

ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Sixth Sunday of Easter May 25, 2025

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)

**Serving the People of River North
and Chicago Since 1881**

*Founded and Staffed by Members of the
Order of Friar Servants of Mary (Servites)*

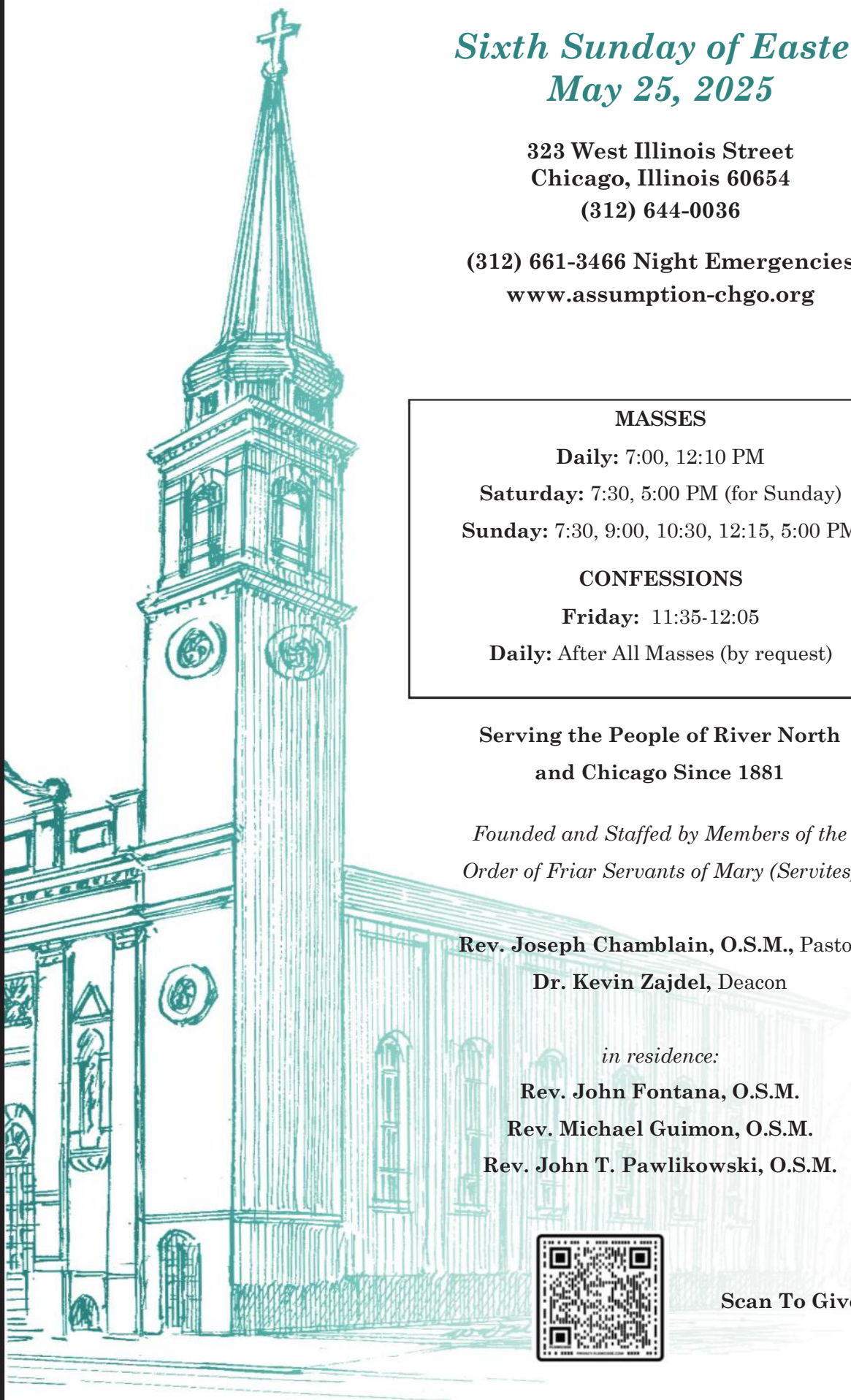
Rev. Joseph Chamblain, O.S.M., Pastor
Dr. Kevin Zajdel, Deacon

in residence:

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



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CHANGING THE CULTURE

A few weeks ago, I made my annual visit to Memphis. I still have cousins and a few friends “back home” that I have stayed in touch with through the decades. Getting to see them again was important, since we are all in our seventies now and who knows how many more opportunities we are going to have. Normally I stay at a motel in an outlying area because rates are cheaper; but this time I stayed at a new hotel that had opened in a former loft building near downtown and the river that was offering great rates. Fifty years ago, when I still lived in Memphis, this was an aging industrial area in which no one lived or wanted to live. Not unlike the transformation that has taken place in River North and the West Loop over the last forty years, this Memphis neighborhood is now full of new townhouses, high-rises, restaurants, and galleries. Because I had no reason to visit this area on previous trips, what I encountered in my early morning walks was a kind of culture shock. When did all this happen? Change had been happening over time, and I encountered the result of all those incremental changes. The whole culture of the neighborhood had changed.

