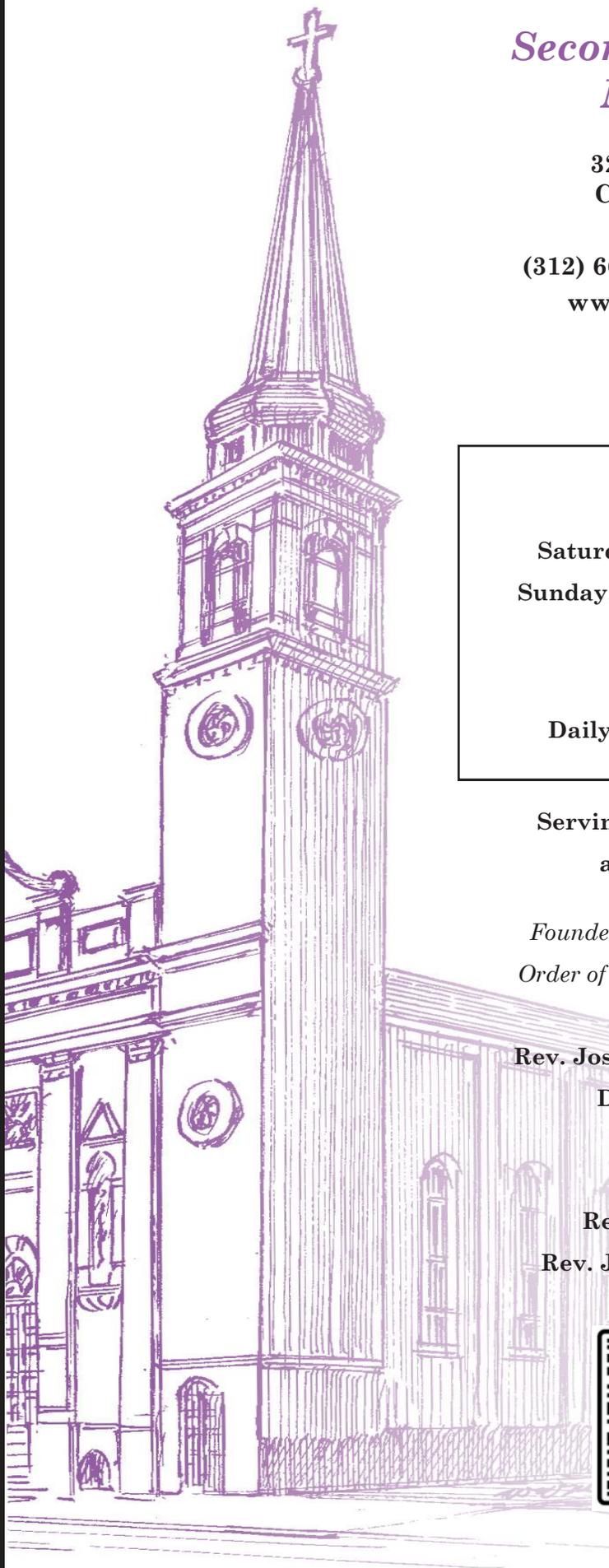


ASSUMPTION CHURCH



Second Sunday of Lent March 1, 2026

323 West Illinois Street
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(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. John T. Pawlikowski, O.S.M.



Scan To Give

WAS IT A SUCCESS?

Once when Mother Teresa was asked by a reporter if she felt frustrated and discouraged that her ministry of caring for the sick and dying on the streets was not more successful. Day after day after day, there were more people to be cared for, more people sick and dying on the streets of Calcutta. Her often quoted answer was, "God has not called me to be successful. God has called me to be faithful." While there is a profound truth here, in other ways Mother Teresa was enormously successful. Michael White and Tom Corcoran in their book about church renewal called *Rebuilt*, suggest that Mother Teresa's statement should not be used to justify dull efforts and dismal failure. "Saint Mother Teresa stands among the most successful and innovative church leaders of the twentieth century, having led one of the largest, fastest growing religious movements in the world."

