

ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Third Sunday of Advent December 15, 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)

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

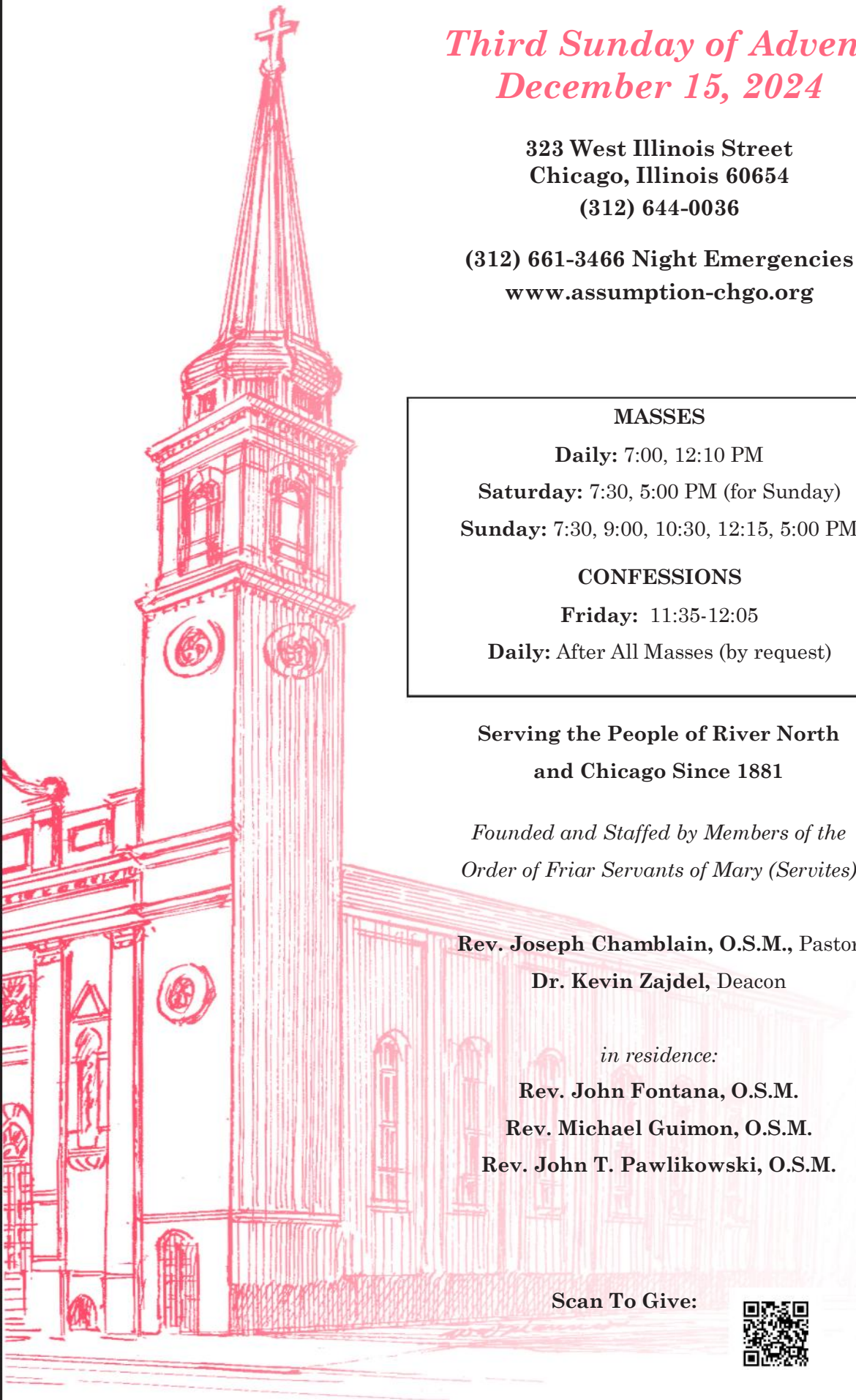
in residence:

Rev. John Fontana, O.S.M.

Rev. Michael Guimon, O.S.M.

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

Scan To Give:



December 15, 2024

SOMETHING NEW THAT'S VERY OLD

Holy Name Cathedral has invited us to partner with them in something that is new for both of us—a posada. The word “posada” in Spanish means “an inn” or a “resting place.” It is a ritual reenactment of Mary and Joseph’s search for lodging that first Christmas. It is widely celebrated throughout Latin America and has become more common in the United States. Evidence indicates that the Posada originated with Augustinian Friars, who had established a community just outside of Mexico City in the sixteenth century. The Aztec people of Mexico held a festival for the winter solstice (December 21) to honor their god. Posadas were a way of reimagining this celebration to focus on the birth of Christ.

