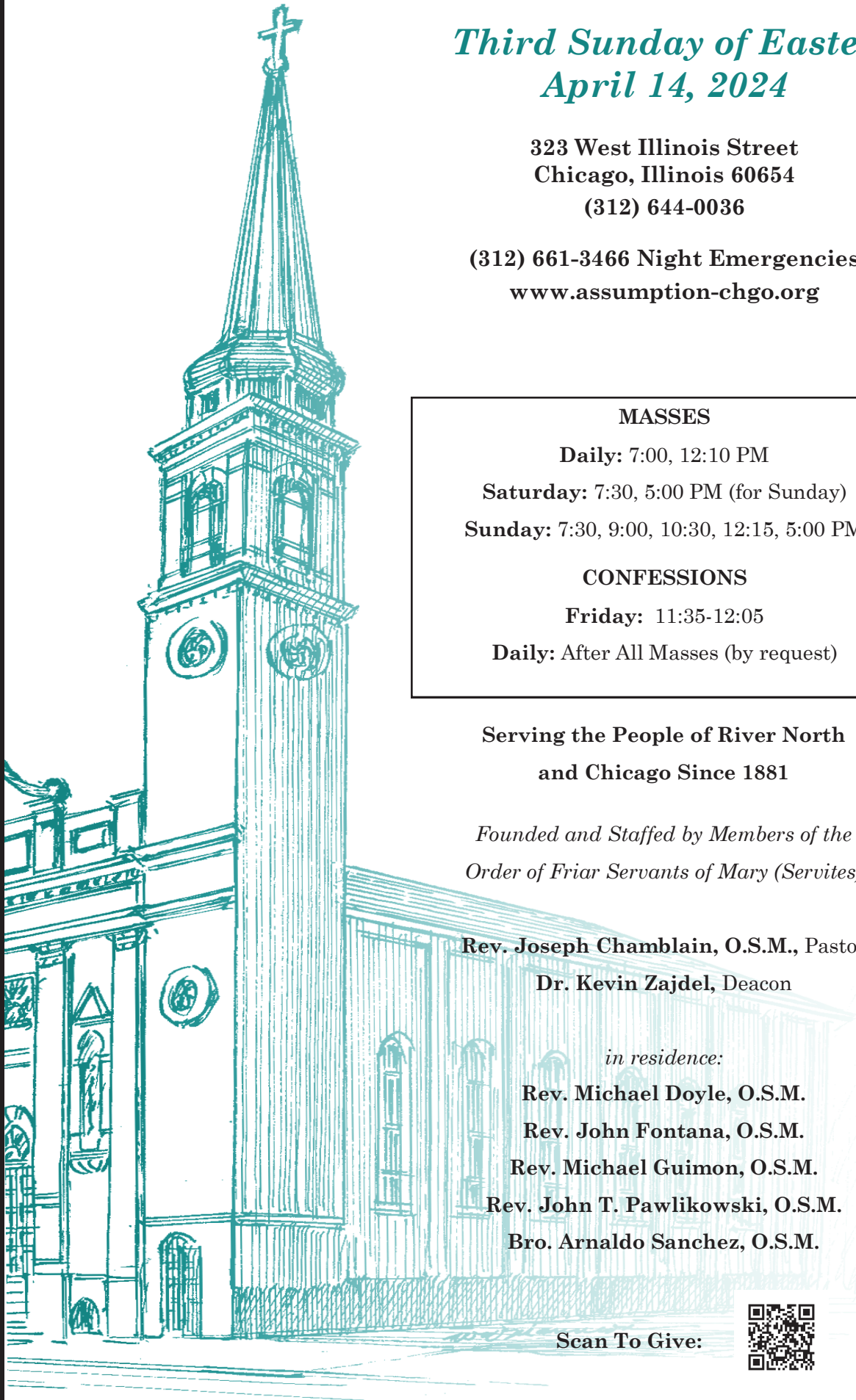


ASSUMPTION CHURCH



Third Sunday of Easter April 14, 2024

323 West Illinois Street
Chicago, Illinois 60654
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(312) 661-3466 Night Emergencies
www.assumption-chgo.org

MASSES

Daily: 7:00, 12:10 PM

Saturday: 7:30, 5:00 PM (for Sunday)

Sunday: 7:30, 9:00, 10:30, 12:15, 5:00 PM

CONFESSIONS

Friday: 11:35-12:05

Daily: After All Masses (by request)

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Rev. Joseph Chamblain, O.S.M., Pastor

Dr. Kevin Zajdel, Deacon

in residence:

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Rev. John Fontana, O.S.M.

Rev. Michael Guimon, O.S.M.

Rev. John T. Pawlikowski, O.S.M.

Bro. Arnaldo Sanchez, O.S.M.

