Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

December 20, 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent

"He will be great and will be called Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give him the throne of David his father..." - Luke 1:32

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

Sacraments/Other Information

630-3983.



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



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-



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 Ouan 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

Associate Pastor 239 Rev. Patrick Russell patrickprussell@archstl.org

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

Parish Manager 225 Mark Vogt mvogt.abvm@gmail.com

Director of Stewardship & Liturgy 247 Jeannette Hamann abvmjeannette@yahoo.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

Coordinator of Music Ministry 240 Mark Sacco msacco.assumption@gmail.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 abvmparishcouncil@gmail.com

School Board abvmschoolboard@gmail.com

Merry Christmas!



OK, we aren't quite there yet, but this will be the last bulletin before Christmas. While we are still in the Advent season I would ask you to consider the many readings we have in Advent from Isaiah and one of the images that we are given is that of the peace and paradise that God desires for us:

Then the wolf shall be a guest of the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid; The calf and the young lion shall browse together, with a little child to guide them. The cow and the bear shall be neighbors, together their young shall rest; the lion shall eat hay like the ox.

The baby shall play by the cobra's den, and the child lay his hand on the adder's lair. There shall be no harm or ruin on all my holy mountain; for the earth shall be filled with knowledge of the Lord, as water covers the sea. (Isaiah 11: 6-9)

The reason we are given this image during Advent is the expectation of what the Messiah will be bringing. When we read it now, as they thought when it was written, it is hard to imagine that things could actually be that peaceful. It is strange that our country is not even at war, and yet some would say they feel less at peace than ever. The added stresses brought on by isolation, illness, and death from the pandemic only appear to make this more difficult. I think these images of peace from Isaiah help remind us that it does take God's help to achieve such peace, but it also takes our hope, faith, and cooperation for it to happen.

As we come to the last week of this Advent we need to recognize the challenges we have in our lives, but also know that God is there to be with us. He came to us on Christmas in the form of a child, and wants that peace that we think of on that silent night, to be ours. Let us continue to work towards it, and believe that this is what God wants for us.

I hope that you will be able to come and celebrate Christmas Mass with us this year, but with social distancing required our capacity in Church is only a fraction of its capacity other years. We have added another Mass in our chapel (10:15pm Christmas Eve), we are having our parish hall set up with the Mass streamed from upstairs and Eucharistic Ministers coming down to distribute Communion for all Masses, and I would ask that you please consider not all coming at the 4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass. This Mass is normally packed even without our social distance requirements so please consider one of the other Christmas Eve or Christmas Day Masses. Masks are required for all in the buildings and distances will be maintained. I realize some will still not feel safe coming to church so we are livestreaming all of our church, Christmas Eve and Day, Masses.

May you and your families have a Merry Christmas.

Peace,





Holy Family...Pillar of 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." **Ephesians**

All are Welcome, **Every TUESDAY!**

Please come and pray for peace and special intentions. The Rosary and Perpetual Help Devotions; Tuesdays at 6:15pm in the Chapel.



Extraordinary Ministers

Would you like to be a Ciboria Extraordinary Minister during our Christmas and New Years liturgies? Whether you have been an Extraordinary Minister previously before COVID or new to the ministry, we would love to give you an overview of the COVID procedures so you can participate in this awesome opportunity to serve. If you are interested, please stop by the Working Sacristy (to the right of the Altar) after any Mass and a sacristan will provide you the overview. If you have questions, please call, text, or email Vicki Briggs at 314-518-4048, victoria.j.briggs@charter.net.



Please note: The January 8th, K of C Fish Fry has been cancelled. All other Fish Fry dates are a go! More Fish Fry information and the process of ordering and picking up your fish dinners, will be in upcoming bulletins closer to the next Fish Fry date of February 5, 2021.

Golf Cart Ministry

We are excited to announce that our Golf Cart will be offering services again NOW! We are taking the proper precautions and safety measures to ensure your safety. Please know that masks will be required by our drivers and our riders and the golf cart will be sanitized between each transportation. Our drivers are excited to be with you and assist you again! Thank you for your continued patience as we work through the restrictions of Covid-19 as a parish family.



ATTENTION <u>ALL</u> USHERS/GREETERS!!

It's that time of year! We need all available Usher/Greeters to help us with our many Christmas Masses! Our Christmas Masses are beautiful and holy and take a lot of coordination and

we appreciate all that you do to help make that happen!! Please sign up for a Christmas Mass or two!! There is a sign-up sheet in the Usher's closet. THANK YOU!!!

If you would like to recruit family and friends for these Masses... PLEASE, WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE THEM! Email Gerry Prinster at: gerryprinster@gmail.com... if you have any questions.

Parish Office Volunteers Needed!

