

ASSUMPTION CHURCH

The Baptism of the Lord *January, 11, 2026*

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)

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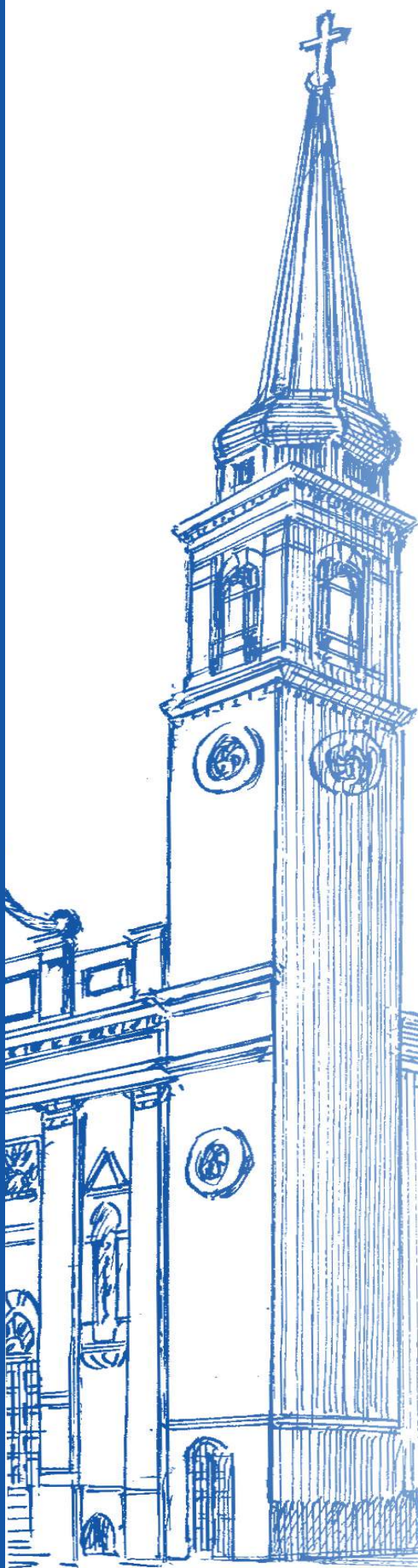
Rev. Joseph Chamblain, O.S.M., Pastor
Dr. Kevin Zajdel, Deacon

in residence:

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



Scan To Give



GOING DRY FOR A PURPOSE

About fifteen years ago a trend started in the United Kingdom and quickly spread across the pond. It is called Dry January. The basic idea is that during the last month of the year, many of us have probably been eating too well and drinking too well; so, for our own health and wellbeing, for the month of January we will abstain from drinking alcoholic beverages. We might call it a secular version of Lent. It is important to point out that for anyone genuinely concerned about their drinking, giving up alcohol for thirty days does not prove that you do not have an alcohol addiction. It only proves that you can give up alcohol for thirty days!

Although food and drink may be the most obvious ways we have been overindulging lately, it may not be the only way or even the most significant way. The concept of Dry January can easily be applied to other areas of our life. Minister and popular author Joshua Becker has written extensively on the topic of simplifying our life through the lens of faith. He recently came up with a list of ten important things to simplify in our life. Perhaps as you read this list you will recognize one item on that list you have been overindulging in lately and decide to make that a project for January or February or for the rest of your life: **Your Possessions:** They draw our bank account, our energy, and our attention. They keep us from the ones we love; **Your Time Commitments:** Release yourself from the time commitments that are not in line with your deepest values; **Your Goals:** By reducing the number of goals you are pursuing to one or two, you will improve your focus and your success rate; **Your Negative Thoughts:** Most negative emotions are completely useless. Resentments, bitterness, hate, and jealousy have never improved the quality of life for a single human being. **Your debt:** If debt is holding you captive, find the help you need. Sacrifice today to enjoy freedom tomorrow. **Your words:** Keep your speech plain and honest. Mean what you say. Avoid gossip. **Your Artificial Ingredients:** Eat a healthy diet and reduce your consumption of over-the-counter medicines. You will have more energy. **Your screen time:** Media has a profound impact on your attitudes and outlook. **Your connections to the world:** A steady flow of distractions from other people may make us feel important; but feeling important and accomplishing something important are two different things. **Your Multi-Tasking:** Research indicates that multi-tasking increases stress and lowers productivity. Accomplish one task at a time and do it well.

Of course, if you seriously cut back or try to “go dry” on some of these activities, you might find yourself with more time on your hands—just as those who have habitually ended the evening in an alcohol or drug infused haze may discover they have time and energy for something else. What should we do in our spare time? Try to find yourself. Jesus tells us that in order to find our true self we have to lose ourselves in him. If we really focus on letting Christ’s words lead us and make sure all our relationships allow room for Christ, we will discover who we were really meant to be. We will stop bouncing from one activity to another and live life more deliberately. Our real talents and our real abilities and our real personalities are likely to emerge.

One of the threads I find running through the lives of the saints is that they were not people who simply fit in and went with the flow. They stood out from the rest, even if they lived most of their life in a convent or a monastery. This was often annoying to the people around them who wished they would just fit in and go with the flow. But God created each of us to express his love, his truth, his beauty, his goodness in a unique way, and the saints are the ones who come closest to actually doing that. They are the ones who found themselves by losing themselves in Christ.