Jesus did not ask his followers to be successful, but he did demand that his followers be fruitful, that good things needed to be happening because of our presence in the world. And in a sense, Jesus himself is the greatest example of that. In the eyes of the world, he was a tremendous failure. He ended up as a convicted criminal, nailed to a cross, with precious few followers left. Yet his life has been incredibly fruitful. Through the centuries, millions and millions have become his followers.

So, with that in mind, how successful was our Ministry Fair on February 14-15? In one sense, it was successful before it began. When we last held a Ministry Fair a dozen years ago, each ministry was assigned a table and a legal pad. Those interested in that ministry were asked to sign the list and would be contacted later about actually becoming involved. Some of the ministries put a lot of effort into creating a display or doing something else to attract attention. Garden Club, for example, gave out small plantings; Finance Committee had several scrapbooks of maintenance and repair projects completed. The downside of that format was that most tables were not staffed for all six Masses. Some were not staffed for any of the Masses. This is perfectly understandable since one of the main reasons for having a Ministry Fair is that groups and organizations need more members.

Since our last Ministry Fair, *Renew My Church* has happened. Parishes that survived the structural reorganization in the Archdiocese were asked to become more mission oriented, which is to say, to be fruitful as Jesus asked us to do. This means that each of our ministries needs to be directly involved in the mission of the parish. Ministers of the Eucharist, for example, are not just "helping with communion." Ministering the Body of Christ in church needs to be a microcosm of how I am bringing Christ to others in my daily life. How am I feeding the physical and spiritual needs of the world? How are we as ministers connected to Assumption's mission of Welcoming, Accompanying, and Sending?

When our Pastoral Council began discussing the ministry fair, we decided not to have individual tables representing each ministry, but to form teams from across the ministries for each Mass. Those who volunteered were asked to become sufficiently familiar with the other ministries to answer basic questions. Although there were information sheets available for individual ministries, the Council worked to offer this information according to a common format. Ministry booklets were also prepared, and in a bow to modern technology, a QR code was offered to grant access to the booklet online. While the number of people visiting the Fair after Mass was not great (anywhere from 6 to 15 people), team members indicated that the people who did attend were quite engaged. Hopefully the Fair enabled some of these seekers to discover their calling, and all the effort that went into this will bear fruit.

In summary, I believe we took a big step forward in moving from a group of individual ministries doing their own thing, to a group of ministries working to support one another. As we look to the future, I hope that each of our ministries will find ways to develop a sense of community, so that participants will not only feel more engaged with the group, but more engaged with the goal of *Renew My Church*: to be more attentive to the people who are not in church and the people who are in church but do not feel welcomed or valued.

Fr. Joe

EVENINGS OF FAITH

On the Wednesdays of Lent, there will be Mass at 6:00pm, followed by a meal in the Parish Hall and a presentation from 7:00 to 8:00pm.

Here is our program for this Lent:

- *Feb 25 - Evangelizing in an Interfaith Context (Dan Olsen)
- *Mar 4 - Spirituality: The Center of our Life (Fr John Fontana, OSM)
- *Mar 11 - Between Heaven and Earth (a film presentation)
- *Mar 18 - Come Back to Me With All Your Heart (Fr Ed Shea, OFM)
- *Mar 25 - Faith and Religion in the Age of A.I. (Dr. Joseph Vukov)

SPIRITUALITY: THE CENTER OF OUR LIFE

What is spirituality? Is it something than monks and nuns study? Fr. John Fontana, O.S.M., an experienced formation director, retreat director, and spiritual guide (as well as a regular Mass presider at Assumption) will help us understand what spirituality really means and explain how it is not a subject that pertains only to the elites, but is part of everyone’s life, whether we realize or not.