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April 14, 2024

A WORLD OF PLASTIC

About twenty years ago, Bob Greene, then a columnist for the *Tribune*, wrote a little book called *Once Upon a Town*. It was about a Canteen that the citizens of North Platte, NE operated during World War II. Most soldiers heading for the Pacific on troop trains passed through North Platte on the Union Pacific Railroad. Because North Platte was a crew change point on the UP, the train stopped there for ten minutes. Beginning on Christmas Day, 1941 and continuing until the end of the war in 1945, a group of volunteers met every troop train passing through North Platte and passed out egg salad sandwiches, a piece of cake, and fresh hot coffee. The coffee was served in glass mugs. At the next stop up the road, the cups were collected and sent back to North Platte on the next train east. The cups were washed by hand and then employed again on the next troop train going west. An average of three to five thousand military personnel passed through North Platte daily; so, washing all those cups was very labor intensive. It would have been easier if they had used Styrofoam cups, but Styrofoam plastic cups did not come on the market until 1960.

Undoubtedly the wide spread use of plastic has made life easier and made many products less expensive and therefore within the reach of more people. Plastic is heavily used in packaging, but can also be found in our clothing, our kitchens, our automobiles, our toolboxes, our toys, and sports equipment. The problem is that plastic is not good for our planet. Because plastic does not occur in nature, it does not decompose the way other discards do. Plastics take anywhere from twenty to five hundred years to decompose. It is estimated that a disposable diaper will be around for 500 years; a plastic water bottle for 450 years; a sandwich bag for 20 years; and a Styrofoam cup for 500 years. Millions of tons of plastic end up in our oceans. On top of that, plastic comes from petroleum. Producing one metric ton of plastic emits 135 pounds of greenhouse gases, which are a major source of global warming. Finally, with all this plastic in our lives, we (along with other creatures) are ingesting tiny particles of plastic in the air and water, which is not natural for our bodies either. When we drink from those ubiquitous plastic water bottles, we ingest twice as much plastic than when we drink a glass of tap water from a glass. And we are producing more and more plastic. In 1950, we produced 2 million metric tons. Between 2010 and 2020, we went from 270 million tons to 370 million tons. At the present rate we will be at 590 million tons by 2050. Convenience and low cost come at a price, a price that we may not be able to pay in the future.

That is why as we approach Earth Day 2024, plastic has become a focal point of the environmental movement. Almost ten years ago in *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis broke new ground when he declared care of creation a moral issue. His point is that “everything is connected.” As our relationship with our Creator has been neglected, human relationships have faltered, and our world has grown hotter, less stable, and more lifeless. As a result, we all suffer, and the poorest and most vulnerable suffer above all. He called for an “ecological conversion” in which we renew our love for everything that God has created and the home we share with all of God’s creatures. Pope Francis also called upon all Catholic institutions to undertake some practical action on behalf of our common home.

Assumption, like many other parishes in the Archdiocese, will send delegates to one of three regional gatherings to pray, reflect, and discuss a platform for action for the Archdiocese of Chicago. Here at Assumption on Saturday, May 18 a smaller group from around the Archdiocese will meet to pull the findings from these regional meetings into a unified plan. While this meeting at Assumption is not a public meeting, all of us are invited to a special ecumenical service that same evening at 7:00pm at Holy Name Cathedral. This Service will celebrate the Installation of the Chicagoland Christians United for the Care of Creation Declaration, which has been signed by thirteen Christian leaders from various denominations. The document says in part, “Because we are made in the image of God and because God loves and cares for creation, we must also care for our common home. To do otherwise is sin.”

Of course, getting away from our heavy use of plastics in real life is going to be difficult. The oil companies, alarmed that the market for electric vehicles might actually take off, are investing billions in producing plastics. And even on the parish level, we have discovered that some of the recyclable paper cups labeled for hot beverages can be leaky. Styrofoam works great. It is just that the joyride may be over.

Fr. Joe

PARISH PASTA PARTY

Last call! Italian food returns to the Parish Hall! Join us on Saturday, April 20 following the 5:00pm Mass (or from 6:00 to 8:00pm) for a simple meal of lasagna, salad, fresh baked bread, and dessert, wine, beer, or soda. Tickets are \$50 each, \$25 for children under 12. Reservations are required; so, get yours soon. Purchase tickets on GiveCentral or call the Parish Office. If you have a large group, let us know so that we can seat you together. This will sell out!



PASTORAL COUNCIL NOMINATIONS

Our Pastoral Council consists of nine members, who serve three-year terms. Since members cannot succeed themselves, each year we add at least three new members. This year we will be looking for four, three for a three-year term and one to complete the term of one member who resigned after one year. We will be taking nominations in church beginning next weekend April 20-21. The deadline for nominations is Monday, May 6. You may nominate yourself or another parishioner. Nomination cards will be in the back of church. You may also nominate someone on line, by emailing parishcouncil@assumption-chgo.org. Those who are nominated will be asked to attend an information session on Zoom on either Wednesday, May 8 or Tuesday, May 14 at 7:00pm. Those who choose to continue with the process must attend the Evening of Discernment at the Rectory on Wednesday, May 22 at 7:00pm.

