

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

I AM THE GATE.

— JOHN 10:9 —



ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

COAL CITY - KINSMAN | 195 S. KANKAKEE STREET - COAL CITY, IL | 815-634-4171

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Coal City

195 South Kankakee Street • Coal City, IL 60416 (815) 634-4171

www.stmaryassumptionparish.org

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Friday - 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Sacred Heart, Kinsman

219 Emmett Street • Kinsman, IL 60437

Pastor	Reverend Joshua Miller	(815) 634-4171 Ext. 2	frjosh@frjosh.org
Family Faith Formation Director & Business Manager	Deacon William Dunn	(815) 634-4171 Ext. 3	ddunn@abvcc.org
Parish Secretary & Bulletin/Digital Editor	Laura Uher	(815) 634-4171 Ext. 1	secretary@abvcc.org
Property Manager	Alex Kuhel	(815) 634-4171 Ext. 10	property@abvcc.org
Music Coordinator	Rita Wise	(815) 634-4110	rwise@abvcc.org

Mass and Confession Times

REGULAR WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Assumption - Saturday - 4:00 p.m. (*First Saturday of the Month - Additional Mass at 8:30 a.m.), Sunday - 7:30 a.m. & 11:30 a.m.

Sacred Heart, Kinsman - Sunday - 9:00 a.m.

REGULAR WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Assumption - Tuesday - 6:30 p.m. (*First Tuesday of the Month Mass is followed by St. Peregrine Devotions & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.)
Thursday & Friday - 8:30 a.m.

Sacred Heart, Kinsman - Wednesday - 8:30 a.m.

ROSARY

Assumption - Tuesday - 6:00 p.m., Thursday & Friday - 8:00 a.m.

CONFESSION TIMES (Different on Holy Days & Holidays)

Assumption - Tuesday - 6:00 p.m. to 6:20 p.m., Thursday & Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 8:20 a.m., Saturday - 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m., First Sat. Only - 8:00 a.m. to 8:20 a.m.

Sacred Heart, Kinsman - Wednesday - After 8:30 a.m. Mass, Sunday - After 9:00 a.m. Mass.

Eucharistic Adoration Chapel

Assumption - The Adoration Chapel is open daily from 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Sacraments

ANOINTING OF THE SICK

Please call the parish office.

BAPTISMS

Parents are required to attend a baptismal preparation meeting prior to the baptism. Please contact the parish secretary to register.

Assumption - Baptisms are ordinarily scheduled for the second and fourth Sundays of the month after 11:30 a.m. Mass.

FUNERALS

Funeral liturgies are ordinarily celebrated at 10:00 a.m. The funeral director will contact the parish office regarding arrangements.

MARRIAGE

Arrangements must be made at least six months in advance. Marriage preparation classes are required to be completed before the Sacrament of Marriage can be celebrated. Please contact the parish office before making wedding arrangements.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY April 25	
4:00 PM Mass (A)	People of the Parish †Linda Odo (Hamilton Family) †Anthony Farrero (Regina Farrero West, Daughter) †Suzanne Lissy (Family)
SUNDAY April 26 Fourth Sunday of Easter	
7:30 AM Mass (A)	†Leonard Halliday (Kelly, Bill, & Family)
9:00 AM Mass (SH)	Living Intention for Wedding Anniversary of Art & Holly Hanley (Family)
11:30 AM Mass (A)	†Shirley Boero (Sue & Doug Wills)
TUESDAY April 28	
6:30 PM Mass (A)	†Betty Watson (Nernia Walker) †Jake Veronda (Jeff & Liz Veronda)
WEDNESDAY April 29	
8:30 AM Mass (SH)	†Cathy Ott (Donna Gabehart)
THURSDAY April 30	
8:30 AM Mass (A)	Living Intention for Birthday of Lucille De Gulie (Jackie & John Plese)
FRIDAY May 1	
8:30 AM Mass (A)	†Deceased Members of Antenore Quartaroli Family (Peter & Carm Collins)
SATURDAY May 2 First Saturday	
8:30 AM Mass (A)	†Vincent "Butch" Biros (Matt Baskerville)
4:00 PM Mass (A)	†Margaret Pierard (Bill & Marcie Miller)
SUNDAY May 3 Fifth Sunday of Easter	
7:30 AM Mass (A)	Special Intention for Living Members of Peter Collins Family (Peter & Carm Collins)
9:00 AM Mass (SH)	†Pat Bartman (Susan & Pat Carey)
11:30 AM Mass (A)	People of the Parish †Larry Ferrari (Wife, Joyce) †Carol Williams (Family) †Eddie & Jim Zelinko (Darcie Hughes)

Please pray for the sick: Daniel Beshoar, Paula Beshoar, Cindi Meyer Brandeis, Stacey Brown, Tom Buban, Ryan Collins, Kay & Mark Francisco, Doris Giordano, George Good, Pat Hanna, Mark Lotzer, Mary Jo Maland, Gloria Markl, Donna Meyer, Frank & Jean Peters, Larry Ried, Steve Stork, Helen Talty, Cary Teska, Glenn VanDrie, Liz Veronda
Names will remain on the prayer list for six months. If you would like your name to remain on the list, please contact us.

