

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

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



Fourth Sunday of *Advent*

December 23, 2018

Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit,
cried out in a loud voice and said,
“Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.”
Luke 1:41-42

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



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.



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. Mitch Doyen
doyen.assumption@gmail.com

Senior Associate Pastor

226 Msgr. William Mc Cumber

Associate Pastor

239 Rev Alex Nord

Senior Associate

Rev Ronald Rubbelke

Deacons

Jerry Hurlbert - Fred Volansky
Bill Walbridge (Retired)

Lay Pastoral Associate

247 Jeannette Hamann
abvmjeannette@yahoo.com

Part Time Lay Pastoral Assoc

229 Mickie McCool

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

The Visitation

As all creation longs for a savior, as each human heart prepares room, as our souls and our bones move from darkness toward the light; today Mary greets Elizabeth. This beautiful scene of two women, connected in faith and love, carrying our salvation, the voice and the Word of God's love, in their most sacred wombs, is the most holy image in all of scripture and in all the world. Salvation has already come into the world and these women know it. There is nothing more powerful than a mother's love. When these two mothers meet and bind their hearts together, then darkness, sin, despair and even death itself are torn asunder.

When John hears Mary's greeting he knows Jesus has come into the world. John leaps for joy. The Holy Spirit has revealed the good news to Elizabeth as well; Elizabeth knows "the mother of my Lord has come to me." And while Elizabeth is grateful, she is also questioning, doubting her own worthiness to have Jesus come under her roof, or even Mary. Mary is the one who has sought her; Mary is the one who brings salvation, our savior, the Son of God, to the world; yet Mary is the one who seeks Elizabeth.

The good news is this: Mary, carrying her son, the Christ and savior of the world, seeks you too. And just as Jesus blesses and John leaps for joy, so too does Jesus desire to bless you. By God's grace, the whole mystery is unfolding in you. As we open our hearts to a relationship with one another, just as Elizabeth and Mary were open to each other, then God's love is poured out through the Spirit of Christ dwelling within us. Every person we greet is Christ; every person who greets us, greets Christ. Every encounter is an encounter of Christ, bringing Christ fully present in the world. During this Christmas season, let us remain awake to every opportunity to greet one another in Christ who has, indeed, come into the world.

Fr. Mitch

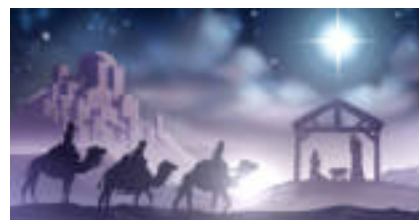


**HOSPITALITY:**

Christian
Kindness
"We are ALL
hospitality
ministers"

Hospitality

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 + 19

The numbers stand for the year in which the blessing is inscribed (2019). 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 and holy water will be available after masses the weekend of January 5/6.

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.



Dec 26 thru Dec 29
Parish Center
Closed for
Maintenance
December 31
Mary Mother of God
Vigil Mass, 5:30pm
January 1
Mary Mother of God
Mass, 9:00am
January 11 - 13
ABVM Musical
"Newsies"



IMPORTANT! The Guadalupe Room

The purpose of our beautiful Guadalupe Room when we built our church building was for our brides to dress on their wedding day as well as a quiet space for mom's to bring their babies during Mass when needed.

FROM THIS DAY FORWARD, if there are any items left in the Guadalupe Room they will be removed. We will be cleaning this room daily. We ask that you **DO NOT** use this room as a pick-up/drop-off any longer as we are keeping this room clean and reflective. Also, there will no longer be shelving units in this room, these units are moving to the Chapel alcove where there is 24 hour access for anyone who needs to pick up a booklet, etc. **Thank you** for your assistance in keeping our Guadalupe Room beautiful and to be what this room was intended for!



"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



Our Christmas Masses are spiritually stirring celebrations of the Incarnation. If you have never attended, we encourage you to take this opportunity to experience them this year!

CHRISTMAS EVE MASS SCHEDULE:

4:00pm - Church
4:30pm - Assumption Chapel
6:00pm - Church
8:00pm - St. Joseph's Chapel at the Motherhouse
10:00pm - Church

CHRISTMAS DAY MASS SCHEDULE:

8:00am - Church
10:00am - Church
12:00pm - Church



We pray that you and your family will open your door to the Peace of the Christ Child this Season and that you have a very blessed and joyous Christmas!

