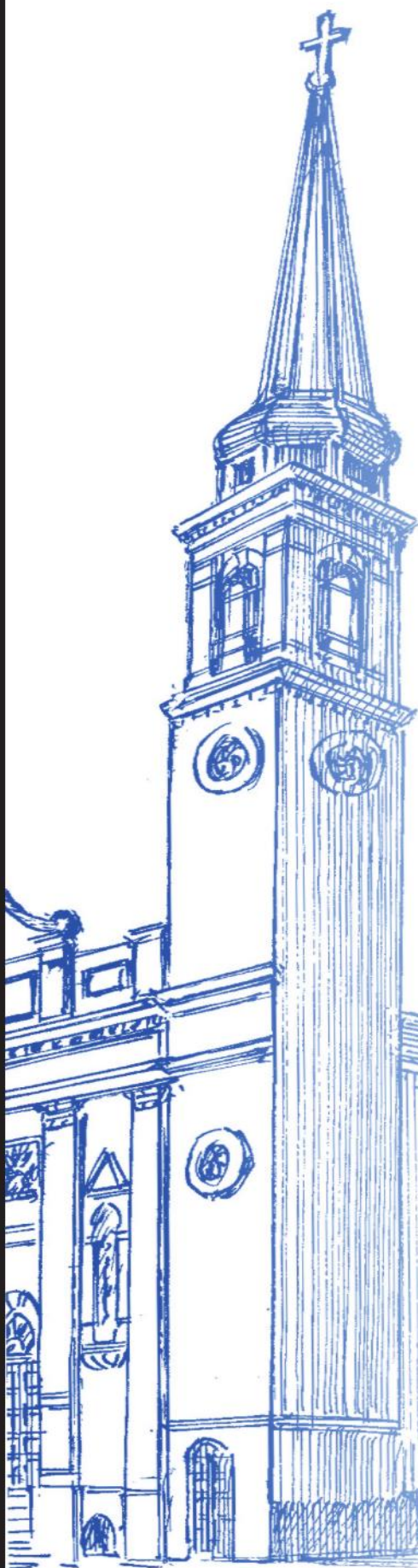


ASSUMPTION CHURCH



Twentieth Sunday In Ordinary Time August 17, 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.



Scan To Give

TALKING ABOUT CHURCH TALK

Having just returned from what is traditionally called “the Servite Missions” in Kwa-Zulu, Natal in South Africa, I have been reflecting on certain words and phrases we often use at church. Are these the best words we could use? Do we all know what we are talking about when we use those words?

For example, decades ago I knew exactly what “the missions” were. There were the “home missions” in places like Appalachia, ominously labeled “no priest land,” and the “foreign missions”: Asia, Africa, and South America. Centuries earlier North America has been part of the “foreign missions.” Until recent time a lot of these missionaries from Europe (and later from America) operated with considerable autonomy, financed by their religious congregation or by individual benefactors. Sometimes there was little or no coordination on the local level. At one time there were 4,000 Irish missionaries around the world. But this has not been the landscape of the church for many decades now. Vocations have dried up in the Western World, while in parts of Africa and Asia, they are flourishing. There is no longer any place that the Church is present that there is no central administration. If there are priests serving in a foreign land, they are much more likely to be coming from Asia or Africa than going to Asia or Africa. What we have everywhere is a group of churches under the administration of a bishop, an apostolic delegate, or a provincial. Some of these dioceses and provinces are economically dependent on outside funding and some are not. So, maybe the word “missions” should be retired. We help needy dioceses and provinces, not missions.

Another word that gets tossed around a lot in church is “renewal.” In the 1960’s the focus was on liturgical renewal. Having the priest facing the people during Mass, changing the language of the Mass from Latin to the local language, having the congregation sing and make the responses (instead of having singers and servers do everything) was supposed to reinvigorate our worship and our parish communities. Yet here we are three generations later, with vast numbers of Catholics who still regard singing in church as somebody else’s job. While I have no doubt that had we not reformed our liturgy, the exodus from church would be much greater (as our world became more secularized), the continued craving by a significant minority of Catholics for the traditional Latin Mass suggests that something about the old was lost that has not been found in the new.

Now the challenge of renewing our worship has become one element in a larger renewal effort, the seven year old campaign in Chicago called *Renew My Church*. Within Catholic circles people have noticed the higher “retention rate” among churchgoers in the Evangelical Churches, attributing it to their focus on a personal connection to Jesus Christ. Singing in church is but one aspect of seeing oneself as personally connected to Christ and the worship community. Of course, there is always the danger that having a personal relationship with Christ will lead me away from the church and its larger mission to the world and not toward it. Certain renewal programs like *Alpha*, which seeks to get down to the basics of faith, have had great success in some Chicago parishes; at other churches like Assumption, it has had only modest impact. And we need to keep in mind that programs do not renew the church; it is Christ who renews the Church.

Stewardship is another word that could use some sprucing up. Stewardship is a word rarely used in church except when we are asking for money. In the first half of this year, we were running two financial campaigns for the Archdiocese, *The Annual Catholic Appeal* and *Generation to Generation*. Practicing “good stewardship” came up a lot. I am grateful to have an active Finance Council that takes very seriously its responsibility of safeguarding and spending wisely the funds that you entrust to Assumption. But properly managing our finances does not exhaust the meaning of stewardship. Am I being a good steward of my time? Am I using the talents and skills that I have been blessed with to enhance the life of the larger community? It is worth noting that in the story of creation, God did ask Adam and Eve to be good stewards—but God did not ask them for money. God asked them to take care of the rest of creation, to rule over it in God’s name (in the way that God would want it managed). That is certainly a challenge for us today.

