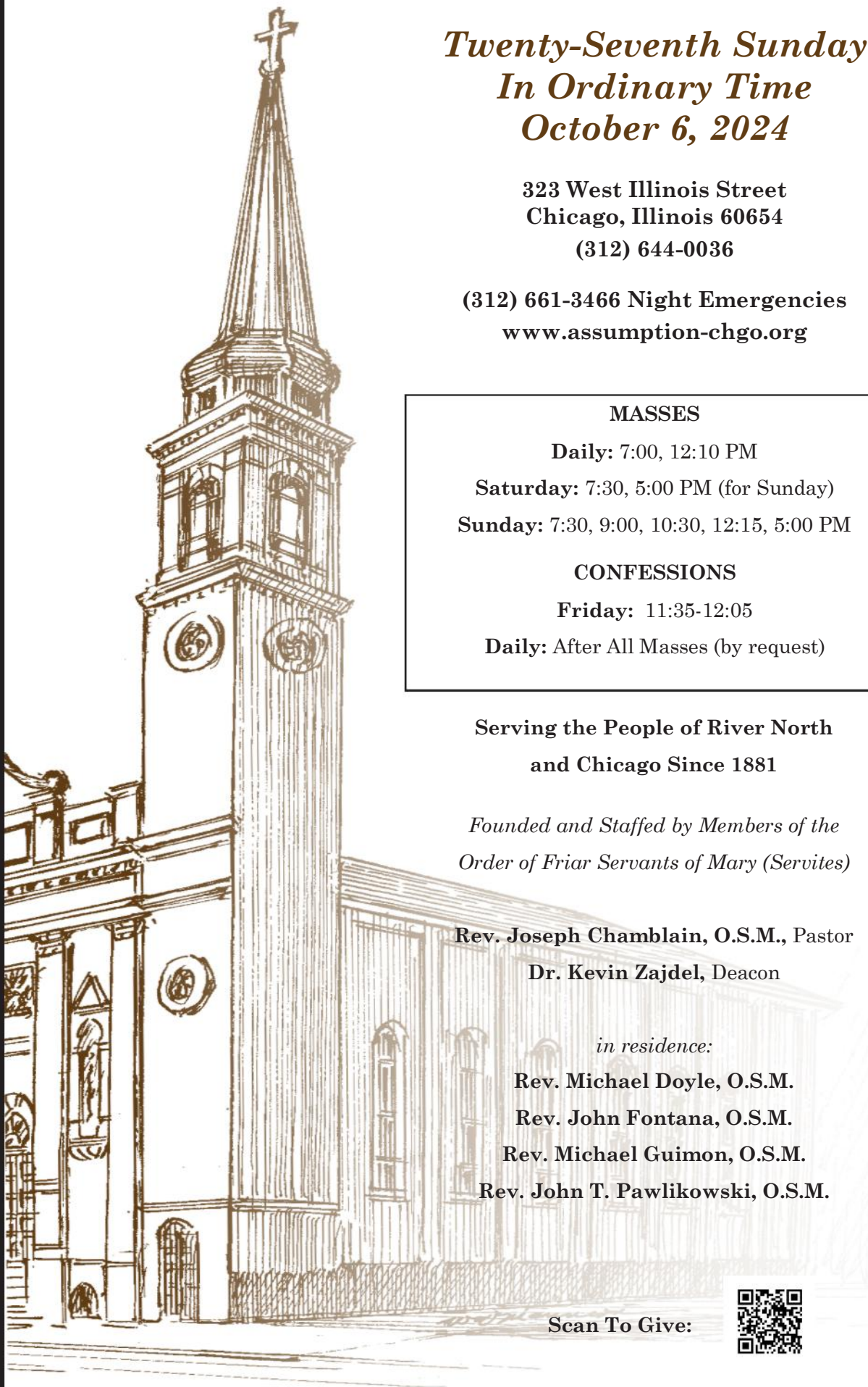


ASSUMPTION CHURCH



Twenty-Seventh Sunday In Ordinary Time October 6, 2024

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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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October 6, 2024

WHAT'S MY CALLING?

One of the more widely read Catholic writers today is the Oblate priest, Fr. Ron Rolheiser. He writes a weekly column that is syndicated in many Catholic newspapers and is the author of a number of books on spirituality. I have quoted from him in some of my homilies and columns; but today I want to lift a quote that came from his father. Fr. Rolheiser's dad grew up on a farm in Manitoba, Canada, and possessed what Ron called "a prairie wisdom." One of the things he told his son was: "Whenever you see someone who's always angry, take a look at that person. Because it's always someone who's very bright, with lots of talent. It's just that he or she hasn't found a way of offering that in a way that people can receive it."