Please pray for those serving our country:
Kaylee Brennan, Sebastian Gasiénica, Rhys Lyman, Brady O'Donnell, Zander Posey, Logan Teodoro

Weekly Confession Times


TUESDAY (A) - 6:00 p.m. to 6:20 p.m.
WEDNESDAY (SH) - Following the 8:30 a.m. Mass
THURSDAY & FRIDAY (A) - 8:00 a.m. to 8:20 a.m.
SATURDAY (A) - 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. (First Saturday only - 8:00 a.m. to 8:20 a.m.)
SUNDAY (SH) - Following the 9:00 a.m. Mass (Different on Holy Days & Holidays)



This Week's Events

A: Assumption	SH: Sacred Heart
Sunday, April 26	
12:30 pm - First Communion Practice - Assumption Church 1:30 pm - First Communion Activity - Madonna Room 2:00 pm - Baptism - Assumption Church 6:30 pm - Evening Adult Bible Study - Madonna Room	
Monday, April 27	
4:30 pm - St. Vincent Meals - New Hope Presbyterian Church Coal Food Pantry Open - 815-216-3288	
Tuesday, April 28	
No Events	
Wednesday, April 29	
No Events	
Thursday, April 30	
9:30 am - Bible Study - Madonna Room Coal Food Pantry Open - 815-216-3288	
Friday, May 1	
6:00 pm - Wedding Rehearsal - Assumption Church	
Saturday, May 2	
4:00 pm - First Holy Communion, May Crowning @ Assumption	
Sunday, May 3	
9:00 am - First Holy Communion, May Crowning @ Sacred Heart 9:45 am - Baptism - Sacred Heart Church 10:00 am - Fellowship Committee Meeting - Madonna Room 2:00 pm - Wedding - Assumption Church 6:30 pm - Evening Adult Bible Study - Madonna Room	

FUN FACT!



In art, St. Mark is depicted with a winged lion, a reference to the beginning of his Gospel, with St. John the Baptist "calling out" in the wilderness.

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

Peter said to them,
 "Repent and be baptized, every one of you,
 in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins;
 and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:38)

Psalm:

The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. (Ps 23)
 Or Alleluia.

Second Reading:

By his wounds you have been healed.
 For you had gone astray like sheep,
 but you have now returned to the shepherd and
 guardian of your souls. (1 Pt 2:24-25)

Gospel:

"I came so that they might have life and have it more
 abundantly." (Jn 10:10)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"The sheep follow him, because they recognize his voice," Jesus says. Do we know the voice of Jesus when he speaks to us? Have we spent time in conversation with him? This week, listen for the voice of Jesus in your life, and follow where it leads.

Observances for the week of April 26, 2026

- Sunday:** 4th Sunday of Easter;
World Day of Prayer for Vocations
- Tuesday:** St. Peter Chanel, Priest and Martyr;
St. Louis Grignion de Montfort, Priest
- Wednesday:** St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and
Doctor of the Church
- Thursday:** St. Pius V, Pope
- Friday:** St. Joseph the Worker; National Day of Prayer
- Saturday:** St. Athanasius, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Next Sunday:** 5th Sunday of Easter



Virtues, Explained!

True humility does not require us to ignore, underestimate, or hide our gifts — it merely demands that we use these gifts rightly, with the knowledge that they are from our Creator and meant for His glory, not our own.