Fr. Joe

FEAST OF ST PHILIP BENIZI

Saturday, August 23, is the Feast of St. Philip Benizi, a thirteenth century Servite Friar who was held in such high esteem that he was considered a leading candidate for Pope. His statue is on the east side of the church and our oldest stained glass window on the west side features St. Philip. Once, when a town was experiencing famine, Philip prayed for relief and bread miraculously appeared. Since that time, it has been the custom in Servite parishes and shrines to bless bread on St. Philip's Feast Day. Our Servite Secular Order is providing bread that will be blessed and distributed at the 7:30am Mass on August 23.



PART-TIME COOK

The four priests who live in the Assumption Priory/Rectory are looking for a very part-time cook. We are in need of someone to prepare dinner two days a week (Wednesdays and Thursdays). Dinnertime is 5 PM. If you know someone who might be interested, please have them contact the parish office, and we will be happy to share more details and to set a time for an interview. Thank you much!



ASSUMPTION YOUNG ADULTS

Assumption Young Adults is for anyone in their twenties or thirties, married, single, or coupled. AYA will gather for food, drink, and conversation in the Garden following the 5:00pm Mass on Sunday August 24. For more information, email assumptionaya@gmail.com.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament with Benediction on Monday August 18 from 5:00 to 7:00pm.



WELCOMING NEW CATHOLICS

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. There will be an information session about OCIA Sunday, August 24 at 11:30 in the Rectory. Or contact Fr. Joe.

HYMNS: #313, #565, #384 (except 5pm Sunday)

THANK YOU

It was a simple menu (hot dogs and brats) and a fun-loving crowd. Our anniversary picnic was a big success.. Thanks to those who planned, prepared, and served the food. We even had a bottle of ketchup on the condiment table, for those who refuse to be subjected to the cultural imperialism in Chicago regarding hot dogs.



GENERATION TO GENERATION

Thanks to all who made a pledge to the Archdiocesan Campaign *Generation to Generation*. Our parish pledges came to \$909,965 or 117 % of our goal. 50% of funds received will return to us at Assumption to support our Restoration Fund and our Faith Formation programming.

ALPHA BEGINS ON SEPTEMBER 25

Alpha is a series of videos and guided discussions that help cradle Catholics live and share their faith in a more intentional way, help those who have become alienated from church or religion to find their way back, and help those who have no experience of faith or church to address some basic questions about life. Alpha is an opportunity to ask questions or express your truth in a non-judgmental atmosphere. Our next Alpha series begins Thursday September 25. Consider coming yourself and invite a friend or family member who is not an active church member to come with you. For more information or to sign up, email alpha@assumption-chgo.org.

WEDDINGS:

CARL-PHILIP MAJGAARD & ALLYSON VANEK
OWEN MELIA & KATHERINE KARNOSH
GAVIN FAUST & JENNA CARROLL
RYAN ELBLE & CATHERINE BUSH
BLAKE KESSLER & CHARLENE CARROLL
CARL ROBST & MADELEINE SANDERSON

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 AUGUST 16, 2025

Sat	16th	5:00	† Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfiester & Jenkins Families
Sun	17th	10:30	† Charles & Marion Joachim
		12:15	Assumption Parishioners
		5:00	† Barbara Jones
Tues	19th	7:00	Special Intention
		12:10	† Deborah Cummins
Sat	23rd	7:30	The Dubuque Family

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. Please email ayf@assumption-chgo.org.

NOW STREAMING—RECENT 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.

WERE YOU MARRIED IN 1975? If so, you are celebrating your golden anniversary this year. The annual Golden Anniversary Mass will take place at Holy Name Cathedral (735 North State) on Sunday September 14 at 2:30pm. During the Mass, couples will be invited to renew their marriage vows and tie the knot a little tighter. To register, go to pvm.archchicago.org/events/golden-wedding.

REFUGEE ASSISTANCE GROUP: Assumption's Refugee Assistance Group has helped support several refugee families from other nations. Most recently they have been assisting a large Mexican family who are in Chicago as humanitarian refugees, as one of their children undergoes treatment at Lurie Children's Hospital. Donations can be made to "Project Refugee." To become personally involved, email refugee@assumption-chgo.org.



THE ITALIAN DINNER: By popular demand, we are returning to Coco Pazzo for this year's event, slated for Thursday October 30. That means not just delicious food but also that tickets are limited. We are holding the price at \$125.00. Tickets go on sale soon.

<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> Flood Brothers DISPOSAL/RECYCLING SERVICES</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>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>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>Ed the Plumber Ed the Carpenter 773.471.1444 Best Work • Best Rates PARISHIONER DISCOUNT</p>	 <p>#ThankYou ForYour Priesthood</p>	<p>ADVERTISE HERE</p> <p>Promote your Business AND Support your Parish.</p> <p>Give us a call! 800-783-1623</p>
<p>catholicmatch® Illinois CatholicMatch.com/golL</p> 	<p>EWTN.COM/RADIO EWTN Global Catholic Radio</p> 	<p> Get this bulletin emailed to you every week. Simply go to www.DM.CHURCH/1631 ...or scan </p> <p>✪DISCOVERMASS</p>
	<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 * Closest Location to Assumption with Supervised Parking Available