It's an interesting thought and perhaps applies to someone you know or someone you knew (or even yourself!). It could apply to people who because of economic necessity never had the chance to develop their gifts, and it could also apply to those who chose to pursue a career that promised money or prestige, but offered little in the way of real fulfillment or sense of accomplishment. There are also people who are always looking back at an opportunity lost or a supervisor who failed to notice their contribution or showed no interest in their ideas. But it can also apply to involvement at church.

One of St. Paul's most persistent themes is that a church community should function like the human body (Well, we are the Body of Christ), with each of us performing a vital but different function. What so often happens at church is that there is a call for volunteers. Certain very generous people almost always step forward. A truism often repeated is that 10% of the people at church do 90% of the ministry. Aside from the questions of equity, there can be two other problems with this. Just because I am willing to serve, does not mean that I have the gifts and talents best suited to this ministry or volunteer program. I may find it to be a real chore, with very little sense that I am contributing to the life of the parish. To use St. Paul's analogy of the body, I may be an eye trying to do the work of an ear or an arm trying to do the work of a leg. We can end up performing our work, but do it in such a way that it is not very life-giving to my fellow volunteers or the people I am serving. I become angry and resentful. On the other hand, there may be someone else in the congregation whose gifts, talents, and availability are better suited for this ministry. My own generosity may actually impede the calling forth of someone else's gifts—someone who never volunteers for anything.

The task of renewal requires that, after 2000 years, we finally take St. Paul's words seriously. We have to move way beyond the old adage for the Catholic laity, "Pay, Pray, and Obey." We have to move beyond the tradition that 10% of the parishioners volunteer for everything. We have to move beyond asking for volunteers and start asking people to respond to their call to ministry. Although it has most often been applied to priesthood and religious life, the Church has long insisted that we all have a vocation. An ear is called to listen. An eye is called to see. What am I being called to do? Do I have a vocation to proclaim the Word at Sunday Mass? Do I have a gift for speaking in public? Is the Word of God already important in my life? Am I answering my call or am I answering a call for volunteers? If I have a love of the Scriptures and have the necessary physical tools to proclaim the Word and want other people to be inspired by God's word, then I have a call to step forward, even if there is no announcement in the bulletin that we need more lectors. This is not just a personal question. It is about the proper functioning of the Body of Christ. If we have ever had an arm or a leg in a cast, we certainly know how impaired we feel without our full complement of functioning limbs. So, it is with the church. Our liturgies do not function as well as they should and our charitable efforts do not fully reflect the love and compassion of God. To take this a step deeper, we might ask, "Why am I part of the community of Assumption?" Quite often when people register, they will respond to the question, "Why did you choose Assumption?" with "Church nearby." Hopefully, after you have been here for a while, you will find a deeper reason for being here.

The fact that so many of us do not take the vocation question seriously is surely one of the reasons why church attendance has been in decline for decades. If I am not personally invested in the church community, it is much easier to walk away. I will spend the time instead with activities with which I am personally invested. There is a new edition of the brochure "Opportunities to Serve" in the back of church and downstairs at Hospitality Sunday. I encourage you to take one home and prayerfully reflect on it. Is there a ministry there directed at you?

Fr. Joe

DAYTIME BIBLE STUDY ON LUKE

The Gospel According to Luke is the story of how God’s promises were fulfilled in Jesus. This Bible Study is an opportunity to deepen our faith and increase our understanding of the story of our salvation, and hear Jesus’ familiar words in a new light. The group will meet for eight weeks, beginning this Tuesday, October 8 at 10:00am in the Rectory. For more information or to register, email bible@assumption-chgo.org.

ASSUMPTION YOUNG ADULTS

AYA is having a wine and cheese party in the Parish Hall following the 5:00pm Mass on Sunday, October 20. Join the AYA team to socialize and spread fellowship. All those in their twenties or thirties—married, single, or coupled—are invited. Contact assumptionaya@gmail.com with questions, dietary restrictions, or to find out more about Assumption Young Adults.

HEADING DOWN UNDER

As Assistant Provincial of the United States Province of Servites, Fr. Joe will be attending the meeting of the Australian Delegation the week of September 30 and, along with Provincial, Fr. Eugene Smith, meeting with individual friars at their ministry sites in Western Australia. On his way back, Fr. Joe will be stopping in New Zealand for a couple of days for no good reason. He will be away from Wednesday, September 25 until Thursday, October 10.