In its most complete form, there are nine posadas for each of the nine days before Christmas. The ritual parallels the Advent novena practiced widely around the world. Each night two individuals dress as Mary and Joseph and a procession forms. After being refused entrance at several homes, Mary and Joseph finally meet an “innkeeper” who invites everyone in for food and music. A different family home hosts the pilgrims each night. While posadas originated in Mexico, a similar set of customs and practices can be found throughout Latin America. In Columbia and Ecuador, for example, families and neighbors gather for the nine evenings before Christmas, to pray, sing, and share foods in what is called the Aguinaldo. Overseas in the Philippines, the Christmas novena is called Simbang Gabi. Catholics in rural areas would attend Mass very early in the morning (between 3:00 and 5:00am) before going to work in the fields at sunrise. Food and drink were shared in the evenings. And, of course, going back to the early days of the Church, on the seven days before Christmas, the O Antiphons are sung as part of the Divine Office (the psalms and prayers recited by priests and vowed religious and now increasingly prayed by the laity.) The O Antiphons are addressed to Christ under his various titles: O Wisdom, O Lord, O Root of Jesse, O Key of David, O Rising Sun, O King of the Nations, and O Emmanuel (God with us). These are all ways in which people of faith around the world prepare their heart and soul for the coming of Christ.

In today’s world posadas often give witness to desire of so many for shelter after fleeing their homeland out of fear of violence, political persecution, or economic necessity. It does not take much of a leap of the imagination to see a connection between the plight of Mary and Joseph looking for shelter and the plight of migrants today looking for shelter or the plight of many of the unhoused who have applied for housing. In our country we have a poorly pasted together immigration policy that is full of inconsistencies, that is subject to the whims of politicians, and which often divides families. In Chicago we have seen migrants and refugees in Texas bused here to make a political statement. Yet Congress remains reluctant to undertake comprehensive immigration reform. For the past nineteen years, the Archdiocese has sponsored a Posada for Immigration Reform in the South Loop. This year’s event took place on Friday December 13. It began at the Immigration Services Center on Ida B Wells, passed the Metropolitan Correction Center, DePaul University, and Federal Plaza, and concluded at Old St. Patrick’s.

Our posada honors the memory of St. Frances Cabrini, patroness of immigrants, who worked in our neighborhood when it was populated by Italian immigrants, who prayed in Assumption Church, and who founded Assumption School. Our posada will leave from the front of Holy Name Cathedral at 2:30pm next Saturday, December 21. Mary and Joseph will be “turned away” at Catholic Charities and at the old Assumption School on Erie Street, now a condominium building. However, they will be welcomed into the Parish Hall at Assumption, when they arrive at about 3:15pm. There will be eating and drinking and socializing, as we prepare once more to welcome the Christ child. Organizers of the posada ask that participants bring some chocolate treats to share.

As we approach these last days before Christmas, I invite you to step away from the busyness and business of the season and spend a few hours on Saturday afternoon giving witness to your faith. It will not only pull you back into the meaning of the season but will also allow you to experience just a little taste of what the original Christmas was like.

Fr. Joe


CHRISTMAS MASSES

December 24: 3:00, 5:00, 10:00pm
December 25: 8:30, 10:30, 12:15pm

CHRISTMAS AT ASSUMPTION

There will be music at all Christmas Masses (3:00, 5:00, and 10:00pm on Christmas Eve; 8:30, 10:30 and 12:15 on Christmas Day). A musical quartet will lead the singing at the 3:00pm Mass on Christmas Eve, and will offer a musical program beginning at 2:30pm. The music program for the 10:00pm Mass begins at 9:30pm. Our parish choir and organ will be joined by additional voices and by musicians from the nationally acclaimed Haymarket Opera Company. This is a very special liturgy. There is nothing quite like celebrating Christ’s birth as the shepherds did, in the still watches of the night. A parking attendant will be present in the 311 Building for all Christmas Masses.

EXPERIENCE THE POSADA

A joint project between Assumption and Holy Name, a posada will leave from Holy Name next Saturday December 21 at 2:30pm, make several stops, and finish at Assumption where refreshments will be served. Join this sacred reenacted of Mary and Joseph’s search for an inn or posada.