Blessing of the Good Shepherd

Dear Jesus,
 Be the Good Shepherd in my life.
 Help me to know your voice and to respond.
 Help me to find your fold and the paths on which you lead.
 Bless me with verdant pastures and restful waters.
 Refresh my soul.
 Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of April 26, 2026

Sunday:

Acts 2:14a, 36-41/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/
1 Pt 2:20b-25/Jn 10:1-10

Monday:

Acts 11:1-18/Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4/Jn 10:11-18
(second choice)

Tuesday:

Acts 11:19-26/Ps 87:1b-3, 4-5, 6-7/
Jn 10:22-30

Wednesday:

Acts 12:24-13:5a/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6 and 8/
Jn 12:44-50

Thursday:

Acts 13:13-25/Ps 89:2-3, 21-22, 25 and 27/
Jn 13:16-20

Friday:

Acts 13:26-33/Ps 2:6-7, 8-9, 10-11ab/
Jn 14:1-6

Saturday:

Acts 13:44-52/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4/
Jn 14:7-14

Next Sunday:

Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/1 Pt 2:4-9/
Jn 14:1-12



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

"I am the good shepherd. A good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." John 10:11

My most boring job was working at an insurance company as a college student. My main task? Filing. Now imagine if I had told my supervisor, "I just want you to know, I'm willing to die for these files." She would have called a psychiatrist — or at least security.

There is something absurd in Jesus' words in today's Gospel: **"I am the good shepherd... I lay down my life for the sheep."** (John 10:11) It sounds noble, until you think about it. No one dies for sheep. Not a hired hand. Not even a good shepherd. Sheep are important, sure, but not worth a human life.

And yet, Jesus insists: *I will die for them.* The crowd understandably responds: **"He is out of his mind."**

C.S. Lewis once said that Jesus does not leave us the option of calling him merely a good teacher. If someone speaks like him, he is either lying, crazy, or telling the truth. John's Gospel won't let us stay sentimental. Jesus means it. He reveals a love that surpasses logic — a love that measures worth not by strength or success, but by the willingness to suffer unto death.

The Good Shepherd's madness is mercy. His cross makes no earthly sense and yet it makes divine sense. He lays down his life not for kings or saints but for sheep — for the ordinary, the unworthy, for you and me.

Think of someone who may feel unworthy of love. Do something simple and generous for them, not because they deserve it, but because Jesus did the same for you.

— Father John Muir

Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: We can recognize what is real by where it comes from. What it sounds like. This ability to discern truth is written into our souls. We can ignore it, if we want. Suppress it. We can follow the stranger. But where will he lead?

The Devil's Long Con

The algorithm on my streaming service has been suggesting a lot of romantic scam documentaries lately. If you're not familiar, romantic scams are a particularly cruel form of "the long con."

Some man presents himself to some woman as Prince Charming. He wines her. He dines her. He charms her mom and makes her friends jealous. Little red flags pop up here and there, but she shrugs them all off. She accepts convenient explanations.

She just wants to be happy.

And then one day, Prince Charming vanishes, along with the contents of the woman's savings account. Every victim says the same thing: "I should have known better, but I wanted it to be real."

I think the reason I'm so drawn to these shows is that I identify with these women. No, I've never been the victim of a romantic scam (if my husband married me thinking he would gain access to some kind of fortune, he's the one who got scammed). But we have all told ourselves that something *is* right because it *feels* right. We have shrugged off doubts about a choice, a relationship, a habit.

We have accepted easy answers that don't pass the sniff test — because we really, really wanted an answer, and we really, really wanted it to be easy.

The devil is a romantic scammer. A third-party retailer hawking knock-off joy and fulfillment. A wolf in sheep's clothing. A false prophet. A thief, a robber who has climbed the fence, knowing the gate will not admit him.

These are all different ways of saying the same thing: we can recognize what is real by where it comes from. What it sounds like. This ability to discern truth is written into our souls. We can ignore it, if we want. Suppress it. We can follow the stranger.

But where will he lead?

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What is the history behind the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross?

Answer:

Emperor Constantine's mother, Helena, is credited with having discovered the true cross around 330. She traveled to the Holy Land and uncovered the places associated with Jesus' life. Legend has it that Helena uncovered three crosses but was not able to detect the true cross until each of them was laid on a leper. Only one of them cured the leper, proving it to be the true cross. A great church was built at the site, and soon various portions of the cross were sent to other churches as relics to be venerated.

The day after the dedication of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, September 14, 335, the actual cross was displayed for veneration. Egeria, a women traveler to Jerusalem around the year 386, kept a diary that has survived. She tells of the unique veneration of the wood of the cross that took place on Good Friday, something maintained ritually to this very day.

The Exaltation of the Holy Cross focuses on the gift of love that Jesus manifested by his total gift of self, offered for all. The cross, the ultimate form of capital punishment in its day, has become for us the ultimate symbol of love and triumph over evil and death.

ASSUMPTION CHURCH
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PRESENTS

BREAKFAST

Mother's Day

SUNDAY **10** MAY

8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
OR WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

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SATURDAY MAY 16TH 5:00 - 8:00 PM

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Breakfast

WITH OUR FATHERS

Thursday, May 21st
after 8:30 AM Mass

Join Fr. Josh and Fr. Sebastian at the Whistle Stop Cafe in Diamond for a delicious breakfast while enjoying a morning of fellowship! Everyone is welcome!