BLESSING OF PETS

In honor of the Feast of St. Francis, who had a great love for all of God’s creation, we will have a blessing of pets in front of the church on Saturday, October 12 from 9-10am. Walk-by’s and drive-by’s are welcome.

KNIGHTS NEWS

The Mother Cabrini River North Council of the Knights of Columbus will have its annual Tootsie Roll Drive to benefit individuals living with intellectual disabilities on the weekend of October 19-20 after all Masses. Please be generous to the Knights who will be collecting your donation (and feeding your candy craving) after all Masses on October 19-20)

WEDDINGS:

**CARLOS AGUILAR & GABRIELA PADILLA
THOMAS JOYCE & CAROLINE HERTZEL
DAVID REYNOLDS & HANNAH SCHRAM
ADAM PETERS & ALYSA DONESKE
JACOB GORDON & ALEXANDRA DOTY
JOHN WARD & NATALIA SOLER**

HOSPITALITY ELEVATED

98 individuals and households have registered as Assumption parishioners since May, 2023. All of them have received a special invitation to attend the 9:00 or 10:30 Mass this Sunday, October 6 and to join the parish community for an expanded Hospitality Sunday in the Parish Hall after Mass. Tours of the church will be offered after both Masses. We invite all who can to attend the gathering in the Parish Hall and warmly greet any newcomers in our midst. Hospitality Elevated is sponsored by the Pastoral Council.

THE ITALIAN DINNER

Our 91st annual Italian Dinner will take place Thursday November 7 from 6:00 to 8:30pm at Coco Pazzo, 300 West Hubbard. This year we have a new venue and a new way for you to show your support for Assumption at the dinner. The delicious menu includes antipasti, insalata, entrees, dolce, and caffe. Wine, beer, and soft drinks are included; cash bar for other drinks. Tickets are \$125 and reservations are required. Parking will be available at 311 and Mart Parc. Call the parish office or go on GiveCentral to make your reservations. Those on our email list who have already responded to the evite, please remember to complete your payment. We are already half-way to a sell-out.



BLESSING OF RUNNERS

It’s an Assumption tradition. During the 5:00pm Mass on Saturday, October 12, the day before the Bank of American Chicago Marathon, we will offer a special blessing to all participants. Runners, along with their family, friends, and fan club are cordially invited.

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

HYMNS: #612, #535, #675, #589

MASS INTENTIONS ~ WEEK OF OCTOBER 5, 2024

Sat.	5th	5:00	Linda Lawson
Sun.	6th	7:30	Wanda Escher
		9:00	Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfiester & Jenkins Families
		10:30	John McEneany (RIP)
		12:15	Fr. Michael Doyle, O.S.M.
		5:00	Assumption Parishioners
Mon.	7th	7:00	Special Intention
		12:10	Cornelia & Francisco Pestanas (RIP)
Wed.	9th	12:10	Christopher Mandy (RIP)
Fri.	11th	7:00	Katie Masterson (b’day)

CONGRATULATIONS! Rick and Mary Ann Labelle were honored for their service to Assumption Church and the Archdiocese of Chicago during a ceremony at Holy Name Cathedral last Sunday. Thanks for everything, Rick and Mary Ann.



PARISH PRAYER WALK: The Evangelization Team invites you to a Prayer Walk Wednesday, October 9 at 5:30pm. Prayer walks are a centuries-old tradition that merge walking with prayer & contemplation of God's presence. The walk will take approx 45 minutes, 1.3 miles, or about 3000 steps. Be prepared to cross streets and walk up & down stairs. Meet in the church garden at 5:30. Come and enjoy some fun, spiritual exercise!

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: There will be exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction Monday, October 21 from 5:00 to 7:00pm.

TRANSPORTING TURKEYS: Would you be interested in helping a family have a happier Thanksgiving? The Men's Group is hoping to organize a "turkey drop" by which parishioners could bring a frozen turkey or ham to Assumption on Sunday, November 24, where we will have cars ready to deliver the turkeys to Our Lady of the Angels Mission, 3808 West Iowa (6 miles from Assumption). We have volunteers to receive the turkeys, but we need drivers in order to initiate the project. Contact mripani@handler.law if you can volunteer to deliver the turkeys after one of the Masses.

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.

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.




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- Mother Teresa



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