NEW YEAR’S DAY

On January 1 we celebrate the Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God. Mother of God is one of Mary’s oldest titles and it affirms that Jesus was truly God and truly human when he took flesh. It is a holyday of obligation. Masses will be at 5:00pm on December 31 and at 7:30 and 10:30 on January 1.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

Assumption is in the process of replacing several unconnected ways of keeping membership and financial records with a single coordinated system called Breeze. This will make our office operations more efficient and offer new ways for parishioners to manage their own personal data. A lot of that data has not been updated since members first joined, which could have been many years ago! The first impact will be for on-line giving. People who have been using GiveCentral will be directed to establish a new Breeze account. Instructions will be provided in individual email messages. More to come!

RECONCILIATION SERVICE

There will be a Reconciliation Service with opportunity for private confession on Wednesday, December 18 at 7:00pm. A reconciliation service consists of Scripture, homily, a communal examination of conscience and a visit to one of several confessors.

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT FUND

Across the United States, hundreds of religious communities lack financial resources sufficient to meet the retirement and healthcare needs of aging members. Many Sisters, Brothers, and Religious Order Priests worked for years for small stipends in education, healthcare, and other Catholic institutions. Today, retired religious outnumber wage earners in their communities nearly three to one. Your generous support of the Retirement Fund for Religious in this weekend’s second collection can make a real difference. The Servite Friars, who have staffed Assumption since 1881, are among the beneficiaries of this collection.

THE ADVENT CALENDAR

This year’s Advent Calendar focuses on care for creation. There are daily reflections and actions to take to prepare us to celebrate the Feast of a God who loved us enough to take human flesh. The Calendar can be found on our homepage, Facebook, and Instagram.

HYMNS: #60, #594 (except 5pm Sunday)

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

MASS INTENTIONS ~ WEEK OF DECEMBER 14, 2024

Sat.	14th	5:00	Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfiester & Jenkins Families
Sun.	15th	7:30	Leo & Helen Dillon (RIP)
		9:00	Lawrence E. Biegel
		10:30	Charles & Marion Joachim (RIP)
		12:15	Edward & Dorothy Brennan (RIP)
		5:00	Assumption Parishioners
Mon.	16th	7:00	Keith Armato (b’day)
		12:10	Chuck Woolery (RIP)
Tues.	17th	7:00	The Dubuque Family
		12:10	Steve Foster (RIP)
Wed.	18th	7:00	Teddy Dubuque (b’day)
		12:10	Patrick & Allison Reisch
Thurs.	19th	7:00	Dorothy Brown (b’day)
		12:10	Ted Dubuque (b’day)
Fri.	20th	7:00	S. Clifford Brown (RIP)
		12:10	Katie Hensler (RIP)
Sat.	21st	7:30	Mike Ditka

A WARMER WINTER

Last Call! Chicago Help Initiative has asked us to collect hats, gloves, and scarves for the unhoused and needy for Christmas. Please place your donations in the gold box by the Vatican flag in the front of church by December 15.

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.

THE MANY WAYS TO PRAY

Looking for a way to enhance your Advent and make it more intentional? Check out our short, 10-minute videos on prayer. You can find them on our homepage.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

The next preparation session for parents (and, if possible) godparents of infants to be baptized will be Monday January 6 from 7:00 to 8:15pm at the Rectory. Please call the Parish Office to register. Baptisms normally take place on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 1:15pm and during Mass on the first weekend of the month.

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.



Coco Pazzo
300 W. Hubbard • 312.836.0900
cocopazzochicago.com
Celebrating 30 years

If you are kind, people may accuse you of ulterior motives. Be kind anyway.
- Mother Teresa



Big Shoulders Fund.
You can help change a life. Fund a scholarship today!

Scan here to donate




bigshouldersfund.org


3ELEVEN
312 837 4480
311 W ILLINOIS ST
CHICAGO, IL 60654
3ELEVEN.COM



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



Steve Schapiro
Limited Edition Photographs



Available through the Fahey Klein Gallery
www.faheykleingallery.com
323-934-2250

Ed the Plumber
Ed the Carpenter
773.471.1444
Best Work • Best Rates
PARISHIONER DISCOUNT

ADVERTISE HERE
Promote your Business AND support your Parish. Give us a call! 800-997-4986

Flood Brothers
DISPOSAL/RECYCLING SERVICES

We Take Service Personally
Contact us today for a customized, reliable waste management, recycling, or dumpster quote.
630-261-0400

KESSLER COMPANIES
Business Management & Administrative Services
630-774-1505 | TKessler@kesslercos.com

Michalik Funeral Home
Family Owned & Operated Since 1929

1056 West Chicago Avenue
(312) 421-0936
www.michalikfuneralhome.com

- * Burial, Cremation, and Pre-Planning Services
- * Closest Location to Assumption with Supervised Parking Available