

# ASSUMPTION CHURCH

## *Twenty-First Sunday In Ordinary Time August 24, 2025*

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Chicago, Illinois 60654  
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[www.assumption-chgo.org](http://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. 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

## EIGHTY YEARS LATER

Our own Cardinal Archbishop, Blase Cupich, spoke at a special ceremony in Nagasaki, Japan, marking the eightieth anniversary of the dropping of the atomic bomb on that city, a weapon that killed 60,000 to 80,000 people (including those who died immediately and those who died later from radiation poisoning). He reflects on America's decision to drop the bomb and the implications of that decision today. I am including part of his talk here, because it touches upon one of the most fundamental of issues, the future of life on earth.

"I believe that, due to the abandonment of a fundamental claim of both international law and my Church's moral tradition, the decision to use atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki was deeply flawed. The Geneva Convention and the Just War Theory both maintain that there is a line to be drawn between innocent people and those individuals who are liable to deliberate attack due to their role in the war effort. During the course of World War II, large numbers of civilians in cities had already become targets prior to the atomic bomb . . . The firebombing of the city of Dresden, Germany helped set a precedent for the U.S. Air Force and normalized the intentional killing of great numbers of Japanese civilians . . .

"By 1945 the goal was to shorten a war that was already years long and civilian deaths were taken for granted as part of the cost of war. So, in the Pacific theatre, the U.S. operated under a strategy that had become for all intents and purposes, virtually total war . . . Historians tell us that when President Harry Truman decided the atomic bombs should be used, he did not find it a difficult decision. That judgment of historians is supported by Truman's own words found in his written memoirs: 'I regarded the bomb as a military weapon and never had any doubt that it should be used.' . . .

"In the eighty years since the fateful atomic bombings, the public mood in my nation has undergone change. A minority of Americans still approve of Truman's decision, but two-thirds do not. . . And yet I note with regret, the same essay that reported the decline in Americans' support of the first use of atomic weapons in war, also revealed there remains a willingness among a majority of American citizens to use nuclear weapons against a contemporary threat to the U.S. military. 'The U.S. public's willingness to use nuclear weapons and deliberately kill foreign civilians has not changed as much since 1945 as many scholars have assumed.' . . .

"Nations, such as my own country, have sought to find security through nuclear stockpiles. What that has led us to is the uneasy reality of armed standoffs between nations, which we have mistaken for genuine peace . . . As the only nation that has used nuclear weapons in war and as the nation with a nuclear arsenal that dwarfs those of all others beside Russia, I believe the United States has a special obligation to lead the human family in a different direction. The United States must seek to build an international order that rests upon a non-nuclear foundation. This cannot be done if America adopts a foreign policy of neo-isolationism, which some in the U.S. seem to want. Instead, diplomatic engagement with Russia should place nuclear arms reduction at the top of the agenda. When serious reductions are attained by the two superpowers, the time will arrive to expand the conversation to include the other nuclear armed nations."

Let me add a few personal notes. Sometime in the 1980's, a columnist for the Diocese of Memphis newspaper wrote about his experience in World War II. He included the statement, "We were relieved when they dropped the bomb." Because of this statement, he was let go by the paper. I thought his dismissal was a bit unfair since he was simply stating how soldiers felt at the time. I remember talking to my dad about this, since he was also a World War II veteran. He said, "Nobody knew what the bomb was going to do, but we all wanted the war to end as quickly as possible. When they surrendered, we were relieved that we were not going to die."

Although I was never in the Service, I did serve one year of Marine ROTC in high school. ROTC was required at our Catholic high school, partly because it fulfilled the state requirement for physical education at no cost to the school. Our drill instructor did share with us how soldiers are prepared for war. This was during the Vietnam War, and he told us, "Men, there's something you need to know. Life is cheap for them people over there. They are not like us."

Fr. Joe



Young Adults

## **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](mailto:assumptionaya@gmail.com).

## **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!



## **BAPTISM PREPARATION**

The next preparation session for parents (and, if possible, godparents) of infants to be baptized will be Monday September 8 from 7:00 to 8:15pm. This session is for new parents and for those who have never before attended a preparation session. Call the parish office to register. Infant baptisms normally take place on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 1:15pm and on the first weekend of the month during Mass. It is not necessary to wait until after the baby is born to attend a preparation session.

## **LABOR DAY**

The Catholic Church has a long history of supporting the rights of workers. Come celebrate Mass at 7:30 or 10:30 on Labor Day, Monday September 1.



## **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:** #626, #628, #607 (except 5pm Sunday)

## **CELEBRATE WITH CARDINAL CUPICH**

Chicago's Archbishop Blase Cupich is marking his fiftieth anniversary of ordination at a special Golden Jubilee Celebration, Thursday September 25 from 6:00 to 9:00pm at the Hilton Chicago, 720 South Michigan. Individual tickets are \$300 (or \$3,000 for a table of ten). Contact [pjhchicago.com/events/archdiocese](http://pjhchicago.com/events/archdiocese) to purchase tickets or to help sponsor the event.

## **YOU'RE INVITED**

The Events Committee is sponsoring a Fall Pop-Up Cocktail Party in the Parish Garden, Tuesday September 16 from 5:30 to 8:00pm. Enjoy wine, cocktails, and light bites. \$15 per person.



## **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](mailto:alpha@assumption-chgo.org).

## **WEDDINGS:**

**GAVIN FAUST & JENNA CARROLL**  
**RYAN ELBLE & CATHERINE BUSH**  
**BLAKE KESSLER & CHARLENE CARROLL**  
**CARL ROBST & MADELEINE SANDERSON**  
**BRIAN BURKE, JR & ALICIA GARCIA**  
**JEFFREY CHONKO & NATALIE PACINI**

**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 23, 2025**

Sun	24th	7:30 † Maureen Adamski
		9:00 † Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfiester & Jenkins Families
		10:30 Joshua Romaniuk
		5:00 Assumption Parishioners
Tues	26th	7:00 † Marcia E. Miller
Wed	27th	12:10 Janet FitzGerald (for healing)
Fri	29th	7:00 John K. Handy (b'day)
		12:10 † Mark Switalla



**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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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.

#### 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.



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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- Mother Teresa



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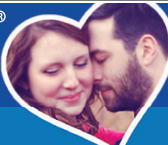
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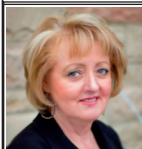
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