We can look back on the papacy of Pope Francis and see cultural change. The simplicity of his lifestyle, his outreach to migrants and prisoners, his focus on economic justice and the environment, the priority he gave to the church’s mission, and his condemnation of “clerical” culture” served to create a new way of being Pope. His lack of clarity on certain long-held Catholic teachings led to heavy criticism from traditionalists, but his focus on following Christ and church teaching as a journey and not a line of demarcation resonated with many Catholics. Pope Leo inherits a different papacy than Pope Francis inherited.

In *Awareness*, a book by the late Jesuit Anthony De Mello, we read, “Every new idea, every great idea, when it first began was in a minority of one. The man called Jesus Christ—a minority of one. Everybody was saying something different from what he was saying. The Buddha—a minority of one. Everybody was saying something different from what he was saying. I think it was Bertrand Russell who said, ‘Every great idea starts out as a blasphemy.’ That’s well and accurately put. About Jesus they said, ‘He has blasphemed.’” Yet, here we are thousands of years later, with millions of people adhering to the words of Jesus and the Buddha. That is a massive cultural change.

It is not unusual to detect a cultural change in our own faith journey. Sometimes in confession penitents will want to confess a sin from the past that they already confessed in a previous confession. Part of that can be a reluctance to accept God’s forgiveness as undeserved and unearned; but it often points to the fact that these sins committed years ago now loom larger to us than they did at the time. As we grow closer to God, our past failings trouble us more. There has been a cultural change. Our relationship with God is not the same as it was a decade ago.

In the *Renew My Church* process, there is a great emphasis on changing the culture of the parish, making our churches more mission-oriented, more focused on the people who are not here and not just the people who are here. Like all cultural changes, this change cannot be induced by any one program or series of initiatives. It is not just about adding greeters or service programs, or forming an evangelization committee, or adding Alpha or other programs designed to connect with non-churchgoers. It is about altering our own relationship with church. It is about greeting newcomers and strangers and not just our friends; it is about feeling an urgency to get involved in the parish because I sense how much more could be done if more of us took an active role; it is about responding and singing at Mass as if I really wanted to be there; it is about making sure that our ministries not only perform functions but also form a community; it is about keeping the people who are not here on our prayer list; it is about becoming more comfortable talking about my faith with others; it is about being more aware of the issues that impact our global church and not just our local church. It is about this and many other things; and, remember, all we need to get the process started is a minority of one.

Fr. Joe

GENERATION TO GENERATION

Thank you to those who have made a pledge to the Generation to Generation campaign. Our parish has already reached 100% of our pledged goal. Now that we have reached our goal, 80% of the funds come back to us. Unlike the Annual Catholic Appeal, which enables the Archdiocese of Chicago to maintain essential services for another year, Generation to Generation seeks to address the long-term needs of the Archdiocese and Assumption. You can make a difference by giving what is right for your household. Just as we have been blessed by previous generations of Catholics, let us seize this opportunity to pass on the blessings we have received to strengthen the next generation of Catholics.

WELCOMING NEW CATHOLICS

It is not too early to be thinking about being part of the OCIA Class of 2025-26. OCIA (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) is for those over the age of 18 who were never baptized, never made their first communion, or who are baptized in another Christian religion and want to explore becoming Catholic. It is a group experience that meets on Sunday mornings from September to May. This past year we had a separate OCIA group for those 8 to 18 and we will have it again if there is a need. Contact Fr. Joe for more information.

JOIN THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Love coffee, donuts, and fellowship? We're looking for friendly faces to join our Hospitality Ministry and help organize, host, and enhance Hospitality Sundays. Whether you're a seasoned host or just love connecting with people, we'd love your help and fresh ideas. If you are interested, contact Danielle at hospitality@assumption-chgo.org.

CELEBRATING THE GIFT OF CREATION

All are invited to attend an ecumenical prayer service on Pentecost Sunday, June 8 at 3:00pm at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Cathedral (1017 N LaSalle) as Catholic Bishop Lawrence Sullivan and other Christian leaders gather to celebrate the Mystery of Creation as the foundational event in salvation history. The Service also marks the 1700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea, which stated definitively the Christian belief in God's salvific, creative act. A reception will follow immediately after the service.



HYMNS: #542, #354, #732 (except 5pm Sunday)

MEMORIAL DAY

On Memorial Day, Monday May 26, we honor and pray for the men and women who served in the Armed Forces, especially those who died in combat. Mass will be celebrated at 7:30 and 10:30 on May 26.

