

ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Twenty-Fifth Sunday In Ordinary Time September 21, 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



BRIDGING THE GAP

I could say that we had a bad week last week, but was last week much different from any other week of late? The war in the Middle East and the war in Ukraine expanded to include other nations; political violence took center stage; ICE activity ramped up in Chicago with questionable results; and the Bears suffered their worst loss in eleven years. Where was the good news? Maybe Pope Leo's big birthday celebration? And we go to press on Monday morning. By the time you read this, much more may have gone wrong.

In a poll taken shortly after the Charlie Kirk assassination, 14% of Democrats, 13% of Independents, and 8% of Republicans said that political violence can sometimes be justified. While this is clearly a minority belief, it is enough to cause real havoc in our country. Whatever we may have thought about Charlie Kirk's views, he was clearly a talented organizer, an effective communicator, and very instrumental in engaging young adults in the political process. Most important, he did not hide behind his podcast, but was willing to publicly debate with those who disagreed with him and was willing to speak at places where more progressive elements would not offer him a warm reception.

What is going on with us now? The diabolical is always about dividing and scattering; the Holy Spirit is about unity, about bringing people together, about finding commonality. Concretely, what might we do as people of faith to help heal the divide in our city, our country, and our world? Well, our current state of affairs leaves open many possibilities; but let me simply suggest two.

The Immigration Ministry of the Archdiocese has been sponsoring a series of presentations on the religious basis for welcoming marginalized persons in our community. One of those presentations is taking place in Assumption's Parish Hall on Thursday, October 9 at 7:00pm. The presenter is Steven Millies. His presentation sounds very timely. It is titled "Being Bridges: Friendship amid grief and anguish, joy and hope." Dr. Millies is Professor of Public Theology at Catholic Theological Union (where the Pope went to school). He is the author of an award winning biography of the late Joseph Cardinal Bernardin entitled *Seeking Common Ground*, and is at work on a book on the role of the Catholic Church in the modern constitutional state. Chicago has faced lots of challenges over the past five years in welcoming the marginalized. First, there was the rapid growth of the unhoused population during COVID, then the busloads of mostly Venezuelan migrants arriving pall-mall in Chicago, overrunning shelters and creating tent cities outside of police stations. In finding shelter for new arrivals who (unlike previous waves of immigrants) had no family connections in Chicago, unhoused people in Chicago who had been waiting for months and years for shelter felt further marginalized. Now there is the stepped up activity of ICE agents, who in theory are going after "the worst of the worst" criminals but all too often seem to be grabbing people who have families and jobs and are no great threat to the country. This has created fear and uncertainty throughout our city. It will be interesting to hear what Steven Millies has to offer us as people of faith, as we seek to respond this very complex challenge. Come and listen.

Another movement that is gaining traction in the faith community is called "Project Prayer at Noon." Their website states, "Our mission is to create common ground in a divided world by pausing together each day at noon to pray for justice and understanding. Though we may differ in belief or approach, we stand united in spirit—humanizing one another through shared prayer and building a movement of solidarity, healing, and hope. . . . We believe that when people pause together daily at noon—across backgrounds, borders, and beliefs—we can shift not only individual hearts but also the dynamics shaping our world. The power of collective intention and reflection can inspire understanding, heal division, and create momentum for justice."

So, the idea is just stop at noon and pray in whatever manner is most comfortable to us. Will our prayer change the course of world events? Perhaps. But one of the things that always happens when we pray is that we ourselves are changed. We are more in touch with God's vision of the world; and from God's perspective, we are all one. When we start to see others in a different light, we will start acting differently. So, set a reminder for noon and give it a try.

Fr Joe

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. 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.

PRAYER WALK

Our next Parish Prayer Walk is 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!

YOUNG FAMILIES

Our Young Families Group for those with children under ten is gathering on 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. For more details, email ayf@assumption-chgo.org.

ASSUMPTION YOUNG ADULTS

Assumption Young Adults (AYA) will meet after the 5pm Mass on Sunday, September 28 for fellowship and food. The group will gather in the Parish Hall. Contact assumptionaya@gmail.com for more information.



BLESSING OF PETS

Saturday October 4 is the Feast of St. Francis, a great lover of all of God's creation and a patron saint for those working to preserve God's creation for future generations. We will have a blessing of pets in front of the Church on October 4 from 9:00 to 10:00am. Walk-bys and Drive-bys are welcome.

OCIA HAS BEGUN...

But it's not too late to join! 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 at 312-644-0036 for more information.

ASSUMPTION ITALIAN DINNER

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

Back by popular demand!

We are returning to Coco Pazzo for our annual event. Those on our email list received an invitation last week. Details and a link to buy tickets (\$125 each) are posted on our website. With limited space, this event will sell out. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Doors open at 6, dinner at 6:45. Don't miss out on great food, fine wine, fabulous company and exciting auction items, including a Nashville stay!

BLESSING OF RUNNERS

It's an Assumption tradition! During the 5:00pm Vigil Mass on Saturday October 11, the evening before the Bank of America Chicago Marathon, we will offer a special blessing to all who will be participating. In the past, we have welcomed runners from all over the world. Runners, their families, friends, and fan club are cordially invited.



HYMNS: #394, #347, #697 (except 5pm Sunday)

WEDDINGS:

ANTHONY BOSCO & EMMA PERONA
JOSEPH NALON & MADELINE LONG
BRIAN SCHAEFER & KELLY SCHADE
JUSTIN GLYNN & MEGAN JUNG

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

REST IN PEACE: Joey Livermore

MASS INTENTIONS ~ WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2025

Sat	20th	5:00	† Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfister & Jenkins Families
Sun	21st	7:30	† Mike Gembara
		9:00	The Dubuque Family
		10:30	† Barbara Jones
		12:15	† Norrice Grindler
		5:00	Assumption Parishioners
Mon	22nd	12:10	† Jean Renee Mbuyamba
Tues	23rd	7:00	† Kevin Hayes
Wed	24th	12:10	† Chuck Mangione

LOOKING AHEAD - October 9: 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.

ARCHDIOCESAN SEMINARIES: The Second collection this weekend is in support of the seminaries of the Archdiocese of Chicago.

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

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.

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.

<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 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>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>
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