Fourteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time July 6, 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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SSUMPTION CHURCH

July 6, 2025

A FRESH LOOK AT THE SACRED HEART

Friday June 27 was the Feast of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, a major feast on the church calendar but not a major event in most parishes. Yet this Feast of the Sacred Heart and devotion to the Sacred Heart played a significant role in our church history. The devotion originated in the seventeenth century during a time when the Church was excessively focused on our unworthiness before God. A French nun named Margaret Mary received a vision of Christ pointing to his heart, burning with love for humanity. It was a kind of divine intervention. God broke through our dour faith, reminding us that God is love and that God's love for us never wavers regardless of our sinfulness and our unworthiness. Part of the message Margaret Mary received was an encouragement to go to communion more often, especially on the first Friday of the month. Many people who came regularly to Mass always absented themselves from communion. Going to Mass AND communion on the First Friday was still a big deal when I was in Catholic School. Although we began each school day with Mass, most of us only went to Communion on First Friday. A three hour fast was still in effect, and going to Communion meant going without breakfast before school. On First Friday, though, the cafeteria turned out pans of buttered toast and milk, and there was time for all of us to have "breakfast" after Mass.

Like many popular devotions and practices, devotion to the Sacred Heart and the Nine First Fridays faded in the late 1960's. We were invited to focus more on the Mass itself, which was now in English. With only an hour's fast, going to communion at every Mass became normative and the significance of First Friday diminished. I bring this up, though, not to give a history lesson but to reflect on the significance of the Sacred Heart today.

One of the last "encyclicals" (a message for the whole church) that Pope Francis wrote was on the Sacred Heart (*Dilexit Nos*). He writes: "Some have questioned whether the symbol is still meaningful today. Yet living as we do in an age of superficiality, rushing frenetically from one thing to another without really knowing why, and ending up as insatiable consumers and slaves to the mechanisms of a market unconcerned about the deeper meaning of our lives, all of us need to rediscover the importance of the heart." After pointing out that it is reflecting on Christ's heart that we experience the deepest mystery of who God is, Pope Francis invites us to recognize the importance of the heart in our own life and in the life of the world.

"From ancient times there has been an appreciation of the fact that human beings are not simply a sum of different skills, but a unity of body and soul with a coordinating center that provides a backdrop of meaning and direction to all that a person experiences." He says that the heart is the "core that lies beneath all outward appearances, even beneath the superficial thoughts that can lead us astray.... The heart is also the locus of sincerity, where deceit and disguise have no place. It usually indicates our true intentions, what we really think, believe, and desire, the 'secrets' that we tell no one; in a word, the naked truth about ourselves. It is the part of us that is neither appearance or illusion, but is instead authentic, real, entirely 'who we are.'... Despite our every attempt to appear as something we are not, our heart is the ultimate judge, not of what we show or hide from others, but of who we truly are." Francis says that in a very real sense, "I am my heart." And the unfortunate part of modern life is that we fail "to make room for the heart." We do not take time to get in touch with our deepest identity (that we are all beloved children of God), and, consequently we act out of our own surface and selfish desires, which leads to division and discord.

If we look into our heart, we realize that we all want the same things—to know that we are loved and to love another. Thus, the heart is the "unifying center" not only of the human person but of the global family. "An authentic devotion to the heart of Christ not only leads us to the Father, but also sends us forth to our brothers and sisters." When we "speak from the heart," we are able to connect with the heart of another. We are no longer focused on our differences, but what binds us together. To quote the nineteenth century English writer and Catholic leader, John Henry Newman, "heart speaks to heart." Our own encounter with the healing, forgiving, reconciling love of Jesus becomes a gift that we share with the world. Pope Francis saw that true devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus can be a powerful tool for healing and reconciling people and nations—and, indeed, creation itself.

Fr. Joe

Fourteenth Sunday In Ordinary Time

MISSION APPEAL

This weekend, Fr. Michael Ogweno Yogo, C.P., will speak at all Masses about the needs of the church in southern Africa and the ministry of the Passionists priests and brothers. This is our annual Mission Appeal, a program sponsored by the dioceses of the United States to provide funds for religious congregations and dioceses in economically challenged parts of the world.

The Passionists priests and brothers came to the country of Botswana in 1962, and in time expanded their ministry to other countries in southern Africa. The Passionists have dedicated their lives to showing the people of the southern African region the love of God, as it is expressed in the sufferings and death of Christ on the cross. Christ continues to suffer in those who suffer. While we will never fully eradicate suffering and poverty, the Passionists seek to stand by those who are in need and to make their burdens more bearable. As Christ said, "Whatever you do to the least of my brothers and sisters, you do unto me." Please be generous in today's second collection.

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY!

