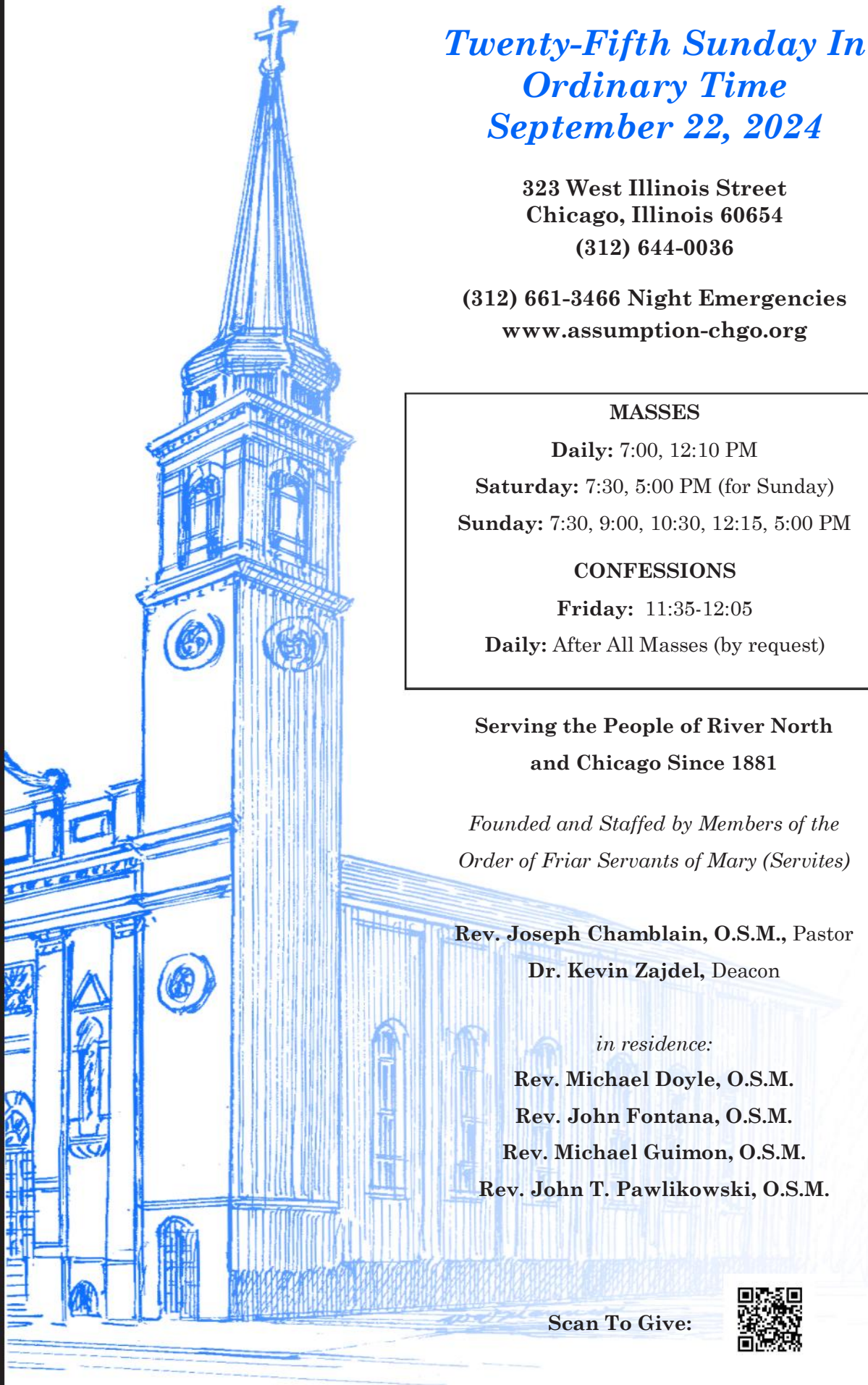


ASSUMPTION CHURCH



Twenty-Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time September 22, 2024

323 West Illinois Street
Chicago, Illinois 60654
(312) 644-0036

(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:

Rev. Michael Doyle, O.S.M.
Rev. John Fontana, O.S.M.
Rev. Michael Guimon, O.S.M.
Rev. John T. Pawlikowski, O.S.M.

Scan To Give:



GENERATION TO GENERATION

As most of you know, the Archdiocese of Chicago has been through a massive restructuring program. Over the past five years, 360 parishes have been reduced to 240. The media has covered the closures, the mergers, the last Masses at individual worship sites in exhausting detail. But churches are much more than buildings. They are places where we encounter Christ and discover Christian community. Churches are about people and about people's memories and about how our ancestors came to America and came to Chicago and began to find their way. As pastor of a church that has stood on the 300 block of West Illinois Street for 138 years, I have heard a lot of stories from people who trace their roots to Assumption and are happy to know that Assumption is still alive and well. We are among the fortunate ones.

