

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

HE WENT UP THE  
MOUNTAIN AND BEGAN  
**TO TEACH.**

MATTHEW 5:1



**ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026**

**Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Coal City**

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

[www.stmaryassumptionparish.org](http://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

<b>Pastor</b>	Reverend Joshua Miller	(815) 634-4171 Ext. 2	frjosh@frjosh.org
<b>Family Faith Formation Director &amp; Business Manager</b>	Deacon William Dunn	(815) 634-4171 Ext. 3	ddunn@abvcc.org
<b>Parish Secretary &amp; Bulletin/Digital Editor</b>	Laura Uher	(815) 634-4171 Ext. 1	secretary@abvcc.org
<b>Property Manager</b>	Alex Kuhel	(815) 634-4171 Ext. 10	property@abvcc.org
<b>Music Coordinator</b>	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.**CONFESSON 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 January 31

4:00 PM Mass (A)

People of the Parish

+Joan Mahkovec (Carol &amp; Dave Ballantine)

+Betty Watson (Gloria Natyshok)

+Ron Gagliardo (Don &amp; Pat Bianchetta)

SUNDAY February 1

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM Mass (A)

Living Intention for Lucille De Gulie (Noma)

+Michael Marizza (Rick &amp; Laura)

+Charles &amp; Carolyn Collins (Peter &amp; Carm Collins)

9:00 AM Mass (SH)

+Pat Bartman (Marc &amp; Christine Masini)

11:30 AM Mass (A)

+Jeff Keck (Meg &amp; Paul Studer)

+Ann M. Watson (Family)

+Shirley Boero (Patsy Cline)

TUESDAY February 3 Blessing of Throats &amp; St. Peregrine Devotions

6:30 PM Mass (A)

+Shirley Boero (Peter &amp; Carm Collins)

WEDNESDAY February 4

8:30 AM Mass (SH)

+Rosemary, Randy, &amp; Paula Sheedy (Donna Gabehart)

THURSDAY February 5

8:30 AM Mass (A)

+Don &amp; Carolyn Henke (Ron)

+Virgil Dryer (Tom &amp; Nita Glover Family)

FRIDAY February 6

8:30 AM Mass (A)

+Shirley Boero (Rick &amp; Laura)

SATURDAY February 7

First Saturday

8:30 AM Mass (A)

+Vincent "Butch" Biros (Matt Baskerville)

4:00 PM Mass (A)

+Theresa O'Connor (John &amp; Teri Jo Boylan)

+Gwen Vacca (Don &amp; Pat Bianchetta)

SUNDAY February 8

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

7:30 AM Mass (A)

+Helen Talty (Noma)

9:00 AM Mass (SH)

+Betty Walsh (Family)

11:30 AM Mass (A)

People of the Parish

+Larry Ferrari (Wife, Joyce)

+Shirley Boero (Mark &amp; Roseanne Matteson)

+Jeff Reed (Mike Beshoar Family)

Please join us for our annual blessing of the throats at Assumption Church's 6:30 p.m. Mass this Tuesday, Feb. 3. All are welcome!

## CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: Who were the very first people to visit Jesus after he was born?

Answer: Two local shepherds who were told about Jesus by an angel.

## Weekly Confession Times

TUESDAY (A) - 6:00 p.m. to 6:20 p.m.

WEDNESDAY (SH) - Following the 8:30 a.m. Mass

THURSDAY &amp; 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 &amp; Holidays)



## This Week's Events

A: Assumption

SH: Sacred Heart

## Sunday, February 1

9:45 am - Family Faith Formation - Berst Hall

6:30 pm - Evening Adult Bible Study - Madonna Room

## Monday, February 2

Coal Food Pantry Open - 815-216-3288

## Tuesday, February 3

No Events

## Wednesday, February 4

6:15 pm - Family Faith Formation - Berst Hall

## Thursday, February 5

9:30 am - Bible Study - Madonna Room

Coal Food Pantry Open - 815-216-3288

## Friday, February 6

No Events

## Saturday, February 7

No Events

## Sunday, February 8

10:00 am - Fellowship Committee Meeting - Madonna Room

6:30 pm - Evening Adult Bible Study - Madonna Room



Please pray for those serving our country:

