who comes to redeem the human race.

SHAPE, NUMBER, AND COLOR

SHAPE: The circular shape of the wreath, without beginning or end, symbolizes God’s complete and unending love for us—a love that sent his Son into the world to redeem us from the curse of sin. It also represents eternal life which becomes ours through faith in Jesus Christ.

NUMBER: The Advent Wreath traditionally holds four candles which are lit, one at a time, on each of the four Sundays of the Advent season. Each candle represents 1,000 years. Added together, the four candles symbolize the 4,000 years that humanity waited for the world’s Savior—from Adam and Eve to Jesus, whose birth was foretold in the Old Testament.

Some Advent wreath traditions also include a fifth white “Christ” candle, symbolizing purity that is lit on Christmas Eve or Christmas day. Many circular wreaths can incorporate a white candle by adding a pillar candle to the wreath center.

COLOR: Violet is a liturgical color that is used to signify a time of prayer, penance, and sacrifice and is used during Advent and Lent. Advent, also called “little Lent,” is the season where we spiritually wait in our “darkness” with hopeful expectation for our promised redemption, just as the whole world did before Christ’s birth, and just as the whole world does now as we eagerly await his promised return.

THE FOUR WEEKS OF ADVENT

During the first two weeks of Advent we light the first two purple candles. The Third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete (Rejoice) Sunday. On this day we celebrate that our waiting for the birth of Jesus on Christmas day is almost over. Rose is a liturgical color that is used to signify joy, so we light the single pink candle on the third Sunday of Advent.

Then on the fourth Sunday of Advent, the final purple candle is lit to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait expectantly for the soon-coming birth of the King of Kings.

Traditionally, each of the four Advent candles have a deeper meaning which is depicted in the lovely Four Weeks of Advent Pewter Wreath:



that Jesus is coming.

The **2nd Sunday of Advent** symbolizes Faith with the “*Bethlehem Candle*” reminding us of Mary and Joseph’s journey to Bethlehem.

The **3rd Sunday of Advent** symbolizes Joy with the “*Shepherd’s Candle*” reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.

The **4th Sunday of Advent** symbolizes Peace with the “*Angel’s Candle*” reminding us of the message of the angels: “*Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men.*”

~Excerpts taken from the Catholic Company

ASSUMPTION LIFE TEEN

CALENDAR

'All nights end around
8:30pm unless noted'

Sun Dec 1 - Life Night:

"What happens when we die?"
(Hall C) - 6:45pm

**We need your help
FEEDING our awesome hungry
teens on Sunday's!**

.....

HELP PROVIDE A SIMPLE MEAL FOR A SINGLE SUNDAY

TO HELP YOU CAN EITHER:

- 1) SIGN-UP GENIUS:
ASSUMPTIONBVM.ORG/YOUTH-
MINISTRY/LIFE-TEEN
- 2) EMAIL PHIL:
PHIL.ASSUMPTIONYM@gmail.com
- 3) CALL PHIL: 440-785-9116



FORMATION
Continuous
conversion
of mind and
heart
"Following
Jesus is the
work of a
lifetime"

Youth Formation

LIFE TEEN: @assumption_LT @assumption_life_teen Assumption Life Teen Group

The Knights of Columbus Kids Christmas Pageant will be on Tuesday, December 10th and Wednesday, December 11th starting at 6:25pm in the Church. These performances are free and we invite everyone to come, see and hear the Christmas story taken from the Gospels of Luke and Matthew. Make plans to attend and see the kids from Religious Education and the Day School perform the story and sing Traditional Christmas Carols!



Prevent & Protect STL

The Archdiocese of St. Louis has developed a new system for safe environment compliance called Prevent and Protect STL. Everyone ministering to minors and vulnerable adults (clergy, employees and volunteers) in the Archdiocese are required and asked to register in the new system before December 31, 2020. This includes those new to service and those who are currently in service. For those who have already attended a Protecting God's Children workshop, your previous training date will transfer to this new system. In addition to attending a live Protecting God's Children workshop, all clergy, volunteers, and employees will register for an updated background screening, view two new online training modules on abuse reporting and the Code of Ethical Conduct, and agree to the updated Code of Ethical Conduct. Please go to www.preventandprotectstl.org to register and contact our parish Child Safety Coordinator, Lynn Crews, with any questions or for further assistance, 314-578-0741. Thank you!