No reservations needed! Just meet us in the back dining area around 9:30 AM. Pay for your own meal.

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Do You Hear God's Call?

In the past year, my wireless provider introduced something called HD Voice. Suddenly, the voice I heard on my phone was unbelievably clear and it felt at times like both the caller and I were in the same room. The best aspect of this feature is that it didn't cost the customer any additional fees and it didn't require any changes to the phone. I could say it was free, but I suspect I was already paying for it in my monthly bill anyway. At least it felt free.

The clearer the voice calling you, the easier it is to recognize who it is on the other end of the call. How clearly can you hear the voice of Jesus Christ? In John's Gospel, Jesus speaks of the gatekeeper who opens the gate and calls for his sheep. They respond because they know his voice. Others try to lure the sheep when the gatekeeper is not there, but the sheep find their voices unclear or unfamiliar.

Jesus is our gatekeeper, but unlike receiving something for free from a wireless company, to be able to hear his voice we need to pay attention and practice listening. By developing a stewardship way of life that is mindful and prayerful, we become attuned to his voice and are able to discern when the call is from our Lord and when it is from an imposter. It is great to talk about all the things we can do and all the gifts we can share, but if are not listening for his call to hear where our offerings are needed, we can end up like a lost sheep searching for the gatekeeper.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © Liturgical Publications Inc

PRIESTHOOD DISCERNMENT

May 3rd at 1:15 PM

Fr. Burke and Fr. Christian invite men who may be discerning a call to the priesthood to join a monthly gathering for conversation and guidance. Open to men from high school juniors and older, these meetings offer an opportunity to meet with Fr. Burke and Fr. Christian, ask questions, and explore what it means to discern a vocation to the priesthood.



RSVP

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LUNCH WILL BE SERVED. PLEASE RSVP.

Join Us

For a presentation on the cause for the canonization of Venerable Augustus Tolton



6:30-8 pm, Tuesday, May 5 at the Cathedral of St. Raymond Nonnatus

604 N Raynor Ave, Joliet, IL 60435 Parish Commons - Door 26

Join Bishop Perry from the Archdiocese of Chicago for his presentation on the cause for the canonization of Father Augustus Tolton



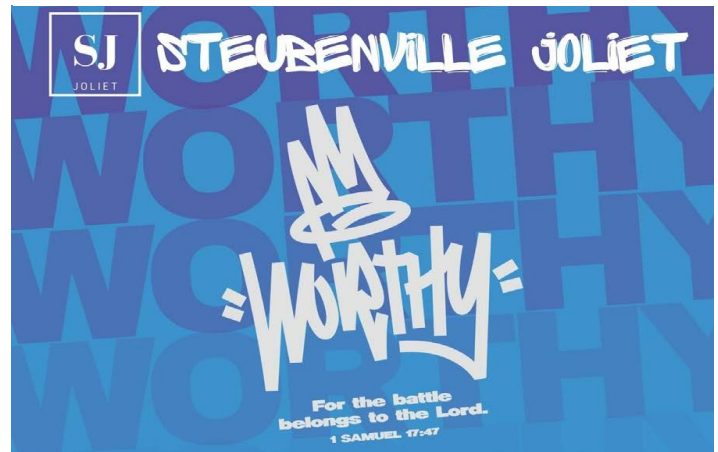
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Ministry Schedule May 2 & 3



Saturday, May 2 - 4:00 p.m.

Extraordinary Ministers - Matthew Skwarczek, *alternate needed*
 Lector - Jaiden Leman
 Servers- **Volunteers needed**
 Ushers - Ron Henke, Bob Jacovec, Doug Letterly, Bob Schmitt,
 Fran Schmitt

Sunday, May 3 - 7:30 a.m.

Extraordinary Ministers - Carm Collins , *alternate needed*
 Lector - Nancy Bonomo
 Servers - Ron Marketti, Pete Collins

Sunday, May 3 - 9:00 a.m. (Sacred Heart, Kinsman)

Extraordinary Minister - Scott Wilkinson
 Lector - Dave Brockman
 Servers - Max & Sam Veselak

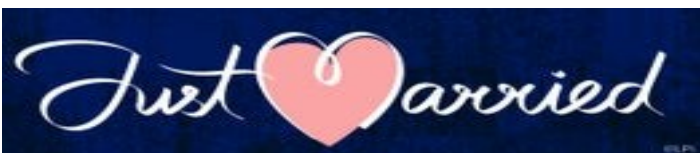
Sunday, May 3 - 11:30 a.m.