Sebastian Gasienica, Rhys Lyman, Brady O'Donnell, Zander Posey, Logan Teodoro



## Please pray for the sick:

Nancy Armstrong & Family, Sharee Beeler, Paula Beshoar, Stacey Brown, Tom Buban, Ryan Collins, Charlotte Curtis, Jan Dunn, Kay & Mark Francisco, Mary Jo Maland, Gloria Markl, Donna Meyer, Frank & Jean Peters, Larry Ried, Cecelia Schimandle, Steve Stork, Helen Talty, Cary Teska, Glenn VanDrie, Jake Veronda, 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.

Assumption Fellowship Committee Presents

Join us for a meaningful evening of fellowship and community as we celebrate love, friendship, and Christian unity. This semi-formal gathering provides an opportunity for adults to come together in a wholesome, welcoming environment to enjoy a family-style dinner, music, and dancing.

All adults (21+) are welcome—whether you attend with a spouse, a guest, or on your own—as we share in joyful fellowship and celebration.

**February 14**

**Doors & Seating 5:30**  
**Dinner Begins: 6:00**

For questions or to reserve your seats, please call the Parish Center 815.634.4171

Berst Hall ~ 180 S. Rankakee St.  
Coal City, IL 60416



## Bethlehem Nativity Products

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Bethlehem Nativity Products will be visiting the parish on behalf of St. Catherine Catholic Parish of Bethlehem and the Christian families in Bethlehem (Holy Land). For centuries, the Christian and Catholics in Bethlehem have earned a living by carving olive wood religious art to sell to visiting pilgrims. Nowadays there are no tourists or pilgrimage groups visiting the Holy Land because of the war, making it difficult for Catholic artisans to support their families by the dignified work of Christ's birth.

During our visit to your parish, we will have hand carved religious items; please consider purchasing a piece of art from the Holy Land to support your fellow Catholics who choose to stay and protect the Holy sites where Jesus himself lived. Your purchase will make a difference in the lives of many Catholic families. Please support this noble cause.

We accept cash, personal checks, all credit cards, and monthly installment payments as well. Thanks for your generosity.

**Please visit our display in Assumption's narthex**

**Saturday & Sunday**

**February 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

[www.bethlehennativity.com](http://www.bethlehennativity.com)

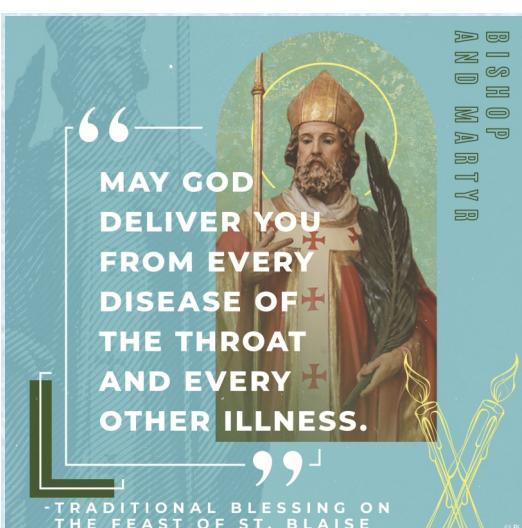
## St. Blaise | Feast Day February 3

You may be familiar with the annual "blessing of throats" that many parishes in the United States use to commemorate the beloved bishop and martyr. St. Blaise lived in the fourth century in Turkey and Armenia. Due to religious persecution, he was forced to flee and hide in a cave in the back country in order to save his life.