Volunteer hours are varied and flexible. We have implemented safety measures for your peace of mind and are looking for friendly, caring and reliable people who can help us out. If interested, please call Angie at 636-240-3721 ext. 235 for information. We still need volunteers on Tuesdays (morning and afternoon), Wednesday mornings and Fridays.



Parish Office Holiday Christmas Hours

The parish office will be closed on December 24th - 25th and January 1st. The parish office staff will be working from home December 27th - December 31st, however the office will be open 8:30am - 2:00pm, with limited staff. All parish staff phones will be transferred to their personal cell phones that week.

The parish office staff wishes you a Blessed and Happy Christmas!



Adult Formatio 4:15-16

St. Francis . . . Pillar of Prayer



eace

She will name him

Isaiah 7:14

Immanuel.

Note: All Christmas

Masses in Church will be

Live-Streamed

Week at a Glance

Mass Times/Intentions

Readings

Reconciliation

MONDAY 12.21.20

6:30am James Schoeffer 8:00am Doris Warta-Hartwell

1st Reading: Sg 2:8-14 Gospel: Lk 1:39-45

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

TUESDAY 12.22.20

just a week away.

6:30am Helen Copeland 8:00am Deborah Anderson

1st Reading: 1Sm 1:24-28 Gospel: Lk 1:46-56 7:30 - 7:50am Church Or by appointment

WEDNESDAY 12.23.20

6:30am Community & Prayer Enrollments 8:00am Norma Jezik

1st Reading: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Gospel: Lk 1:57-66 7:30 - 7:50am Church Or by appointment

St. Francis ... Pillar of Prayer

December 20



The Story of Mary, Mother of God

Mary's divine motherhood broadens the Christmas spotlight. Mary has an important role to play in the Incarnation of the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. She consents to God's invitation conveyed by the angel (Luke 1:26-38). Elizabeth proclaims: "Most blessed are you among women and blessed is the *fruit of your womb*. Without naming Mary, Paul asserts that **"God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law"** (Galatians 4:4). Paul's further statement *that "God sent the spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying out 'Abba, Father!'"* helps us realize that Mary is mother to all the brothers and sisters of Jesus.

The precise title "**Mother of God**" goes back at least to the third or fourth century. In the Greek form *Theotokos*—God-bearer—it became the touch-stone of the Church's teaching about the Incarnation. The Council of Ephe-

sus in 431 insisted that the holy Fathers were right in calling the holy virgin *Theotokos*. At the end of this particular session, crowds of people marched through the street shouting: "Praised be the *Theotokos*!" The tradition reaches to our own day. In its chapter on Mary's role in the Church, Vatican II's *Dogmatic Constitution on the Church* calls Mary "**Mother of God**" 12 times.

Reflection

Other themes come together at today's celebration. It is the Octave of Christmas: Our remembrance of Mary's divine motherhood injects a further note of Christmas joy. It is a day of prayer for world peace: Mary is the mother of the Prince of Peace. It is the first day of a new year: Mary continues to bring new life to her children—who are also God's children. *Excerpts taken from Franciscan Media*

Join us in celebrating the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God – Holy Day of Obligation Vigil Mass, Thursday, 12/31/18 – 5:30pm in Church & Live-Stream Feast Day Mass, Friday – 9:00am & 11:00am in Church

December 20, 2020 — Fourth Sunday of Advent

2 SM 7:1-5, 8B-12, 14A, 16; PS 89:2-5, 27, 29; ROM 16:25-27; LK 1:26-38

There are just five days left until the celebration of Christmas begins. Let's live these last days of Advent well.

We read in today's Gospel passage from Luke the wonderful words of the Blessed Mother's "fiat," her "yes" to God's plan. "*Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word.*" These are among the most beloved words in the Gospel. But the next sentence is also important for the Christian steward.

After Mary's fiat, we read, "*Then the angel departed from her*." Our Blessed Mother was left with a lot of unexplained details about God's plan for her! Yet, she followed God's will perfectly. She gave herself and her life fully to God as a gift. She was the first disciple. We are called to follow her example today.

This Christmas let us resolve to make our whole life a gift to the One Who has given us everything. He will give us all the help and strength we need.

THURSDAY 12.24.20	FRIDAY 12.25.20	SATURDAY 12.26.20	SUNDAY 12.27.20	
6:30am Gene & Marilyn Meyers 8:00am Caroline Wolf 4:00pm AJ Renaud 4:15pm Carolyn Philips (chapel) 6:00pm Joan Proch 10:00pm Bob Crangle	8:00am Lester Wood 10:00am MabelNielsen 12:00pm Karen Brady	9:00am Sr. Sharon King CPPS 5:00pm Bob & Norma Cochran	8:00am Mabel Fernandez 10:00am People of the Parish 12:00pm Bill Lucchesi 5:30pm Glennon Hibbeler	
10:15pm Richard Townsend (chapel) 1st Reading: 2 Sm 7:1-5 Gospel: Lk 1:67-79	1st Reading: Jer 23:5-8 Gospel: Mt 1:18-25	1st Reading: Acts 6:8-10 Gospel: Mt 10:17-22	1st Reading: Gen 15: 1-6 2nd Reading: Hebrews 11:8, 11- 12, 17-19 Gospel: Luke 2:22-40	
7:30 - 7:50am Church	None	4:00 - 4:45pm Church Or by appointment	By appointment	



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

December 20

St. Vincent de Paul ... Pillar of Service



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

From the Principal's Pen

Christmas Joy to You and Yours!

Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of Christ and our gift to parents, Pre-K through 4, was to create a video of their child's Christmas Program 2020. The video was sent to parents, but I wanted to share some photos of our students with you.

Mrs. Burbridge's Pre-K Class singing, Away in a Manger

Keep Christ in Christmas

Each year, the Knights of Columbus ask our students to participate in a program known as the "Keep Christ in Christmas" Poster Contest. Students throughout our school participate in designing a poster that expresses what they believe best represents the theme.



On December 4th, Mr. Ken Thornhill came for the entries and a team of KC members judged the posters. Entries were judged based on grade levels, so the Knights might have grades, Kindergarten and 1 compete together, while grades 5 and 6 compete. From the entries this year, I can confidently say that students took the theme and "ran with it". To the left, I have a couple of entries. On December 15th, Mr. Thornhill and an Honor Guard from the Knights processed in with our celebrant at the 8:00am Mass, then following Mass made their presentations.



The winners of the 2020 Keeping Christ in Christmas Poster Contest are:

Grades K-2 Winner: Ethan Heiss Honorable Mention: Maria Cook and Alivia Huber

Grades 3-5Winner: Claudia Woodside Honorable Mention: Melody Gagliano and Lizzie Lifritz

Grades 6-8 Winner: Mia Felix Honorable Mention: Caitleen Doriman and Makenna Swier



May the closing of our 2020 Advent Season, bring you HOPE, PEACE, JOY AND LOVE!

Pat Hensley

Holy Family...Pillar of Formation





@assumption_LT

Sunday, December 20th ~ Life Night—Chrsitmas Party!!

All teens are invited for a life night featuring food, fun, and faith! We will meet in Hall C. Don't forget to wear a mask and bring a friend! See you there!

Mass at 5:30 pm ~ Life Night from 6:30-8:15pm

Wednesday, December $23^{rd} \sim$ Christmas Movies @ LT HQ!

Come and check out the entirely renovated Life Teen Headquarters (formerly known as the West House)! Teens, LT HQ is a place for you to come relax and have a snack, do some homework, reconnect with friends, core members, and youth ministry staff. This will be our final opem HQ of 2020 and we will be watching Christmas movies! LT HQ will be open from 6 – 8pm



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



Due to COVID-19, our Life Nights look different than they normally would as our highest priority is the holiness and health of our teens.

Here are the measures we are taking:

* All Life Nights are held in a socially distant manner. Teens may only share a sitting space with a sibling or friend they have regularly been in contact with. Hand sanitizer is always available.

* In the event of rain, we will be in the Hall and spread out in a socially distant manner.

* All teens must wear a mask any time they are inside a building or if an activity requires movement.

Have a question? Becky Whitaker.

Director of Youth Ministry, 636-240-3721 ext. 243 OR becky.assumptionlt@gmail.com Connect with us on Instagram: @assumption life teen

December 20

St. Vincent de Paul ... Pillar of Service



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

150th ANNIVERSARY of assumption of the blessed Virgin mary parish



A little walk down memory lane with some of our long-time parishioners who have themselves, as well as their family history, has been with Assumption from either the beginning or for many, many years. We presented some questions to long time parishioner, *Ruth Rothermich* who has a long family line and history here at Assumption. Enjoy reading...

7. What was your most enjoyable event in the parish or school?

I guess the parish picnic, a big even where Civic Park is at present, with fried chicken dinner, music, dance and much more. Another event I should mention -1 day a year for 3 or 4 years a social was held on the parking lot with lights strung, tables and chairs set up and a dinner with wine. Entertain-ment and we served tables. Many, many people came. It was such a fun time. School – the school picnic, school plays, and the day we got Coca Cola and more.

8. What was the most impactful spiritual moment you experienced in our church and school?

First Communion, May Crowning, 40 hours devotion where every class prayed a holy hour during the day, no school and most walked to church. Corpus Christi procession outdoors: 4 people carried a religious artful canopy over the priest carrying the Monstrance, same one we have now, containing the Blessed Sacrament, stopping 3 times for prayers – 1st at the convent across the street at the former beautiful sunken garden, the 2nd stop was at the Altar in the cemetery and the 3rd at the front porch of the old rectory. My grandma, Catherine Katie Prinster, lived directly across the street. Several men, including my dad, took her carpet and laid it on the porch. She decorated the Altars with her flowers and Altar linens. I got to be with her a few times. Grandma was also the permanent

sacristan. I would get to go with her and I vividly remember her telling me not to touch the chalice and paten because only the Sisters did that. It made me realize how sacred the vessels were and Holy Communion so very special.