**Deadline for Luke 18 High
School Team Registration is
Sunday December 15!
Google Form Link is on
Assumption Life Teen
Webpage: [assumptionbvm.org/
Youth-Ministry/Life-Teen](http://assumptionbvm.org/Youth-Ministry/Life-Teen)**

High School Team Disciples + Cori Team Sign-ups!



**SERVICE:**

Love in action
 "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Matthew
 25:40

Service



**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
 NEEDS YOUR HELP!
 IS YOUR MINISTRY OR SOCIAL GROUP LOOK-
 ING FOR A PROJECT TO HELP THE NEEDY
 THIS CHRISTMAS?**



SVDP is sponsoring a **Christmas Program** for our Neighbors in Need on Saturday, Dec. 14, and would appreciate your help in supplying any of the following:

- Rolls of Christmas wrap, ribbon, safety scissors, gift tags, and tape
- "Stock the House" items, such as small electric appliances: toasters, coffee pots, lamps, etc.
- Blankets, pillows, bedding, towels, etc.
- Gifts for the homeless, such as waterproof mats, tents, etc.

These items are meant to supplement the gifts from the "GIVING TREE." Many of our neighbors in need, lack the simple necessities that we often take for granted. They will be invited to walk through the Parish Center and choose an item from the table displays during their Christmas Program visit.

If you would like to bake cookies or brownies for this Christmas event, those would also be most welcome. For more information and ideas on how you can make this Christmas brighter for our less fortunate neighbors, please call Tammy at 314-603-2395, or Georgia at 636-294-0097.

Pickup of your donated items can be arranged.

† St. Vincent de Paul

Dec 7/8 is St. Vincent DePaul food pantry weekend. For our Christmas program on Dec 14, we are asking for grocery store gift cards for our families to purchase their holiday meats.

The pantry is also in need of toiletry items (shampoo, deodorant, razor blades, etc), laundry detergent, dryer sheets and liquid dish soap. Thank you for your generous support!



**The Knights of Columbus
 Hall is OPEN!**

Fish Fry's Serving * 5:00-7:30pm

Fish Fries: Dec 6, Feb 7

**Lenten Fish Fries: Feb 28,
 Mar 6, 13, 20, 27, Apr 3, 10**

Menu:

Fried Cod and Catfish, Fried Chicken Fingers,
 Pasta (Spaghetti or Mac-N-Cheese), Green Beans,
 Cole Slaw, Potato Salad, Desserts
 Tea, Coffee - Free; Full cash bar available: Beer,
 Wine, and Mixed Drinks.

COOK BOOKS FOR SALE TODAY! St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Portage Des Sioux, *have suffered from the recent flooding.* They created a Cook Book called "Between Two Rivers". A few St. Francis parishioners will be here TODAY, Sunday, Dec 1st, in our parish center during Hospitality Sunday, to sell their cook books. Your purchase of a cook book would be of great help to them and the financial support they are in need of due to the flood. *And they make great Christmas gifts!*

EARLY Bulletin deadlines

The December 22nd Bulletin Announcements are due by December 17th at 9:00am
 Please send announcements to: peggy.assumption@yahoo.com





The 24/7 Men's Group, once again, sponsors the 2020 Catholic Men's Conference.

This year's conference will be on Saturday February 1. As it was the last few years it will be held at the Touhill Performing Arts Center at the University of Missouri, St Louis. The conference doors open at 8:00am, conference will run from 9:00am till about 4:00pm. **This year's theme is: "Seeking Righteousness" 1 Timothy 6:11.** There will be an outstanding group of speakers at this year's conference. The speakers scheduled are: **John O'Leary** – Author of "On Fire: The 7 Choices to Ignite a Radically Inspired Life", Speaker that inspires nearly 75,000 people at 100+ events each year. **Deacon Harold Burke Sivers** – Known around the world as the "Dynamic Deacon", EWTN co-host **Dr. Lawrence Feingold** – Associate Professor of Theology and Philosophy at Kenrick-Glennon Seminary. **Fr. Anthony Gerber** – Parochial Administrator at St Theodore in Flint Hill. All tickets must be purchased through the website. Tickets are \$40 till December 31, then \$45 till January 31. Don't wait, save some money and get your tickets today. More details and ticket information is available on the website: <https://www.catholicmenforchrist.org/>

If you have any questions, contact Bob Neuner via email;



December 1, 2019 — First Sunday in Advent

IS 2:1-5; PS 122:1-9; ROM 13: 11-14; MT 24:37-44

Today we begin the beautiful season of Advent. It is a season meant for preparation. For what exactly are we preparing? Two things: the celebration of our Savior's birth and the anticipation of His second coming.

