

ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Twenty-Sixth Sunday In Ordinary Time September 28, 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)

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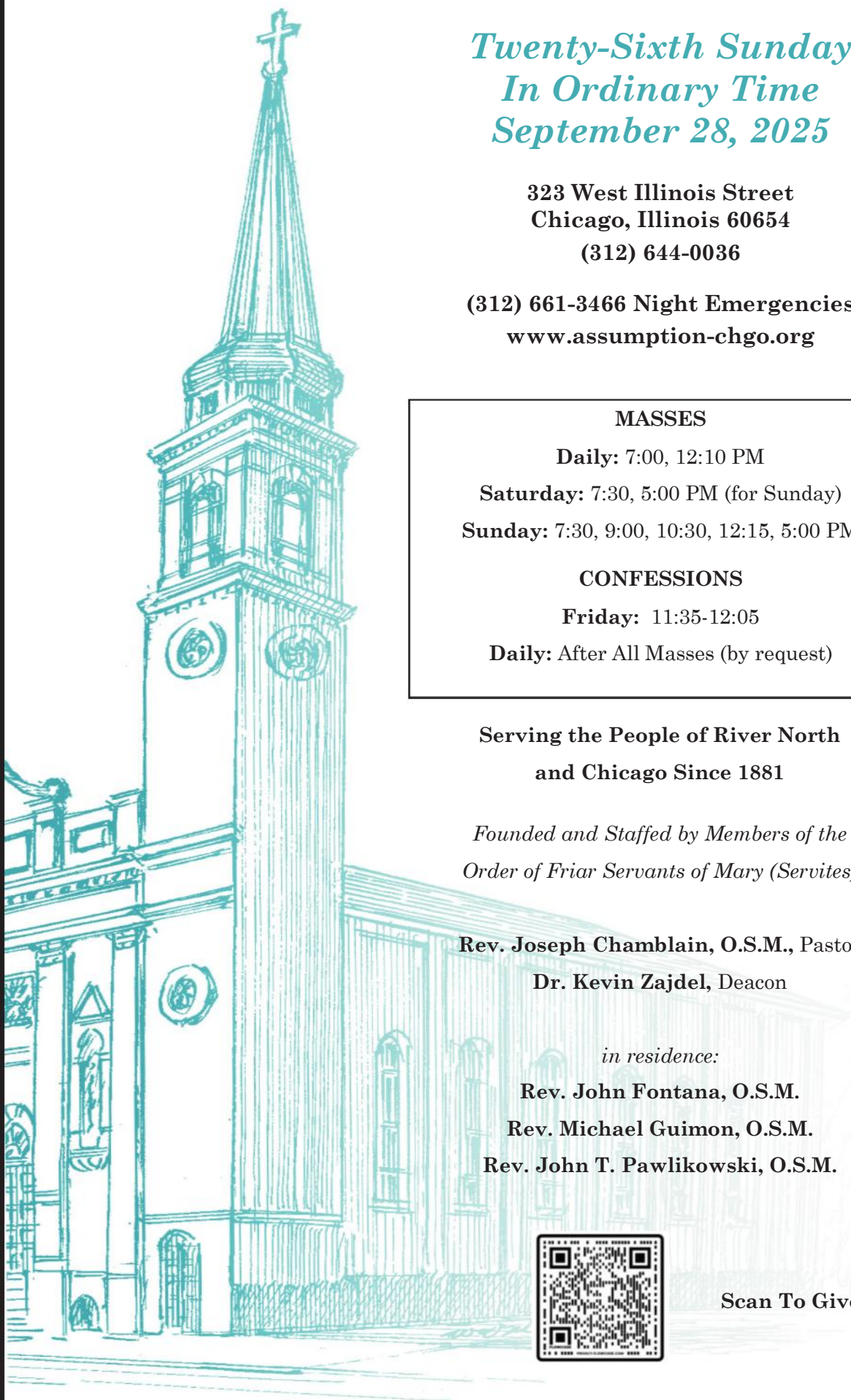
Rev. Joseph Chamblain, O.S.M., Pastor
Dr. Kevin Zajdel, Deacon

in residence:

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



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PLANET EARTH NEEDS OUR HELP

(This column was written by Fr. John Pawlikowski, a member of our Servite Community at Assumption and Professor Emeritus of Social Ethics at Catholic Theological Union)

In 2025 we celebrate the tenth anniversary of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si*, which made care for creation a core concern of Christian faith. This encyclical has influenced the global community, well beyond the Catholic Church. The Secretary General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, himself a Catholic, has spoken enthusiastically about the importance of the late Pope's vision.

Pope Leo XIV has reaffirmed support for *Laudato Si* at the outset to his papacy. On October 1 he plans to issue a major statement outlining his own approach to the ecological crisis. During his papacy the Catholic Church will continue to work with other Christian communities on an agreed upon common feast day of creation in the liturgical year. In a recent Sunday Angelus address in Vatican City, Pope Leo spoke of the growing threat of further planetary destruction caused by human action. The Vatican also released a video in which Pope Leo prayed: "Help us to discover your presence in all creation, so that, in fully recognizing it, we may feel and know ourselves to be responsible for this common home where you invite us to care for, respect, and protect life in all its forms and possibilities."

