

ASSUMPTION CHURCH

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross September 14, 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

APPRECIATING ORDINARY TIME

As summer fades into fall, we move into the second half of the liturgical season that is usually called “ordinary time.” That phrase is a bit of a misnomer, because it should properly be called “ordinal time.” The Sunday celebrations are distinguished by the use of “ordinal numbers” (22nd Sunday, 23rd Sunday, etc). But calling it ordinary time is also appropriate. The slow, steady growth of our faith life, our community building, our social action programs take place during ordinary moments and not just at big events. A family that only gathers for Thanksgiving and Christmas is likely to be a bit stiff, formal, and slightly uncomfortable when they sit down at table. Families that eat together all the time know one another’s moods, behaviors, and personalities. They are comfortable with being themselves at table, even if the self they bring to the table is not always their best self.

This raises a larger question: Is it OK to be ordinary? Is what is considered an ordinary life enough for us? I graduated from a liberal arts college in Memphis in 1975. To mark the fiftieth anniversary of our graduation, some classmates sent in material to our alumni magazine about what they had been doing for the last fifty years. One classmate, who was from a small town in West Tennessee, wrote: “When I finished medical school, I had all kinds of plans for what I was going to do. But I have spent my life as a country doctor among the people where I grew up. It has been a good life.”

Thomas Merton, the spiritual writer and Trappist monk, once wrote: “It is enough to be, in an ordinary human mode, with one’s hunger and sleep, one’s cold and warmth, rising and going to bed; putting on blankets and taking them off; making coffee and then drinking it; defrosting the refrigerator, reading, meditating, working, praying. I live as my fathers have lived on this earth, until eventually I die. Amen. There is no need to make an assertion of my life, especially so about it as mine, though doubtless it is not somebody else’s.”

The problem is we all live with a kind of restlessness. That is partly because we really are meant to experience something beyond what we experience now. God planted that desire for immortality within us. That truth is captured in Augustine’s famous phrase, “Our hearts are restless until they rest in thee.” God also has a habit of reaching down into people’s ordinary lives and calling them to a life that is hardly ordinary. There are Abraham and Sarah, an elderly couple who thought they had lived their lives, called to be parents of a great nation. There is David, the youngest of eight brothers and the one voted “least likely to be king” who was anointed king. There is Mary, a teenager in a town notable only for its mediocrity, called to be the Mother of God. There is Martin Luther King, drinking a pot of coffee late at night and struggling with the call to be something more than a church pastor. All that comes from God. But there is also a kind of restlessness instilled in us by our culture: the expectations that we have for our career, our marriage, our children. It is the drive to accomplish more and more and to experience more and more; and if this not happening, if our life seems too ordinary, then we may feel that we have failed.

During the 1950’s and 1960’s the keywords in furniture and design were “modern” and “streamlined.” This led in the 1970’s to a renewed appreciation for the solid and ornate furniture of the previous century. When River North first came to life in the 1980’s, the area was full of art galleries and antique shops. These businesses have almost all disappeared because the present generation does not want to be burdened by heavy furniture from the past. They are more into experiences than into possessions. This is the word I get all the time from engaged couples: They like to try new restaurants and travel to new places. That is great (as long as we have the funds to do so), but it can also become a compulsion—a constant need for novelty or for a new experience to top the last experience. That becomes a form of greed. We can forget what Ron Rolheiser once wrote, “In this life all symphonies remain unfinished.”

So, “ordinary time” is good for us. It reminds us to love one another as we are, to love ourselves as we are, to accept ourselves and one another as we are. It teaches us to be grateful for the experiences and people that have come into our life. It reminds us that the next big thing, and the next big experience is not going to complete us. We can only appreciate one another if we live in the present moment, and we can only encounter God in the present moment.

Fr Joe

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.

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.

LOOKING AHEAD

Stephen Millies, Professor of Public Theology at Catholic Theological Union, will give a presentation entitled "Being Bridges" on Thursday October 9 at 7:00pm in our Parish Hall. The talk will explore the spirituality and theology of welcoming marginalized persons in our midst. No registration is needed.

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. To sign up, email alpha@assumption-chgo.org.

OCIA BEGINS THIS WEEKEND

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.

HYMNS: #705, #364, #469 (except 5pm Sunday)



AUGUST DONATIONS

Sunday Collection -	\$42,886
Sharing Parish -	1,487
Feast of the Assumption -	1,566
<i>(includes electronic giving)</i>	

ASSUMPTION ITALIAN DINNER

Thursday, October 30, 2025, 6:00pm—9:00pm
Coco Pazzo, 300 W. Hubbard

It's the party of the year!

An evening of great food, fine wine, fabulous company and exciting auction items (Nashville trip)! Doors open at 6, dinner at 6:45. Go to our website to purchase your tickets and secure your seat.

Prepayment is required. Your \$125 ticket includes four courses, wine, beer and soft drinks. A cash bar will be offered. Parking is available at 311 or Mart Park. Valet parking will also be available for a fee.

WEDDINGS:

MATTHEW O'CONNOR & OLIVIA CAREY
JUSTIN LEIDER & MARY KATE SAUER
NICHOLAS METZGER & JOANNA BARRAGAN
ANTHONY BOSCO & EMMA PERONA
JOSEPH NALON & MADELINE LONG
BRIAN SCHAEFER & KELLY SCHADE

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

REST IN PEACE: Mike Foster

MASS INTENTIONS ~ WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2025

Sat	13th	5:00 † Carolyn Schuman
Sun	14th	7:30 † Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfister & Jenkins Families
		9:00 † Tony Hydzik
		10:30 † Charles & Marion Joachim
		12:15 Assumption Parishioners
		5:00 † Dorothy C. Brennan
Mon	15th	7:00 Lauren M. Dubuque (b'day)
Tues	16th	7:00 † Kevin Hayes
		12:10 † Francisco & Cornelia Pestanas
Wed	17th	12:10 † Mario Persichetti, Jr.
Thurs	18th	7:00 † Terry Bollea
Fri	19th	12:10 † Kevin Hayes
Sat	20th	7:30 † Ozzy Osbourne

PRAYER WALK: Our next 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!

FIRST SATURDAY SAMMICHES: For the past two years, on the first Saturday of each month, a team of volunteers has prepared bag meals to distribute to the unhoused through Chicago Help Initiative. Recently the team doubled the number of meals they prepare—now averaging 220 meals each month. Assumption spends approximately \$550 per month on sandwich supplies and more donors are needed. You can donate online through our website's "Donate" button or by sending a check to the Parish Office. Interested in joining the team, contact Katie Pomroy at katmapom@hotmail.com.

YOUNG FAMILIES: 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.

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.

ROSARY OF THE SEVEN SORROWS: We pray the Rosary of the Seven Sorrows of Mary on the first and third Sundays of the month at 11:40am. All are welcome. Rosaries are provided

<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>Coco Pazzo</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. You can help change a life. Fund a scholarship today!</p> <p>Scan here to donate</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>
<p>Ed the Plumber Ed the Carpenter 773.471.1444 Best Work • Best Rates PARISHIONER DISCOUNT</p>	<p></p> <p>#ThankYou ForYour Priesthood</p>	
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 <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 * Closest Location to Assumption with Supervised Parking Available