All are welcome, EVERY TUESDAY!

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



Come Pray the Rosary Before Weekend Masses

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

Week at a Glance

	MONDAY 12.24.18	TUESDAY 12.25.18	WEDNESDAY 12.26.18
Mass Time / Intentions	6:30am Hubert & Isabel Molitor 8:00am Margaret Devers 4:00pm A. J. Renaud 4:30pm Steve Schulte 6:00pm Darlene Jones 8:00pm Community Benefactors & Prayer Enrollments 10:00pm Carolyn Philipps	8:00am Helen Schaller 10:00am Andy Thornhill 12:00pm Ryan Nixon	6:30am Sr. Marilyn Schneider, CPPS 8:00am Grace Bittick
Readings	1st Reading: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16 Gospel: Lk 1:67-79	1st Reading: Is 52:7-10 2nd Reading: Heb 1:1-6 Gospel: Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14	1st Reading: Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59 Gospel: Mt 10:17-22
Reconciliation	7:30am - 8:00am Church	No Reconciliation	7:30 - 8:00am Church 4 - 4:30pm & 9 - 9:30pm Chapel
Other Events/Activities		Floor Maintenance - Parish Center closed	Floor Maintenance - Parish Center closed



**Please Pray
for the
Repose
of the Soul of:**

**Joseph Camp
Father of Amy
Rush**

**Rose Walsh
Of Our Parish
Family**

The Story of Mary, Mother of God



PRAYER:

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

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*. And how does this happen to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?" (Luke 1:42-43, emphasis added). Mary's role as mother of God places her in a unique position in God's redemptive plan.

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. Some theologians also

insist that Mary's motherhood of Jesus is an important element in God's creative plan. God's "first" thought in creating was Jesus. Jesus, the incarnate Word, is the one who could give God perfect love and worship on behalf of all creation. As Jesus was "first" in God's mind, Mary was "second" insofar as she was chosen from all eternity to be his mother.

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 touchstone of the Church's teaching about the Incarnation. The Council of Ephesus 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, Monday, 12/31/18 – 5:30pm in Church

Feast Day Mass, Tuesday – 9:00am in Church

Prayer

THURSDAY 12.27.18	FRIDAY 12.28.18	SATURDAY 12.29.18	SUNDAY 12.30.18
6:30 am Deceased CPPS	6:30 am Carmela Bamert	9:00 am Sr. Donna Fischer, SSND	8:00 am Henry (Hank) Sreifzer
8:00 am Fred & Helen Tochtrop	8:00 am Cecilia Scully	5:00 pm Bob Mueller	10:00 am Mary Jane Korman
1st Reading: 1 Jn 1:1-4	1st Reading: 1Jn 1:5, 2:2	1st Reading: 1 Jn 2:3-11	12:00 pm People of the Parish
Gospel: Jn 20:1, 2-8	Gospel: Mt 2:13-18	Gospel: Lk 2:22-35	5:30 pm Robert Scholten
7:30 - 8:00am Church	7:30 - 8:00am Church	4:00 - 4:45pm Church	1st Reading: 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28
4 - 4:30pm & 9 - 9:30pm Chapel	4 - 4:30pm & 9 - 9:30pm Chapel	9:00 - 9:30 pm Chapel	2nd Reading: 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24
Youth Musical Practice 6pm Gym			Gospel: Lk 2:41-52
Legion of Mary 7:00pm Hall D/E			4:00-4:30 & 9:00-9:30pm Chapel
Advent Series 7:00pm Chapel			
K of C Meeting 7:00pm Halls A/B			Baptism - After Noon Mass, Church
K of C Ladies Aux 7:00pm 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



Save The Date! Upcoming RETREATS - 2019!

Men's Retreat: February 9/10

Women's Retreat: March 9/10

A CRHP Retreat is a weekend retreat designed to bring parish members together in Christ and emphasizes continued growth in Christian life. During the weekend you will find love and laughter, great food and friendship, and a renewed sense of belonging to Assumption parish. Give yourself a weekend you won't forget. Come and be spiritually renewed while enjoying awesome fellowship, making new friends, and sharing faith with fellow parishioners. It is an experience worth your time! It's also another wonderful way to begin the New Year and kick off Lent!