As difficult as it has been on many people to see their church home disappear, the restructuring was inevitable. Because of the shifts in Catholic population and declining Mass attendance, 70% of the parishes were running a deficit and required some sort of subsidy from the Archdiocese. There was also over a hundred million dollars in deferred maintenance on Archdiocesan property. After the restructuring, only 30% of parishes need external support. Through the sale of properties, money has been freed up to attend to deferred maintenance. Now is the time to look to the future.

In the coming months you will begin to hear about a new capital campaign in the Archdiocese called *Generation to Generation*. Its purpose is to put the Archdiocese on sound financial footing for the future. All of us will be challenged to invest in this future. At Assumption we will be asked to generate \$775,000 in pledges (125% of our yearly collection), to be paid over a five-year period. Where will the money go? Well, half of it will come back to us. The first goal of *Generation to Generation* is to strengthen local parishes. We can decide ourselves how best to use the money, with an eye toward the future.

There are also three other objectives of the campaign. The first is to support the spiritual renewal of all parishes, especially those that still require a subsidy. As *Renew My Church* pushes us from maintenance to mission, this funding will enable these economically challenged parishes to participate fully in the training programs for outreach, evangelization, and formation of lay leaders. The second objective is to support the priests of the Archdiocese. A major concern is the Health and Retirement Fund which is severely underfunded. With more priests moving into retirement than being ordained and health care costs growing tremendously, the drain on this fund far exceeds its funding. So, a big chunk of funds raised will go to replenish this fund and provide for aging priests. A final portion of the campaign funds will go to support parishes in need and provide scholarships for students enrolled in Catholic schools. The Tuition Tax Credit program in Illinois was not renewed, and that has been a big blow to a number of our inner-city schools. These funds would supplement what Big Shoulders offers and what the Annual Catholic Appeal is able to provide.

As Catholics we can sometime get so bogged down in the struggle to stay afloat that we forget about the tremendous gift that we possess and the hunger that so many have for meaning and purpose in life, a hunger that others feed but cannot satisfy. According to a Barma survey, 84% of Americans want to grow spiritually. According to the Anxiety and Depression Association of America (Who knew??), 50% of Generation Z (those under 30), suffer from anxiety, which is almost the same percentage of the members of Generation Z who identify as having no religion ("nones"). Even our Surgeon General has alerted us to a serious public health epidemic: 50% of those over 18 suffer from loneliness. While it is true that the COVID pandemic got a lot of people out of the habit of coming to church, it alerted others to the fragility of life and awakened in them a desire for real community and a larger purpose in life. It caused many of us to hit the "pause" button and question whether the things we were going after were the things were worth going after in the long run. As Jesus said, "I tell you, look up and see the fields ripe for the harvest" (John 4:35).

After the first of the year, *Generation to Generation* will begin in earnest. I hope that when the ask comes around, you will see this as an opportunity to invest in the future of the Catholic Church. We who have been blessed and nourished by those who came before us surely want as much for those who come after us. And that will require a church that provides for the health and retirement needs of its pastors and one which finds new and creative ways to connect with Generation Z and beyond.

Fr. Joe

FR. MICHAEL DOYLE, O.S.M.

Because of a number of age-related factors, Fr. Doyle has elected not to undergo cancer surgery and will enter Hospice. We ask for your prayers for him as he enters the final chapter of his earthly life.

ENCOUNTERING JESUS IN THE EUCHARIST

Developed by the Office of Lifelong Formation and the Office of Divine Worship of the Archdiocese of Chicago, *Remain In Me* is a five part series designed to help us enter more deeply into our encounter with Christ and his abiding presence in the Eucharist.

Through Scripture, prayer, video, and discussion, we will explore five central themes inherent in our understanding of the Eucharist. The group will meet at the Rectory for five consecutive Mondays beginning September 23 at 6pm. To register or for more information, email beth.schuman@gmail.com.

DAYTIME BIBLE STUDY ON LUKE:

The Gospel According to Luke is the story of how God’s promises were fulfilled in Jesus. This Bible Study is an opportunity to deepen our faith and increase our understanding of the story of our salvation, and hear Jesus’ familiar words in a new light. The group will meet for eight weeks, beginning Tuesday, October 8 at 10:00am in the Rectory. For more information or to register, email bible@assumption-chgo.org.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

This weekend, there is a second collection to support seminary education in the Archdiocese of Chicago.