Extraordinary Ministers - Julie Keigher, *alternate needed*
 Lector - **Volunteer needed**
 Servers- **Volunteers needed**

If you are interested in assisting us at our weekend Masses, please sign up through the volunteer link on our website, which contains the most up-to-date schedule, or contact Laura at the parish office. Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us!

2026 CMAA Report (as of April 19, 2026)

Goal: \$34,200 Pledged: \$31,658 Paid: \$24,633 Donors: 156



**Katherine Marie McIntyre
and
Sebastian Francziszek Gasienica**

**Assumption Church
April 18, 2026**

Congratulations!



Natalie Benson & Corey Jurzak

Austin & Emaline Richardson and Family

We're so happy you're here!

Assumption Weekly Offering + E-Giving

Annual Offering Budget (7/1/2025 - 6/30/2026)	\$326,141
YTD Offering Budget	\$263,424
YTD Actual Offering	\$331,737
Last Week's Mass Offering	\$7,174
Last Week's E-Giving Offering	\$2,453
Last Week's Total Offering	\$9,627
Weekly Goal	\$6,272

Assumption Church Building Loan Balance through February, 2026

Loan Amount	\$620,123
Current Loan Balance	\$578,610

Sacred Heart, Kinsman Weekly Offering

4/12/26 Sunday Collection	\$1,408
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**Congratulations to those who received the
Easter Sacraments at our April 4th
Easter Vigil Mass:**

- Devin Collins**
- Adilene Fierro**
- Alejandro Fierro**
- Kathleen Francisco**
- Todd Francisco**
- Brent Leiterman**
- Kevin McKinney**
- Lauren Thalman**
- Zach Zarembka**

May the peace of our Lord be with you always!

Kids Corner

Prayer

Jesus, help me hear the right voices, and not follow the wrong voices.

Mission for the Week

I will listen and follow directions of my parents and teachers right away.

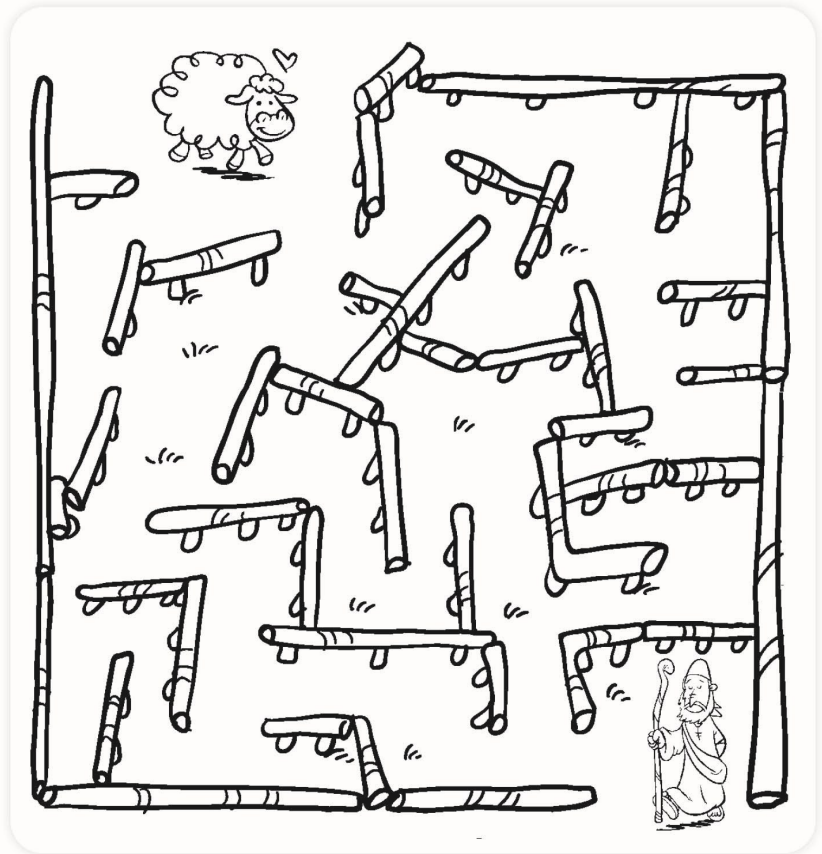
Sharing the Gospel

You are one of God's sheep. Jesus calls you by name. You recognize his voice. Close your eyes. Listen to the voices of your family and friends. You can tell who is talking by the sound of their voices. You choose to follow Jesus on his path. You love God above everything. You love your neighbor as yourself. You share your toys, money and food with your family and the poor.

Now color the picture!



Help the sheep find the shepherd.



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