9. What ministries do you participate in?

Well, we didn't have what we call "Stewardship" today, people just volunteered for what was needed and no committees. Had Lady's and Men's societies, CYC-Catholic Youth Council. All well attended. 3 ladies cleaned the church several years and I joined them around 1982, 38 years ago. Little did I know that I would eventually hold the title of "Chairman of Church Cleaners" because I formed teams around 1999. Sang on the church choir in1946, taking some time off for raising my children; taught Sunday School, singing and Physical Education at Assumption School.

To be continued...

Assumption Blood Drive – Coming Soon!

Assumption Parish will be hosting another blood drive and you are encouraged once again to consider making a donation of the *Gift of Life*. Mississippi Valley Regional Blood Center will be in the parish hall on **Sunday, January 10, 2021, 9:00am – 1:30pm**, and we look forward to welcoming you there! If you have not donated blood since November 15, you are eligible to donate at this drive. **Donations must be by appointment only to accommodate social distancing**. During this challenging time, many blood drives are being cancelled. YOUR donation is more important than ever so that the needs of patients in the area can be met. Strict protocols are in place to ensure your safety and the safety of the blood being collected. You may go to *www.bloodcenterIMPA CT.org* (use sponsor code 9007) to schedule an appointment, or call MVRBC at 866-448-3253 for assistance in scheduling. Please visit *www.bloodcenter.org* for information about COVID-19 protocols relating to blood donations. Mississippi Valley representative, Terry Deters, is also available to answer any questions you may have about donating. He can be reached at 314-852-3842. Parish coordinator, Mary Anne Robinson, can also be reached at 636-541-2823 to assist with scheduling.



Knights of Columbus Council #2269 202 W. 3rd St., (636) 281-9223 *All Events Open to the Public*

Every Tuesday - QUEEN OF HEARTS! Doors open at 5:00pm and drawings begin at 7:00pm ~ Upper Hall - Multiple Weekly Raffles.

EARLY Bulletin deadlines: Bulletin for January 2nd, Announcements due by Dec. 21st, Monday at Noon.

Send announcements to: peggy.assumption@yahoo.com

"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

Service

Our Gifts to God and Parish

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

	December 6, 2020		7/1/2020 - 12/6/2020	
Envelopes (242) & Checks	\$	24,397	\$	453,579
Loose	\$	210	\$	2,377
Electronic	Ś	9,842	\$	251,046
Total	\$	34,449	\$	707,002

Needed to sustain our mission \$796,000

Loan Balance as of 11/31/2020: \$1,495,819

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



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

December 20

Holy Family...Pillar of Formation

December 20

"...living the

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growth and builds itself

in love."

- Ephesians

4:15-16

VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAY NIGHTS 7PM (1 Hour max)



Come join via Zoom on Wednesday nights from the comfort of your own home. We will reflect on the weekly gospel message using Lectio Divina. What is Lectio Divina? Traditionally, **Lectio Divina** has **four** separate **steps**: read; meditate; pray; contemplate. First a passage of scripture is read, then its meaning is reflected upon. This is followed by prayer and contemplation on the Word of God. It is a beautiful way to pray through scripture with one another.

No reservation needed on any night, just join the link at 7pm. Please contact Jonas and Michelle Enriquez at jonas.marc.247@gmail.com or call 314-706-8255 with questions.

Upcoming dates are: 12/23/2020, 12/30/2020, 1/6/2021, 1/13/2021, 1/20/2021, 1/27/2021, and meetings will continue on Wednesdays at 7pm using the same Zoom login details throughout 2021.

Zoom Topic: Virtual Bible Study Time: Start Dec 23, 2020 07:00 PM Central Time Every week on Wed, until Nov 17, 2021, 50 occurrence(s)

Join Zoom Meeting

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82494852228?pwd=c2w5cjRyRWtrcytkM2VMenQ5cnY3UT09

Meeting ID: **824 9485 2228** Passcode: **732189** One tap mobile +13126266799,,82494852228#,,,,,,0#,,732189# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) Meeting ID: 824 9485 2228 Passcode: 732189 Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcd2fB39N2



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.

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CITEL

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.

Adult Formation

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

SOFTWARE Adobe X Windows XP

PRINTER Toshiba e-Studio 4555

TRANSMISSION TIME Wednesday 4:00

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION December 20, 2020

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS Please send 1200 copies of the bulletin!