The following people have formally registered at Assumption since the beginning of 2025: Jason and Erin Baxendale, Fred Bosshardt, Gloria Corujo

and Justin Redington, Carl David Jones, Michael Ford, Justin Glynn, James Hart, Rachel Kuhn, Rosana Murphy, John Shannon, Conora Shaw, Nicole Wylie, Carl Dickson, Ryan Dureska, Jodi Durkin, Lisa Sowa-Downs, George Mazurek, Colette Giraldo, Joe Wasiak, Thoma Thekkekara and Shikha Mathew, Michelle Wick, Nathan Maulding, Nallely Renteria, Jeffrey Chonko and Natalie Pacini, Jeremy and Anslee Karedan, Jessica Miranda and Marcos Serna, Matthew Conti, John Bussa and Anyeli Ramirez Reyes, Eleanor Holley, Alicia Garcia, Patricia Aguilar O'Grady, Tyler Tiell, John Burns, Marissa Cantu, Christopher Roth and Denise Umpierre-Roth, Joanna Barragan and Nicholas Metzger, Laura Jakowenko, Daniel Blank, Rose Ann Watson Ansty, Tyler Kuhn, and Alexandra Dryden. To those who have moved, our prayers and blessings go with you.

OUR SHARING PARISH

The monthly collection for Our Lady of Sorrows Parish will take place next weekend, July 12-13.

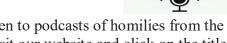
BLESSING OF THE GARDEN



The annual Blessing of the parish garden on the west side of church will take place following the 9:00am Mass this Sunday, July 6. Our garden is dedicated to the memory of Bridget Kennicott and also Katie Kennicott, the Garden Club's founder and longtime leader. There will be hospitality

after the 9:00 and the 10:30 Mass this Sunday.

NOW STREAMING—RECENT …uuu**t**juluu… HOMILIES



You can now listen to podcasts of homilies from the 9:00am Mass. Visit our website and click on the title that inspires you.

YOUNG FAMILIES GROUP

A new group has formed at Assumption for families with children under the age of ten. Children share playground time while the parents talk. For more information, email ayf@assumption-chgo.org.

WEDDINGS:

PATRICK MARSHALL & MARISA PICKARD **BRIAN MATTESON & GINA RANDO ANTHONY BIANCALANA & KAYLA MINNE THOMAS (TJ) TYNAN & MOLLY GAFFNEY PHILIP YOO & AMY AQUINO**



HYMNS: #391, #337, #732 (except 5pm Sunday)

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 JULY 5, 2025			
Sat	5th	5:00 † Michael & Rose Marie Sopko,	
		Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko,	
		Morris, Pfiester & Jenkins Families	
Sun	6th	7:30 † Susan Walsh Miller	
		9:00 Beth Schuman (b'day)	
		10:30 † Fr. Michael Doyle, O.S.M.	
		12:15 Assumption Parishioners	
		5:00 ⁺ Dorothy C. Brennan	
Mon	7th	7:00 Beth Schuman (b'day)	
Tues	8th	7:00 † Brad Kosak	
		12:10 Souls in Purgatory	
Wed	9th	7:00 Carole Ahern	
Thurs	10th	7:00 † Steve McMichael	
		12:10 The Dubuque Family	
Fri	11th		
Sat	12th	7:30 Dorothy Ransom (b'day)	

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Assumption	Church
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COMING ATTRACTIONS

- August 10 Anniversary Picnic (dogs, brats, and beer) (following the 12:15 Mass)
- October 30 Italian Dinner at Coco Pazzo

<u>GENERATION TO GENERATION</u>: If you have not yet returned your pledge form for *Generation to Generation*, please deposit it in the blue box in the back of church. *Generation to Generation*, distinct from the *Annual Catholic Appeal*, seeks to address long-term needs of the Archdiocese of Chicago. Just as we have been blessed by the generosity of past generations, so we can be a blessing to generations to come. 50% of pledged money received is returned to us at Assumption.

<u>WELCOMING NEW CATHOLICS</u>: The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults (OCIA) is the official name for the process of becoming Catholic for those who were baptized in another Christian faith and want to explore becoming Catholic and for adults who were never baptized. It is also for baptized Catholics who never made their first communion and confirmation. It is a group experience that runs from September to May. This year we will also run a special OCIA group for those 8 to 18. Contact Fr. Joe for more information.

<u>COMING THIS FALL—ALPHA</u>: Assumption will begin our next Alpha series this September. Alpha is a weekly gathering on Thursday nights, during which we watch a film about faith and life and then share food and conversation. Alpha is a place where people can safely explore the big questions of life. Alpha is for those who are curious about faith, those who want to grow deeper in their faith, and for those who are interested in discovering or rediscovering the basics of Christianity. All are welcome. Watch for more details.