These are weighty tasks with eternal consequences. So, let us stewards make the words of the Prophet Isaiah our motto for the season: *"Come, let us climb the Lord's mountain to the house of the God of Jacob that he may instruct us in his ways and we may walk in his paths."*

In the weeks leading up to Christmas, it seems everywhere we turn we are pushed to do more to create a "perfect" Christmas day. But the Church's guidance to use these weeks to focus on our spiritual lives can indeed seem like a mountain-climb.

The intentional use of the gift of time is what the Christian steward is called to do, and with even greater intensity during Advent. How can we use our time to prepare for Jesus' birth on Dec. 25 and for His second coming at a date we do not know?

We can push back against the world's pressure to have the "perfect Christmas." Scale back on materialism so we have more time for spiritual preparations: Confession, weekday Mass, adoration, family prayer time, lighting the Advent wreath, acts of kindness.

In the end we will be prepared to celebrate a truly meaningful Christmas, be-come more like our Savior and be ready for Him to come again.

~ Excerpts from: Catholic Diocese of Wichita



SERVICE:

Love in action
"Truly I tell you,
whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."

Matthew 25:40

Service

Our Gifts to God and Parish

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

| | November 17, 2019 | 7/1/2019 - 11/17/2019 |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Envelopes (467)& On Line | \$ 27,665 | \$ 661,936 |
| Loose | \$ 1,142 | \$ 22,622 |
| Total | \$ 28,807 | \$ 684,558 |

Needed to sustain our mission \$684,000

Loan Balance as of 10/31/2019: \$1,578,662

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

STEWARDSHIP
a way of life

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

TITHING

50+ CLUB ~ Christmas Party

Attention all Members! Our Christmas party will soon be here on December 9th at 6:00pm, in Halls A & B. All paid members are welcome to attend. If you need to pay dues and/or sign up to be a member, please do so immediately, to Linda Lambing at 153 Aspencode Circle, St. Peters 63376. We are asking everyone to PLEASE bring a dessert, salad or fruit dish to share. We have a \$5 extra fee this year, due to an increase in food prices. We have a great entertainer with Jim Edwards, so come and join the fun! If you have any questions, please call Martha at 636-294-3367.

Christmas Concert

The Concert Arts Assoc. invites you to join them for their 48th season of musical excitement on Sunday, December 8th at 3:00pm as the "Choral Arts Singers" present their annual CHRISTMAS CONCERT here at Assumption Parish in the CHAPEL. "Christmas Around the World" features favorite holiday songs from around the globe, including Europe, Africa, Asia, France and America. Come join in a fun and festive afternoon of music. Admission is free, but donations are welcome to help the Concert Arts Assoc. 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.

Caroling Christmas Cards

Caroling Christmas Cards bring a musical holiday greeting right to your door. Members of the "Choral Arts Singers" will deliver a unique holiday mini-concert of 5 selections to the address that you choose – a terrific way to let someone know they are especially thought of during the holidays. Cards will be delivered on Monday, December 16th from 6:30pm to 9:30pm in the O'Fallon/Lake St. Louis/Wentzville area for a donation of \$50. A limited number of cards are available, so reserve yours today. For reservations or additional information, contact Bonnie Lang at 636-887-2899.



**Can YOU drive
a Golf Cart?
We Need YOU!**

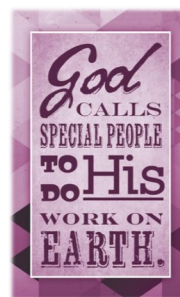
The Golf Cart Ministry is seeking Golf Cart Drivers for the 5:00 pm Saturday and Noon Sunday Masses. Ministry members receive much Joy helping fellow parishioners who otherwise would be unable to attend Mass due to physical restrictions. For additional information or to volunteer please contact Jim O'Loughlin at 314-606-0048 or joloughlin55@gmail.com.



"...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



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

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



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 294.0821.

CHURCH NAME AND ADDRESS

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

TELEPHONE

636 240-3721 EXT 221

CONTACT PERSON

Peggy Brewer

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Please send **1200 copies of the bulletin!**