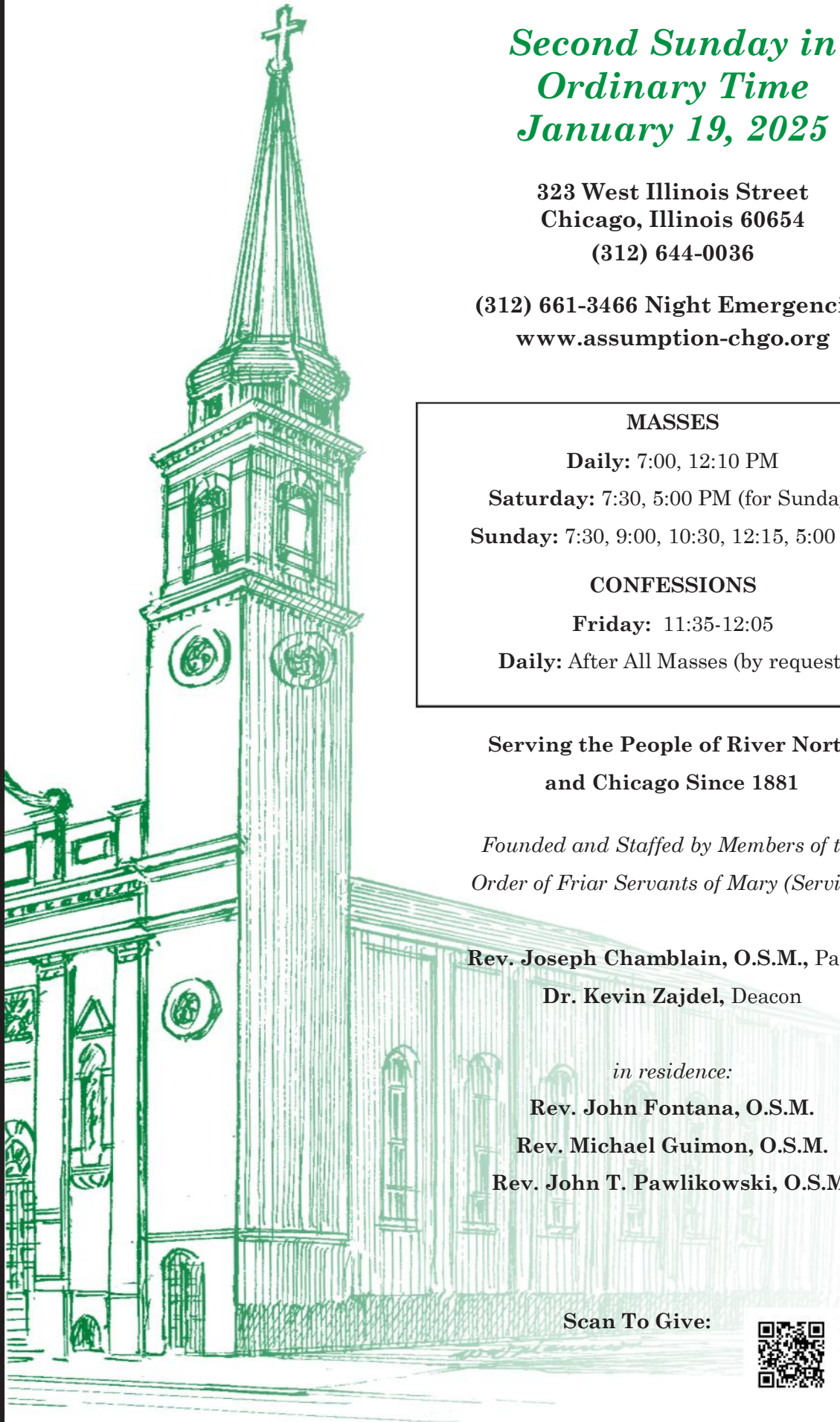


ASSUMPTION CHURCH



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time January 19, 2025

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

Scan To Give:



