

ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Twenty-Second Sunday In Ordinary Time August 31, 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

RENEWING OUR MINISTRIES

Unlike many suburban parishes, Assumption does not have a “slow season.” In many traditional parishes, summer is when much of the parish goes on cruise control. School is out; the organizations do not meet; and attendance declines as people head off on vacation. At Assumption attendance grows during the summer. Chicago is a popular vacation destination, and we often welcome visitors staying at nearby hotels. Late spring to early fall is also the peak wedding season at Assumption. From July of 2024 until June of 2025, 68 couples celebrated their wedding at Assumption.

However, as we move into fall, some groups do “ramp up.” OCIA for adults and older children seeking baptism or initiation into the Catholic Church begins in September. Our Pastoral Council also resumes meeting. We began the year, as we always do, with a mini-retreat, which took place on Sunday afternoon August 17. Our new members are Conora Shaw, Bob Gordon, and Bill Ladewski. They join returning members Matthew Lee Own, Adam White, Jola Oliver, Al Ferolie, Luca Ripani, and Mark Chapman. We shared a light lunch, did some reflecting, and spoke about goals for the year. One of those goals is to improve our ever-hungry media presence. Another goal is to try to build community within parish organizations.

This past spring, the Pastoral Council put together our first ever ministry summit. Over the course of several hours, leaders of the various organizations and ministries spoke about what they do and their needs. Just about everyone said, “We need more people.” This makes this a very good time to rethink how our ministries function and how we invite new members. Renewing our ministries is an integral part of the *Renew My Church* process. How do we move organizations from performing a function to being active agents of parish renewal?

In the first half of the twentieth century, most of what we now take for granted as parish ministries did not exist. Typically a parish would have a Women’s Sodality, and maybe a Mother’s Club, a Holy Name Society for men and perhaps the Knights of Columbus. These groups usually had presidents, vice-presidents, secretaries, and treasurers, elected by the membership. During a time when most Catholics were middle class or lower middle class, when the men mostly worked in factories or held other blue collar jobs and the women were mostly homemakers, these groups prospered. That is because they gave people, who had little decision making power in the rest of their lives, the opportunity to choose leadership, to make decisions about fund-raising, and about the distribution of funds, just like the big shots who worked in the offices. Because these groups met regularly, there was a sense of community and often each meeting began with some ritual prayer. During my early years as a parish priest, many of these groups were still around, but the membership was aging and diminishing. Younger Catholics with greater options in life did not find these organizations very engaging. Some were able to change with the times, but most disappeared.

Now we have a multitude of liturgical ministries, charitable groups, and faith formation programs; but are we building community and are we praying together? A lot of the renewal literature speaks about a parish as a community of communities. Does our group in some way mirror what we do at Sunday Mass and make it more immediate and personal? One group that took this challenge to heart was the Saturday Morning Sandwich Makers. They gather after the 7:30am Mass one Saturday a month to prepare bag lunches for Chicago Help Initiative. After preparing the lunches, they come together around a table to pray and talk about what was going on in their lives. Doing this habitually created a different spirit within the group and gave members a new reason to invite people to join them on Saturday morning.

So, one of the goals set by our Pastoral Council is to invite all of our groups to rethink how they operate. Some who come together as a group regularly might look to see how they might expand the spiritual element. Others, like our Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist and our Lectors, ought to have at least one gathering for reflection and conversation each year. When we deepen our own appreciation for the Eucharist and the Word of God, it will show in the way we minister the rest of the year. When we become more energized by our ministry, we are more likely invite someone else to join us.

Fr. Joe

LABOR DAY

The Catholic Church has a long history of speaking up for the rights of working people, dating back to the nineteenth century. One of the reasons that our present Pope chose the name of Leo was because of Pope Leo XIII's groundbreaking encyclical *Rerum Novarum*, which affirmed the rights of workers to form labor unions. Mass will be offered at 7:30 and 10:30 on Labor Day, Monday September 1.

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.

GENERATION TO GENERATION

The latest figures from the Archdiocese indicate that \$948,780 or 124% of our goal has been pledged and \$287,760 already received. 50% of the funds received come back to us. The Archdiocese and Assumption Church thank you.

BLOOD DRIVE SEPTEMBER 8

Our second annual parish blood drive will take place Monday September 8 from 2:30 to 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. Short on time? You can schedule an appointment. Call 877-258-4825 or visit vitalant.org and use group code ORDO807E. Your blood donation could help save a life. Before donating, eat well, hydrate and bring an ID with you.

YOUNG FAMILIES GROUP:

Our Young Families Group for those with children under ten is planning their next gathering for Sunday, September 28 after the 5pm Mass. Meet in the garden and head over to Ward Park for playtime for the kids and refreshments & conversation for the parents. Email ayf@assumption-chgo.org for more details.

OCIA BEGINS SEPTEMBER 14

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. Contact Fr. Joe for more information.

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 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.

HYMNS: #320, #368, #603 (except 5pm Sunday)

WEDDINGS:

RYAN ELBLE & CATHERINE BUSH
BLAKE KESSLER & CHARLENE CARROLL
CARL ROBST & MADELEINE SANDERSON
BRIAN BURKE, JR & ALICIA GARCIA
JEFFREY CHONKO & NATALIE PACINI
MATTHEW O'CONNOR & OLIVIA CAREY
JUSTIN LEIDER & MARY KATE SAUER
NICHOLAS METZGER & JOANNA BARRAGAN

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 30, 2025

Sat	30th	5:00 Assumption Parishioners
Sun	31st	7:30 † Lee Garvey
		10:30 † Charles & Marion Joachim
		12:15 † John McEneaney
		5:00 † Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfiester & Jenkins Families

SECOND COLLECTION: Next weekend our second collection is for our sharing parish, Our Lady of Sorrows.

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.

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.

PRAYER WALK: The Evangelization Team invites you to a Parish Prayer Walk on Sunday, September 28. Meet in the garden at 11:30am and we will walk to three nearby locations for prayer and reflection. We hope you can join us for fun, spiritual exercise!

<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.</p> <p>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>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>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>ADVERTISE HERE</p> <p>Promote your Business AND Support your Parish.</p> <p>Give us a call! 800-783-1623</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 * <u>Closest Location to Assumption</u> with Supervised Parking Available