Particularly important in this papal prayer is Leo's use of language calling our earthly existence as taking place in "our common home," shared by all created beings, human and non-human. This represents a significant reorientation of Catholic thinking. In the past centuries, with the exception of St. Francis of Assisi and Hildegard of Bingen, the Catholic Church's prayer tradition tended to focus on our future heavenly existence, looking at earthly existence as a period of exile from our true home. Popes Francis and Leo now view our time on earth in a far more hopeful way, a time when we enjoy the beauty of all creation, a vision that includes an obligation to protect this God-given beauty. Pope Leo affirmed that prayer for the sustainability of creation "is more important and urgent than ever." He sees a vision of creational sustainability as a core element of contemporary spirituality. Given the withdrawal from government responsibility in the current presidential administration, the Church's understanding of ecological responsibility takes on greater importance.

To achieve this goal of a new spirituality, in which the human community is understood to be integrated with the wider world of creation, will require, as Pope Francis insisted, widespread "ecological conversion." Global Catholicism, YOU AND ME, must be in the forefront of this conversion. My own conversion began in 1972 when as a young academic I participated in a major conference on human responsibility in Los Angeles. The keynote speaker was Professor Hans Jonas, a social philosopher who had fled Nazi Germany. Early on in this presentation, Jonas uttered a sentence that has become permanently implanted in my consciousness. "We are the first generation forced to ask the question whether future generations will be able to survive on planet earth." Never had I understood the depth of responsibility that I and the people of my generation now shared for the survival of planet earth and the life it sustains.

Today serious efforts to replace fossil fuels and free our oceans from plastic pollution which dogs our water supplies and destroys human health call loudly for our attention. A plastic pop bottle is estimated to last for 450 years! Global heating continues. The intensification of storms, flooding, and fire are before our eyes. Scientists worldwide are united in their call for keeping yearly global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees. Our response to this deepening crisis must include lifestyle changes, mitigation, adaption, and compensation by the major planetary polluters such as China and the United States. As citizens of a democratic society, we also need to express to our political representatives our urgent concern about ecological deterioration. The International Court of Justice recently affirmed that large nations have a legal responsibility to compensate island states and small states who suffer the negative effects of pollution by large countries.

Let us respond as Catholics to the challenge of ecological responsibility to which Popes Francis and Leo have summoned us. As a final note, if anyone has further questions about this pastoral message, I can be reached by email at pawlikowskjohn20@gmail.com.

Fr. John Pawlikowski, O.S.M.

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 GATHERING

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.

WELCOMING THE MARGINALIZED

On Thursday, October 9 at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall, Assumption is hosting the third in a series of presentations sponsored by the Archdiocesan Immigration Ministry on the spirituality of welcoming marginalized persons in our midst. The speaker will be Steven Millies, Professor of Public Theology at Catholic Theological Union and Director of the Bernardin Center, which is dedicated to finding and fostering common ground. The title of Dr. Millies' presentation is "Being Bridges: Friendship Amid Grief and Anguish, Joy and Hope." Free validated parking will be offered at MartParc, Orleans and Hubbard.

CONGRATULATIONS

Our parishioner, Arthur Carvajal, is being honored with a Christifidelis Award at Holy Name Cathedral Sunday afternoon, for his contributions to the parish and the Archdiocese.

THANK YOU

Our end of summer garden party on September 16 was a big hit. We welcomed over 70 parishioners, a wonderful mix of the young and the young at heart. Thanks to our Events Committee for dreaming this up and carrying it out.



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. Details and a link to buy tickets (\$125 each) are posted on our website. With limited space, this event will sell out. Tickets are going fast and 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 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.

HYMNS: #620, #342, #208 (except 5pm Sunday)

WEDDINGS:

JOSEPH NALON & MADELINE LONG
BRIAN SCHAEFER & KELLY SCHADE
JUSTIN GLYNN & MEGAN JUNG
CONOR MOONEY & ISABEL RAMOS

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

REST IN PEACE: Joey Livermore, William Carlson

MASS INTENTIONS ~ WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2025

Sat	27th	5:00 † Robert C. Arzbacher
Sun	28th	7:30 † Laura Louise Miller
		9:00 † Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfiester & Jenkins Families
		10:30 † Charles & Marion Joachim
		12:15 Assumption Parishioners
		5:00 † Kevin Hayes
Mon	29th	7:00 † Loni Anderson
		12:10 † Jean Renee Mbuyamba
Tues	30th	7:00 † Steve F. Palkovitz
		12:10 Hayes Family
Wed	1st	12:10 † Frank Caprio
Fri	3rd	12:10 Gloria Herrera (b'day)
Sat	4th	7:30 † Kevin Hayes

SECOND COLLECTION: Next weekend we take up a second collection for our sharing parish, Our Lady of Sorrows.

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 for more information.

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.

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>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>	
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