January 19, 2025

ONE DAY DOWN SOUTH

(Since I was on vacation this past week, I decided to take a one-week vacation from this column and not worry about Monday's press deadline. So, what follows is a repeat. This column appeared in the bulletin of January 19, 2014)

Last week I spent a few days down South. This was my annual trip to Memphis to visit my cousins as well as my cuzzins (people that you are close to but not related to). One day, though, there were no family visits scheduled; so I took a drive over to the Arkansas resort town of Hot Springs. Hot Springs is an interesting place. It is a city built on flim-flam that is trying to make an honest living in its old age. Long before there was Las Vegas, there was Hot Springs. For over a century the city thrived on illegal gambling, illegal drinking, and the highly touted healing powers of its thermal baths. Representatives from the competing bath houses would board incoming trains to induce visitors to sign up for a complete health treatment at their facility, making all kinds of outrageous claims about diseases cured and aches and pains obliterated. If you ever wonder why President Clinton was so good at working a crowd, look no further than the town in which he was raised. Something of the old rhetorical eloquence still lingers in the air. Today, only one of the bathhouses in Bathhouse Row still promises "therapeutic healing and relief from various ailments using thermal water." However, the rest of the bathhouses have been preserved and some have found other purposes. Walking down Bathhouse Row, you can still see all the intangibles designed to convince you that something life-changing might happen beyond their front doors: the handsome architecture, the mosaic tile porches, the cool inviting awnings, and the line of stately magnolia trees in the median strip that separate the bathhouses from the noise and the bustle of the city. Modern medicine may be able to do a lot more to cure disease, but it only wishes it could do it with as much style.

Hot Springs has both a family connection and a Chicago connection. In 1941 my parents had saved up fifty dollars on which to get married. Twenty-five dollars covered the church, the organist, the wedding dress, and the wedding cake (The reception was at my grandparents' house and they provided the coffee and Pepsi); and the other twenty-five covered the honeymoon: tickets on the Greyhound bus and three nights in the Pullman Hotel in Hot Springs. Hot Springs was a favorite hang-out of Chicago crime figures like Al Capone; but it also has an even deeper Chicago connection. In 1886 Cap Anson brought his Chicago White Stockings baseball team (ancestor of the Chicago Cubs) to Hot Springs for the first ever "spring training" by a baseball club. Other ball clubs followed. Through the 1920's and 1930's, Hot Springs remained the favored place for ball players to come and get into shape before the season started. Of course, "getting into shape" has to be understood in the broadest possible sense: soaking in hot tubs to remove impurities that had seeped into the body during the winter, and then spending the evening drinking and gambling and visiting the horse track. The track remains and is a major source of revenue for the city. The racing season began this past weekend; and the day I was there, horses were being exercised on the track, even though icicles from a recent ice storm were still dripping from the trees.

With several large resort hotels standing vacant, there is a lot of talk about Hot Springs "coming back." Leaders seem to be looking for salvation in casinos, which is where almost every other state and municipality is looking. But if Hot Springs ever does "come back," it will not be the Hot Springs of old. Not only have our ideas about health and fitness and entertainment changed; but our nation itself has changed. The old Hot Springs was a resort for white people. This Monday we celebrate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose leadership profoundly altered our country. Like all of us human beings he had flaws, but what is important to remember about Dr. King is that his words and actions grew out of his religious convictions. Like many a prophet in Biblical times, Dr. King undertook his role as civil rights leader with reluctance; but once he was in, he was "all in." As I was walking past the landmark Arlington Hotel, a very elderly black couple was checking out. I wondered later if staying at the Arlington had long been an ambition of theirs: something that would have been illegal when they got married.

Fr. Joe



EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction Monday, January 20 from 5:00 to 7:00pm.



THE MINISTRY OF GREETER

Would you like to see our parish community grow? Do you enjoy meeting new people and helping them feel welcome? If so, consider becoming part of our Greeter Ministry at weekend Masses. Email greeters@assumption-chgo.org to find out more.



A NOTE FROM FR. SIPLE

“I and the parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows are deeply grateful for your generosity. Over the past few months, we have assisted 100 families with abundant Thanksgiving baskets, 76 families with Christmas toys, and fed 220 people at our two monthly breakfasts. Assumption Parish’s support blesses us, so that we can bless others. Thank you.”