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

Next Sunday June 1 our usual hospitality offerings following the 9:00 and 10:30 Masses will be enhanced with ice cream (hopefully in the Garden).



THE KNIGHTS SAY THANKS

The Knights of Columbus baby bottle drive during Lent netted \$3,900 for Well of Mercy, which provides temporary housing and other support services to women who choose to carry their baby to term. The Knights thank you for supporting the right to life.

CATCH UP ON YOUR CATECHISM

You are welcome to join Deacon Kevin's Catechism Group any time, as they make their way through the *The United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*. The group meets twice on month on Wednesday evenings. Contact catechism@assumption-chgo.org.

WEDDINGS:

**GIANFRANCO PARICO & SHANNON SI
RYAN O'CONNOR & NATALIE ZAJESKI
RAKESH KUMAR & KATHARINE McCORMICK
CLINT SMALLEY & KATIE McNAMEE
JOHN BUCKENTIN & ERIN BROOKS
VINCENT LUONGO & SAMANTHA LACSAM**

PRAY FOR THEM: Annette Russo, Davy Hart, Frank Cardenas, Erin Gentile, Kathy Escher, Patrick McRae, Carolina Gomez, Willie & Mary Priego, Mike Foster, and Mary Ann Kevin

MASS INTENTIONS ~ WEEK OF MAY 24, 2025

Sat	24th	5:00 † Fr. Michael Doyle, OSM (b'day)
Sun	25th	7:30 † Dan Garvey
		9:00 † Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfister & Jenkins Families
		10:30 † Charles & Marion Joachim
		12:15 Assumption Parishioners
		5:00 † Peter Bormes
Mon	26th	10:30 † Francisco & Cornelia Pestanas
Tues	27th	7:00 † Richard Prackup
		12:10 † Reese Elledge
Wed	28th	7:00 † Diane Meore
Thurs	29th	7:00 The Dubuque Family
		12:10 Priests and People of Assumption
Fri	30th	7:00 Paul Dubuque (b'day)
		12:10 Souls in purgatory
Sat	31st	7:30 † Matthew & Jacob Replogle

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- ♦ July 6 - Garden Blessing
- ♦ August 10 - Anniversary Picnic (dogs, brats, and beer)
- ♦ October 30 - Italian Dinner at Coco Pazzo



REFUGEE ASSISTANCE GROUP: Assumption's Refugee Assistance Group has partnered with Catherine's Caring Cause, an organization that assists families who have sought refuge in the United States. For almost a year, our parish has been helping with rent and food expenses and transportation for Virginia and her six children who have come to Chicago as humanitarian parolees. Son, Emiliano, five years old, is being successfully treated for leukemia at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. For the second year in a row, Assumption is supporting the women and children of Bethany House by contributing funds to host a Mother's Day party for the moms and the kids. The Refugee Assistance Group welcomes participants and ideas for projects. For more information, email refugee@assumption-chgo.org. Donations are always welcome and can be made on Assumption's online giving platform. Donations should be directed to Project Refugee.

A WAY TO HELP THE CHURCH: Our printed bulletin is supplied free to us as long as we maintain a minimum level of advertising. Right now we could use some more paid ads. By advertising in the bulletin and supporting those who do advertise, you are helping supporting the church. Ads run not only in the printed bulletin, but in the online version as well.

<p>HELP SAVE GOD'S CREATION We can make a difference if we each take one small step every day to help save God's gift of creation. Let's embrace Laudato Si.</p> 	<p>Help care for aging Friars who served at Assumption. Remember The Order of Friar Servants of Mary, USA Province in your will.</p>	 <p>We Take Service Personally Contact us today for a customized, reliable waste management, recycling, or dumpster quote. 630-261-0400</p>
 <p><i>Coco Pazzo</i> 300 W. Hubbard • 312.836.0900 cocopazzo-chicago.com Celebrating 30 years</p>	<p>If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway. - Mother Teresa</p> 	<p>Gene & Georgetti CHICAGO'S STEAKHOUSE SINCE 1941 We offer weekend brunch, lunch, catering and takeout. Great options for private events, including rehearsal dinners. GENEANDGEORGETTI.COM 312.527.3718 500 N FRANKLIN ST</p>
<p>Big Shoulders Fund. You can help change a life. Fund a scholarship today!</p> <p>Scan here to donate</p>   <p>bigshouldersfund.org</p>		<p>ADVERTISE HERE</p> <p>★ Promote your Business AND Support your Parish.</p> <p>Give us a call! 800-783-1623</p>
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	<p>Michalik Funeral Home Family Owned & Operated Since 1929</p>	<p>1056 West Chicago Avenue (312) 421-0936 www.michalikfuneralhome.com</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Burial, Cremation, and Pre-Planning Services * <u>Closest Location to Assumption</u> with Supervised Parking Available

