

# EVENINGS OF FAITH - 2026

## The Wednesdays of Lent

The program begins with Mass in Church at 6:00pm followed by a simple Lenten meal served at 6:30pm in the Parish Hall. The speaker's session or Lenten ritual is from 7:00 – 8:00pm. Join us for the entire evening or for any portion. Reservations are required only for the meal. (*A \$5 donation is suggested for the meal.*) To make a reservation for the meal, sign the list in the back of church, reserve online at [assumption-chgo.org](http://assumption-chgo.org) or call 312-644-0036 by Noon on Tuesday.

**Feb 25** Evangelizing in an Interfaith Context  
*Dr. Daniel Olsen*

Dr. Daniel Olsen, Archdiocesan Director of the Office for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, will explore how to be a “missionary disciple” in an interfaith context, including how non-Christians view evangelization, and how this issue may impact our relationships with family members.

**Mar 4** Spirituality: The Center of Our Life  
*Fr. John Fontana, O.S.M.*

Fr. Fontana, an experienced formation director, spiritual guide, retreat presenter, and Mass Presider at Assumption, will invite us to come to a deeper awareness and understanding of how our Christian spirituality impacts every aspect of our lives, whether we realize it or not.

**Mar 11** Between Heaven and Earth  
*(A film presentation)*

Drawing on Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Fr. Louis Cameli and Gloria Groom of the Art Institute of Chicago link environmental concerns with expressions of faith and expressions of art. Using examples of both religious and secular art, they invite us to show care for God's creation.

**Mar 18** Come Back To Me With All Your Heart  
*Fr. Ed Shea, O.F.M.*

Fr. Ed Shea, OFM, a popular preacher and pastor, will look at three classic Lenten Gospels (The Woman at the Well, The Man Born Blind, and the Raising of Lazarus) and show how these stories enable us to make a deep connection with the death and resurrection of Jesus.

**Mar 25** Faith, Religion, and A.I.  
*Dr. Joseph Vukov*

Talk about AI is everywhere, but what is it? Dr. Joseph Vukov, Associate Professor of Philosophy at Loyola and author of *Staying Human in an Era of Artificial Intelligence*, will describe what AI does and offer his perspectives on the ethical implications of AI from a faith perspective

**Apr 1** The Sacrament of Reconciliation

At the very end of the season of Lent, we turn to God for forgiveness. Following a service that incorporates scripture, a homily, and a communal examination of conscience, there will be an opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation from one of three confessors.