ARE YOU WILLING TO BE 1 OF THE 300?

Thanks to all who responded so generously to Susan Gold’s Assumption Shares appeal in November. Shares are the food coupons we offer the unhoused and needy on the first Wednesday of the month. But the mission is ongoing. Our numbers are growing and we need to increase the size of our gift from \$10 to \$15. If we have 300 people willing to make a sustaining donation of \$10 a month, then we will be able to adequately fund not only Assumption Shares, but also the Saturday sandwiches we make for Chicago Help Initiative and the monthly grocery bill for the migrant family of eight that Assumption helps support. \$10 a month is a very small amount that will go a long way if we have the participation we need. And your monthly gift is easy to set up electronically. Just go to our website (assumption-chgo.org), click the DONATE button on top of our homepage. The first option in the dropdown menu will be Assumption Shares. Complete the other information required (if you are not already giving electronically) and you will be one of the 300! Sometimes we feel frustrated that we cannot do more to ease poverty. By becoming one of the 300, your small amount will help feed hundreds of people.

HYMNS: #443, #368, #700 (except 5pm Sunday)



CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME

Our Creation Care Committee, in collaboration with the Wellness Spirituality Center, is offering a three part series on caring for creation, led by Sr. Pat Bergen, CSJ, an educator, retreat facilitator, and spiritual director. The presentations may be viewed live at the Wellness Center, 1515 West Ogden in LaGrange Park or online, at either 9:30 am or 7:00pm on Wednesday January 15 (Where on Earth Is God), Thursday January 23 (The Cry of Earth and the Cry of the Poor), and Thursday January 30 (What Does Liturgy Have to Do with Care of Creation). The presentations will be recorded for future viewing. To view the presentation free online, please register in advance at <https://tinyurl.com/mp8k4wm4>

COMMUNION

If you would like Communion brought to someone residing in a nursing home or no longer able to come to church, please contact the Parish Office.

TAX LETTER

If you are a registered member of the parish and would like to receive a statement of contributions for 2024, please call or email the Parish Office.

WEDDINGS:

**JOE LINGINFELTER & ELIZABETH HEDRICK
RUBEN VILLEGAS & MICHELE JUNE
RICHARD HANBA & KATHRYN CONNELLY**



PRAY FOR THEM:

Annette Russo, Davy Hart, Frank Cardenas, Erin Gentile, Kathy Escher, Patrick McRae, Rich DiVito, Carolina Gomez, Willie & Mary Priego, Michael Graul

MASS INTENTIONS ~ WEEK OF JANUARY 18, 2025

Sat.	18th	5:00	Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfiester & Jenkins Families
Sun.	19th	7:30	Leo & Helen Dillon (RIP)
		9:00	Linda Graca (RIP)
		10:30	Charles & Marion Joachim (RIP)
		12:15	Assumption Parishioners
Mon.	20th	12:10	Souls in Purgatory
Tues.	21st	7:00	Conway Family
Wed.	22nd	7:00	Priests & People of Assumption
Thurs.	23rd	7:00	Clark Family
Fri.	24th	7:00	Dubuque Family
Sat	25th	7:30	Catherine Foley (b’day)

ASSUMPTION YOUNG ADULTS

AYA is for those in their twenties or thirties, married, single, or coupled. They participate in a number of spiritual, social, and service activities during the year. Find out more by emailing assumptionaya@gmail.com.

UPDATING OUR EMAILS

One of the benefits we anticipate from our new information system *Breeze* is better communication with parishioners. We were amazed when our first attempt at using *Breeze* for the weekly online bulletin mailing resulted in a nearly ten percent failure rate. Many of these email addresses had not been verified for years. If you did not receive an email from Assumption these past three Fridays (and did not opt out of the mailing), then we do not have your email in the new system. Here is how you can help. Go to our website at <https://www.assumption-chgo.org> and click REGISTER. We'll use your entries to fix our records, and we promise not to bother you with a lot of "junk" mail.

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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