While we may never join the gallery of saints that line the walls of Assumption Church, working on one of those simplification projects will probably draw us closer to our deeper and truer self. It will help us form more authentic relationships with others and with God. Today’s Feast of the Baptism of the Lord marks a transition moment in Jesus’ own life. He had lived a low-key life up to that point. Now he would publicly proclaim the reign of God in word and deed. He accepted his calling as the Beloved Son of God. This is as good a time as any to become better acquainted with our unique calling.

Fr. Joe

CHILD CARE MINISTRY

Several people have asked about reviving the child care ministry during one of the Sunday Masses. This would be for children aged 18 months through four years and would require a team of volunteers (some of whom might also be the parents of the children). If you are interested in being part of this ministry, please contact the parish office.

A NOTE FROM FR. SIPLE

"In the name of the Servite Friars and the parishioners of Our Lady of Sorrows Basilica Parish, I wish to express our deepest gratitude to the wonderful parishioners of Assumption Parish for their generous sharing check. . . On December 20 we distributed toys to 76 families to brighten Christmas for the children of these families. The smiling faces and the words of gratitude were our blessing that day."

ASSUMPTION YOUNG ADULTS

AYA is for those in their twenties or thirties, married, single, or coupled. They participate in a number of spiritual, social, and service activities during the year. Find out more, email assumptionaya@gmail.com.

LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR

On the weekend of January 17-18, the Little Sisters of the Poor will visit Assumption to speak about their ministry to the elderly poor and to ask for your prayers and financial support. St. Mary's Home near DePaul University on the North Side is one of 362 homes operated by the Little Sisters in 32 countries around the world. Virtually all of the residents of St. Mary's Home qualify for Medicaid, but reimbursements and small pensions cover only about half of the annual expenses. Your support will help the Little Sisters continue their ministry of caring for the neediest seniors of every race and religion, as they have for 146 years in Chicago.

BAPTISM PREPARATION

The next preparation session for parents (and, if possible, godparents) of infants to be baptized will be Monday January 12 from 7:00 to 8:15pm. This session is for new parents and for parents who have never before attended a preparation session. Call the parish office to register. It is not necessary to wait until the baby is born to attend a preparation session. Baptisms normally take place on the second and fourth Sundays of the month at 1:15pm and on the first weekend during Mass.

HYMNS: #118, #602, #112 (except 5pm Sunday)

DECEMBER DONATIONS



Sunday Collection -	\$42,232
Sharing Parish -	2,109
Retirement for Religious -	5,575
Immaculate Conception -	1,457
Christmas -	91,532

(includes electronic giving)

THE CATECHISM FOR ADULTS

Are you interested in learning more about your Catholic faith and how the Church guides us to live out this faith? Then you should consider being part of Deacon Kevin's next Adult Catechism group slated to begin Wednesday evening January 21. Using the foundational text, *United States Catholic Catechism for Adults*, past participants have included long-time parishioners, those who recently completed the OCIA process, and anyone curious about exploring their Catholic faith in greater detail. Members support each other and grow in community as they grow in knowledge and understanding. Contact Deacon Kevin Zajdel at assumptiondeacon@gmail.com for more information.

BOOK DISCUSSION

During December at the end of Mass, members of our Pastoral Council passed out copies of a small book entitled, *Slowing Down to the Speed of Joy*. Over 300 copies are now in circulation in the parish. Is anyone interested in getting together to discuss the book? If so, contact jolanta.oliver@gmail.com.

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

MASS INTENTIONS ~ WEEK OF JANUARY 10, 2026

Sat	10th	5:00	† Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfister & Jenkins Families
Sun	11th	7:30	Assumption Parishioners
		9:00	† Margaret Badke, Dave McCarthy & Bob Raddatz
		10:30	† Georgiana Kasper
		12:15	† James & Mary Helen Cahill
Mon	12th	5:00	† Fred Vega
		7:00	Campbell Family
		12:10	† Sister Jean Dolores Schmidt
Tues	13th	7:00	Finnian Dubuque (b'day)
		12:10	† John McKeon
Thurs	15th	12:10	† Larry Williams
Sat	17th	7:30	† Peter Paul

MINISTRY FAIR: On Valentine's Day weekend, Assumption will have a new-style Ministry Fair in the Parish Hall after all Masses. Show your love for your brothers and sisters in the parish community and the larger Chicago community by getting involved in one of our many ministries.

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS: In light of expanded Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) operations in Chicago, it is important to know that, regardless of one's immigration status, all people are entitled to certain rights by the Constitution. If approached by an ICE agent, you have the right to remain silent and you do not have to sign any papers. If you are not being arrested or detained, you may walk away. ICE agents cannot search you or your home without your consent or a search warrant signed by a judge. You have the right to speak to an attorney and to have your lawyer with you at any hearing before an immigration judge.

PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: January 18-25 is the annual Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. This year's theme is "There is One Body and One Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling" (Eph 4:4). Ecumenism Metro Chicago is sponsoring a special prayer service for Christian unity and care for God's creation on Saturday January 24 at 2:00pm at St. Gregory the Illuminator Armenian Apostolic Church, 6700 West Diversey.

<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>Cocopazzo</i> 300 W. Hubbard • 312.836.0900 cocopazzochicago.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® It takes Big Shoulders to carry a child's dreams.</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>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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