History has it that one day a group of hunters stumbled upon where St. Blaise was living. They found the bishop kneeling in prayer, surrounded by wolves, lions, and bears that he had tamed. The legend has it that as the hunters dragged Blaise off to prison, a mother came with her young son who had a fish bone lodged in his throat. At Blaise's command, the child was able to cough up the bone and thus lived.

Today we remember the saint on his feast day by taking two candles, crossing them against the throat, and saying the following prayer:

*Through the intercession of St. Blaise, bishop and martyr, may God deliver you from ailments of the throat and from every other evil. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.*





## Countercultural Then and Now

Sometimes I wonder what this world will look like when my children get to be my age. Everything seems to be changing so rapidly and much of that change doesn't seem to be for the good. I do think in some ways the Church is experiencing resurgence and a strengthening, but it will have to be in the face of an increasing culture of atheism and selfishness.

Of course, I bet my parents wondered the same thing when I was a child. As much as things change, they remain the same. When Jesus gave his Sermon on the Mount, I would guess some parents there were having the same kind of worries. But Jesus proposed a way of life in the beatitudes that was countercultural then and is countercultural now.

In his book, *Life of Christ*, Fulton Sheen said this: "The Sermon on the Mount is so much at variance with all that our world holds dear that the world will crucify anyone who tries to live up to its values." Living a stewardship way of life means bringing the beatitudes into our daily lives in a profound way. However, it also means living in a way that others may not understand or they may even turn away from us because of it. But with the reward in the end being the kingdom of heaven, the choice is really a matter of life and death, eternally speaking.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPI

Assumption Church  
Fellowship Committee presents

**THE CHOSEN**  
Episode 8

6:00-7:30pm | On Wednesday, February 25th | Berst Hall

Episode 8 of Season 2!

Followed by a short discussion with Fr. Josh and Deacon Bill.

For more information, call our office secretary at 815.634.4171 extension 1.



Just in time for Lent! Join Catholic Spirit Radio in Normal (or via Zoom) for their next bible study starting Thursday, February 19th at 6:30 p.m. Changes in the disposition of our hearts help us to grow in holiness and in our faith. The study, "Discernment of the Spirits," helps develop practical methods for your spiritual growth as Fr. Timothy Gallagher shares the St. Ignatius rules of discernment. Registration is required. Call or text Tony at 309-750-9062 or email perio2000@frontier.com.

The Catholic Spirit Radio Network can be heard on 89.3 in our community. Are you listening? It's an easy Lenten habit to add!

The 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal has begun! The Diocese of Joliet invites all parishioners to support the 2026 Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA). Together, we can make a profound difference.

This year's theme is Beyond all Expectations: Faith that Elevates! Through the CMAA, we ensure Christ's mission and ministries reach everyone. We provide shelter for the homeless, feed the hungry, support vocations, and educate the next generation of Catholics. Our parish cannot accomplish this alone. As a diocese, we can do so much more.

Our parish goal is \$34,200. We receive 70% of any amount raised over goal to use within our parish. Please review your mailing from the Diocese of Joliet and prayerfully consider your gift.

If you do not receive a CMAA mailing, please contact the parish office. Thank you!



# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

But I will leave as a remnant in your midst a people humble and lowly. (Zep 3:12)

### Psalm:

Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs! (Ps 146)  
Or Alleluia.

### Second Reading:

Rather, God chose the foolish of the world to shame the wise, and God chose the weak of the world to shame the strong. (1 Cor 1:27)

### Gospel:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." (Mt 5:3)

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## Live The Liturgy

### Inspiration of the Week

Blessed are the poor, the meek, the persecuted. These are radical words in a world that insists the opposite: blessed are the wealthy. Blessed are the forceful. Blessed are the comfortable. Do we have what it takes to be radical?