For more information:

For the Women's Retreat, please contact:

Mo Rackers at: 636.357.8004 or morackers@gmail.com

For the Men's Retreat, please contact:

Jim Berry at: 401.318.0266 or tim.berry@pharma.com



Did You Know?

You could save \$100 per year on your utility bill by setting your thermostat a degree higher in the summer and a degree lower in the winter. If everyone in the U.S. did this, we could save more than \$10 billion per year energy costs.

Are you a volunteer for the School or Parish? You MUST be in compliance

In order to be in compliance with the Archdiocese, you must have a Signed Code of Conduct, a completed Worker Registration Form (Background Check) and a PGC Class. If you took the class, but did NOT complete the forms, you are NOT in compliance. If you have any questions about your compliance, please contact Lynn Crews at 314-578-0741, or lynn.assumption@gmail.com.



*Wedding
Banns*

Cathy Button
and
Keith Fetsch

Car Repairs Can Help Your Parish

If you have car repairs done at J & D Auto (909 N Main St, next to Dairy Queen), they will donate 5% OF THE TOTAL BILL TO Assumption. There is no need to register and no form to fill out. Just tell them that you are with Assumption Church when you pay your bill. Several of our sister parishes have participated and have found it beneficial.

Blessing for Expectant Parents ~ This weekend, December 22/23!

This weekend, at all Masses, we'll be offering a special blessing to all parents expecting the birth or adoption of a child. If you or someone you know is expecting, please join us so we can bless your journey! Even as we bless these families this weekend, we also remember those who cannot have their own children and those waiting to adopt a child and all who are struggling.





CALENDAR

Sun December 23 - NO Life Night (Merry Christmas!)

Sun December 30 - Life Night: New Years Party

IT'S LUKE 18 TIME!



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

Youth Formation

High Schoolers:

It's time to sign up to be Disciples and Core Team members where you have a blast leading 8th graders closer to Jesus and deeper in their faith! Service Hours are available for this retreat. Sign up at this Google Form Link: <https://goo.gl/forms/WsOvgj4F3UnsYy0s2>

8th Graders:

This overnight retreat weekend is only open to 8th Graders and is always one of the high points of the year for 8th graders time and again!

If interested or want more info, please fill out this Google Form:

<https://goo.gl/forms/V8aOabMy64fal9WB3>

These links are also on the Assumption Life Teen web page as well as our calendar of Youth

Ministry Events at: www.assumptionbvm.org/youth-ministry/life-teen



@assumption_LT



@assumption_life_teen



Assumption Life Teen

CYC Golf Registration is now open for boys and girls in Grades 1-8. Please sign up at aaa63366003.siplay.com Contact Jeff La Barge at 314-495-9198 or jslabarge@yahoo.com



Dear Parents,

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary welcomes children K-8th to a higher quality education rooted in the Gospel message of love and acceptance. Here, your child will feel secure and develop a sense of purpose and value. Using curriculum that adheres to Missouri State and National Catholic Curriculum Standards, we create a dynamic future where students explore their interests and pursue their talents. Join us to tour our school and experience the holistic learning found within.

Sincerely,

Dr. Pat Hensley

LEARNING...
LOVING...
LIVING...
CHRIST!

90 PERCENT
Graduates attending
Catholic High Schools

1-1
TECHNOLOGY
Grades 2-8

100
PERCENT
COMMITMENT
TO STUDENTS

STUDENT
teacher ratio
15-1

438
ENROLLMENT
Average
Grades K-8

Tuition Assistance
Available



Montessori at Mary's House

WHAT WE BELIEVE:

In Mary's House:

We believe we are a community holding each of these roles:

Educator, parent and child of God, working collaboratively to create a safe, loving, interesting environment for the youngest of God's children. Thus, we have prepared Mary's House with child-sized furniture, calm and active areas, and interaction that support independence as they develop a need for it.

- ◆ We believe and are committed to Montessori education as an aid to life for not only the children but for the adults as well.
- ◆ We believe we are interdependent and it is our challenge to constantly grow with the children.
- ◆ We believe we learn as much from the children as they learn from us.
- ◆ And, we believe the children bring to our community an unconditional love of life and a world that energizes everyone.