OUR ADOPTED FAMILY

Our Refugee Assistance Group has adopted a family newly arrived from Mexico. It is a single mother with six children. They are here as humanitarian parolees, because one son, who is four, is undergoing chemotherapy for leukemia. Assumption has agreed to pay this next year's rent for the family, who are living in the West Pullman neighborhood. To donate to our Refugee Assistance Fund, go to GiveCentral and select Project Refugee or send a clearly marked check to the Parish Office.

HYMNS: #169, #344, #179

PRAY FOR THEM: Annette Russo, Davy Hart, Rosemary Reeves, Frank Cardenas, Erin Gentile, Wanda Escher, Kathy Escher, Patrick McRae, Rich DiVito, Julie Villarreal, Carolina Gomez, Jason Blick, John Graff, Frank Ragase, Steve Meyers, Michael Hantsch, Katie Graff, Elizabeth McKiernan, Willie & Mary Priego

REST IN PEACE: Anna Januszek, Brian Grady

MARCH DONATIONS



Sunday Collection (except Easter) -	\$37,636
Sharing Parish -	1,885
Holy Thursday (Bonaventure House)-	1,388
Good Friday (Holy Land Shrines) -	1,486
Easter Sunday -	24,618
<i>(includes electronic giving)</i>	

WELCOME!

This Sunday at the 9:00am Mass, we welcome the Matawan High School Choir. They are in Chicago for another engagement and have graciously offered to enliven our liturgy. Over the years this choir has performed at Radio City Music Hall, Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center in New York, as well as Columbia College, Roosevelt University, Rockefeller Chapel, Valparaiso University and the Basilica of the Sacred Heart at Notre Dame.



ELECTRONIC GIVING

It's the 21st century way to support your church. Go to our homepage (assumption-chgo.org) and click on DONATE. That will take you to GiveCentral, where you can set up your giving profile. Then a designated amount will be transferred from your bank account or charged to your credit card each week.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction on Monday, April 15 from 5:00 to 7:00pm. Validated parking at MartParc.

MASS INTENTIONS ~ WEEK OF APRIL 13, 2024

Sat.	13th	5:00 Assumption Parishioners
Sun.	14th	7:30 Margaret Summers (RIP)
		9:00 Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfiester & Jenkins Families
		10:30 Charles & Marion Joachim (RIP)
		12:15 Hope Dubuque (b'day)
		5:00 John C. Horner, Jr. (RIP)
Mon.	14th	7:00 John C. Horner, Jr. (RIP)
Wed.	17th	7:00 Bob Gordon (b'day)
Thurs.	18th	7:00 John C. Horner, Jr. (RIP)
		12:10 Lillian Lacrosse (RIP)
Fri.	19th	7:00 Special Intention
Sat.	20th	7:30 Josie Zamora (b'day)

Please turn the page for more bulletin news



ASSUMPTION YOUNG ADULTS: AYA is for those in their twenties or thirties, single, married, or coupled. AYA schedules a number of service, social, and spiritual activities during the year. Join their email list at assumptionaya@gmail.com.

USING UP THE PLASTIC: For the sake of the environment, we are trying to phase out the use of plastic goods at our parish events. Please allow the Parish Office to purchase these things (plates, cups, utensils) in the future. We can save money by buying in quantity, and help save the earth at the same time.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: The next preparation session for parents (and, if possible, godparents) of infants to be baptized is Monday, May 13 from 7:00 to 8:15pm in the Rectory. This session is for new parents and for those who have never before attended a preparation session. It is not necessary to wait until the baby is born to attend. Call the parish office to register. Baptisms normally take place on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 1:15pm and on the first weekend of the month during Mass.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Upcoming events at Assumption that you won't want to miss!

- ◆ April 20—Parish Pasta Party
- ◆ May 19—Ice Cream Social
- ◆ August 18—Assumption Feast Day Event in the Garden
- ◆ November 7—Italian Dinner

HELP SAVE GOD'S CREATION
Please see the **Laudato Si'** and **Me** section of Assumption's website (assumption-chgo.org) for practical ideas and helpful links.



Help care for aging Friars who served at Assumption. Remember **The Order of Friar Servants of Mary, USA Province** in your will.



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If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.
- Mother Teresa

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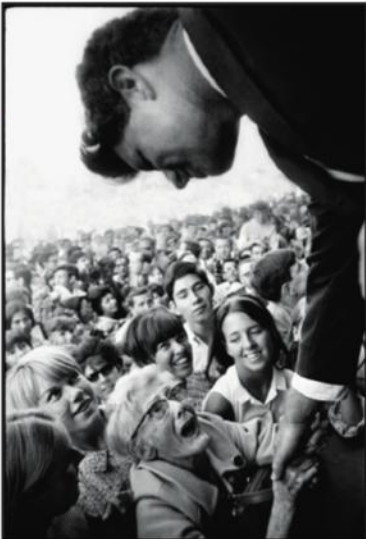


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