Every Wednesday night in Lent, there will be Mass at 6:00pm, a Lenten meal in the Parish Hall at 6:30, and a presentation from 7:00 to 8:00pm. Reservations are required only for the meal and may be made on our website, by phone, or by signing the list in the back of church. The 311 Garage will be open on Wednesday evenings

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Next weekend, we will take up a Second Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. This collection helps support the church in some 25 European countries still struggling to recover from former Communist rule. It also supports communities throughout the region who are affected by the war in Ukraine.

HOSPITALITY SUNDAY

This Sunday we have “hospitality elevated” in the Parish Hall, after the 9:00 and 10:30 Masses.

Refreshments will be “amped up” a bit, and a special invitation is extended to those who have joined our faith community over the last year.



DISCIPLE MAKER INDEX

Like all parishes in the Archdiocese, Assumption is on a journey to know, love and serve Christ in a more intense way and to embrace Christ’s call to become missionary disciples. One step in the process is to assess our greatest strengths and opportunities for growth. That is where the Disciple Maker Index comes in. The DMI is a survey tool that invites you to reflect on your discipleship journey here at Assumption and to help parish leadership make decisions about the future. This 20-minute survey may be completed online at <https://survey.catholicleaders.org/dmi/survey/pydb1p> or on paper. Copies are in the back of church. All responses are confidential. Some of you will remember completing this survey three years ago. One of the goals is to see if our efforts to respond to our areas of weakness three years ago have made a difference.

LENTEN FISH FRY

Back by popular demand, his Lenten tradition returns to Assumption Friday March 13 from 5:00 to 7:00pm in the Parish Hall. \$30 per person (\$15 if you are under 12). Meal includes fish, sides, salad, dessert, and drink. The 311 Garage will be open. Reservations are necessary. Call the parish office (312-644-0036) or reserve and pay online (assumption-chgo.org).



HYMNS: #126, #463, #440 (except 5pm Sunday)

WEDDINGS:

JOSEPH RUNNELLS & ANNA WARING

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

REST IN PEACE: Fr. Vidal Martinez, O.S.M.

MASS INTENTIONS ~ WEEK OF FEBRUARY 28, 2026

Sat	28th	5:00	† Vivien Rivera
Sun	29th	7:30	† Leo & Helen Dillon
		9:00	† Michael & Rose Marie Sopko, Helen Morris, Deceased of Sopko, Morris, Pfiester & Jenkins Families
		10:30	Assumption Parishioners
Mon	2nd	7:00	† Louis Aiello & Willie Spivey
		12:10	Mike Januszewski & Family
Tues	3rd	7:00	† Steve Palkovitz
		12:10	† Judy Bax
Wed	4th	7:00	Theresa Landgren
		12:10	Dubuque Family
Thurs	5th	7:00	† Kevin Johnson
Sat	7th	7:30	Souls in Purgatory

YOUR SOCIAL CALENDAR

- Friday March 13—Fish Fry
- Sunday June 21—Ice Cream Social
- Sunday August 16—Anniversary Picnic
- Thursday November 5—Italian Dinner



LENTEN FAST AND ABSTINENCE: We are all encouraged to sacrifice more, pray more, and be more generous during Lent; but here are the minimum requirements of the Catholic Church. Abstinence from meat is to be observed for all Catholics 14 years of age and older on Ash Wednesday and all the Fridays of Lent. Fasting is to be observed by those 18 years of age but not yet 59. Those bound by the fast may take only one full meal a day. Two smaller meals are permitted, but eating solid food between meals is not permitted.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Following the 12:10 Mass on Fridays of Lent

ANNUAL CATHOLIC APPEAL

It's not too late to make your pledge in support of the many vital ministries that the ACA supports. Go on line to donate at annualcatholicappeal.com or pick up an ACA envelope in the back of church.

<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>We Take Service Personally Contact us today for a customized, reliable waste management, recycling, or dumpster quote. 630-261-0400</p>
 <p><i>Cocopazzo</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> 	

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