If you are interested in learning more about our program or how to enroll your child (6 weeks- 3 years old) please contact Melinda Kruper, 636.240.3721 for more information.



HOSPITALITY:

Christian
Kindness
"We are ALL
hospitality
ministers"

Hospitality

ASSUMPTION MUSICAL MINISTRY PRESENTS

Disney

NEWSIES

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

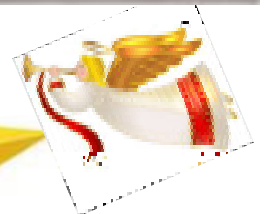
TICKETS ON SALE NOW

[HTTPS://ASSUMPTIONMUSICALMINISTRY.REGFOX.COM/NEWSIES](https://assumptionmusicalministry.regfox.com/newsies)

SHOWTIMES

FRIDAY, JANUARY 11 | 7:00 PM
SATURDAY, JANUARY 12 | 7:00 PM
SUNDAY, JANUARY 13 | 5:30 PM

St. Dominic High School | Amy Dickherber Performing Arts Center



**K of C
Queen of Hearts Raffle**

January 8th, Hall C. Doors open
at 5:00pm, drawing at 6:30pm.

Remember...

Proceeds go to supporting the
youth of our parish.



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

STARTING JANUARY 28, 2019

VISIT TTEF-STL.ORG
FOR MORE DETAILS

NEED-BASED SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR:

*All elementary schools in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, all Catholic high schools,
and any private elementary school in the City of St. Louis.*

Apply online at TTEF-STL.ORG starting January 28th, 2019
for elementary and high school scholarships.
Deadline is February 28th, 2019.



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

CHARITABLE GIVING FOR DECEMBER, 2018

November Revenue: \$157,545

Commitments to Charity:

St. Vincent de Paul	\$4,000
Counseling for those in need	500
Campaign for Human Development	1,500
Retired Religious Fund	3,000
Catholic Charities USA (Wildfires)	1,000
Total	\$10,000

Thank you for the spiritual sacrifice of your life to God. Your commitment to tithe enables us to bring Christ to the world, especially to the poor.



Our Gifts to God and Parish



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

	December 9, 2018	July 1 - Dec 9, 2018
Envelopes (471) & On Line	\$ 37,538	\$ 834,869
Loose	\$ 1,115	\$ 25,290
Total	\$ 38,653	\$ 860,159
Needed to sustain our mission		895,200

Loan Balance as of 10/31/2018: \$1,699,000

It takes an average weekly collection of \$37,300 to sustain our parish mission.

*"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*

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

We Believe It (Acts 4:32-36)

God Honors It (Gen 14:18-20)

TITHING

thank
you



Art work by
Yongsung Kim:
Joy of the Lord

Thank you for your continued generosity of prayer, ministry participation and financial support. Last weekend over 2,000 people celebrated Mass and about 600 people celebrated Mass during the weekday Masses, which includes our day school children. About 75 people participated in Eucharistic Adoration, over 100 people prayed the Rosary last week and around 20 people took Holy Communion to fellow homebound and hospital parishioners. Over 110 men and women participated in our weekly Bible study and prayer groups. Several families were provided food and assistance with rent and utilities. We have over 50 teens and young adults active in our weekly Life Teen ministry. Over 530 children attend the parish Elementary School each week and over 450 children attend our weekly Parish School of Religion. During soccer season, we hosted games all day on Saturday and Sunday afternoons welcoming over 300 visitors to our parish each weekend. Each week over 400 parishioners take part in one of the 90+ parish ministries. Additionally, we have over 50 youth and adults ready to participate in the annual Pro-Life March in Washington, D.C. Finally, about 1000 parishioners contributed \$157,545 to the Sunday Offering in November which sustains our mission; even though we are growing, we still need more participation. **Thank you, thank you, thank you** for sharing all of your gifts! Our parish is certainly living our mission.

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



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

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

SOFTWARE Adobe X

Windows XP

PRINTER

Toshiba e-Studio 4555

TRANSMISSION TIME

Wednesday 4:00

SUNDAY DATE OF PUBLICATION

December 23, 2018

NUMBER OF PAGES SENT

1 THROUGH 11

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

Please send **1400 copies of the bulletin!**