ALPHA HAS BEGUN!

It’s not too late to come and check it out this Thursday night at 6:30. Alpha is a series of videos and discussions that helps believers share their faith in a more intentional way and helps those who have become alienated from church or who are non-believers or uncertain to raise questions and speak their truth in a non-judgmental atmosphere. Consider coming and invite a friend! To sign up or to find out more, email alpha@assumption-chgo.org.

BAPTISMS:

**GABRIEL AUGUSTINE DENIS
LUNA VIOLET DIEM-TRINH DeSANTIS
DANIEL RYAN MOSCHETTI**

WEDDINGS:

**CHRISTIAN VARG & ARIEL ORSENO
JAMES BOLT & KATIE ANDREONI
MICHAEL TJADEN & MEGAN DeMAAR
MITCHELL CARLSTROM & JESSICA HUCEK
CARLOS AGUILAR & GABRIELA PADILLA**

SUCCESSFUL BLOOD DRIVE

Vitalent Blood Center informed us that our blood drive was successful. 22 units of blood were collected, enough to potentially save the lives of 66 patients in the Chicago area. Thanks to Michael Ripani for coordinating this. We will do it again.

THE ITALIAN DINNER

Our 91st annual Italian Dinner will take place Thursday November 7 from 6:00 to 8:30pm at Coco Pazzo, 300 West Hubbard. This year we have a new venue and a new way for you to show your support for Assumption at the dinner. The delicious menu includes antipasti, insalata, entrees, dolce, and caffe. You will not leave hungry. Wine, beer, and soft drinks are included; cash bar for other drinks. Tickets are \$125 and reservations are required. Parking will be available at 311 and Mart Parc. Call the parish office or go on GiveCentral to make your reservations. Those on our email list who have already responded to the evite, please remember to complete your payment. We are already half-way to a sell-out.

FEEDING THE NEEDY

Assumption will be providing the evening meal for Chicago Help Initiative at the Catholic Charities building at LaSalle and Huron on Wednesday, September 25. If you would like to help serve the meal, email Roz at roz@chicagohelpinitiative.org and indicate that you are from Assumption. This is a great opportunity for families or groups, as well as individuals! Volunteers are needed from 4-6pm.

HYMNS: #541, #364, #383

PRAY FOR THEM: Annette Russo, Davy Hart, Rosemary Reeves, Frank Cardenas, Erin Gentile, Kathy Escher, Patrick McRae, Rich DiVito, Carolina Gomez, Elizabeth McKiernan, Willie & Mary Priego, Michael Graul, Fr. Michael Doyle

MASS INTENTIONS ~ WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2024

Sat.	21st	5:00	Antoinette Laria (b'day RIP)
Sun.	22nd	7:30	Leo & Helen Dillon (RIP)
		9:00	Frances Tenbroeck (RIP)
		10:30	Charles & Marion Joachim (RIP)
		12:15	Assumption Parishioners
		5:00	Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfiester & Jenkins Families
Mon.	23rd	7:00	Priests & People of Assumption
		12:10	Dasher Lowe & Rosemary Melichar
Tues.	24th	7:00	Special Intention
Wed.	25th	12:10	Esther Rybicki (b'day RIP)
Thurs.	26th	12:10	Souls in Purgatory
Fri.	27th	7:00	Josephine R. Randall (b'day RIP)



BLESSING OF PETS: In honor of the Feast of St. Francis, who had a great love for all of God's creation, we will have a blessing of pets in front of the church on Saturday October 12 from 9:00 to 10:00am. Walk-by's and drive-by's are welcome.

BLESSING OF RUNNERS: It's an Assumption tradition. During the 5:00pm Mass on Saturday, October 12, the day before the Bank of American Chicago Marathon, we will offer a special blessing to all participants. Runners, along with their family, friends, and fan club are cordially invited.

OCIA HAS BEGUN: But it is not too late to join. OCIA is for adults who have never been Baptized, Catholics who never made their First Communion and Confirmation and for those wishing to explore becoming Catholic. Contact Fr. Joe for more information.

ASSUMPTION YOUNG ADULTS: AYA is having a wine and cheese party in the Parish Hall following the 5:00pm Mass on Sunday, October 20. Join the AYA team to socialize and spread fellowship. All those in their twenties or thirties—married, single, or coupled—are invited. Contact assumptionaya@gmail.com with questions, dietary restrictions, or to find out more about Assumption Young Adults.

THE SERVITE ROSARY: The Servite Secular Order & Knights of Columbus lead the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows of Mary on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at 11:40am. All are welcome. Rosaries are provided.

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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