## Observances for the week of February 1, 2026

**Sunday:** 4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

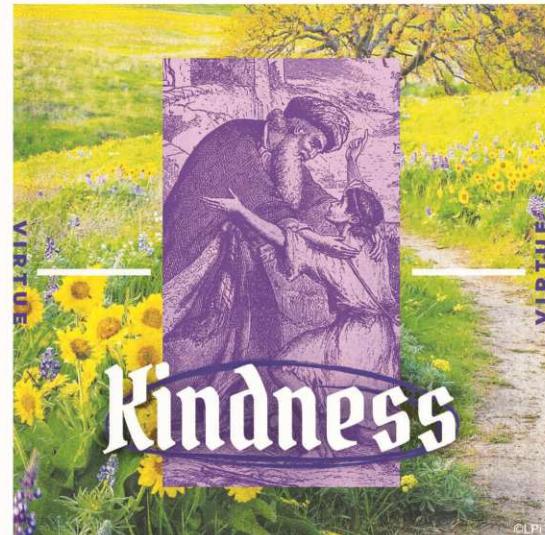
**Monday:** The Presentation of the Lord, World Day for Consecrated Life

**Tuesday:** St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr; St. Ansgar, Bishop

**Thursday:** St. Agatha, Virgin and Martyr

**Friday:** St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

**Next Sunday:** 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time; World Marriage Day



## Virtues, Explained!

Also known as benevolence or beneficence and derived from the theological virtue of charity, kindness is a way of seeing others through the eyes of God, who has adopted us as His own.

## Bless Us, Lord

Jesus,  
You are good and gracious, every moment of every day. You invite us to be meek, merciful, clean of heart, peacemakers. Give us the grace to seek these virtues, and to seek you. May your blessing accompany us on our way.  
Amen.

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of February 1, 2026

### Sunday:

Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146:6c-7, 8-9a,  
9b-10/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a

### Monday:

Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24:7, 8, 9, 10/Heb 2:14-18/  
Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32

### Tuesday:

2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30-19:3/  
Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 5:21-43

### Wednesday:

2 Sm 24:2, 9-17/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 6:1-6

### Thursday:

1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12/1 Chr 29:10, 11ab,  
11d-12a, 12bcd/Mk 6:7-13

### Friday:

Sir 47:2-11/Ps 18:31, 47 and 50, 51/  
Mk 6:14-29

### Saturday:

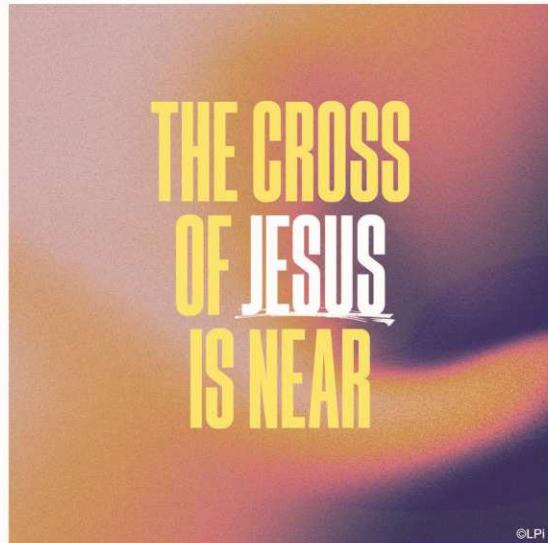
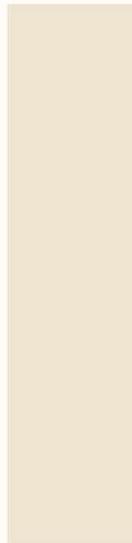
1 Kgs 3:4-13/Ps 119:9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14/  
Mk 6:30-34

### Next Sunday:

Is 58:7-10/Ps 112:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/1 Cor 2:1-5/  
Mt 5:13-16



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## Gospel Meditation Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A priest I know was once falsely accused of a terrible crime. The claim was wild and easily disproved, but for a while, it didn't matter. In the atmosphere shaped by the abuse crisis of the early 2000s, the public assumption was guilty until proven innocent. His name was dragged through the mud, and his ministry placed on hold. I had the privilege — and the burden — of walking closely with him during that time.

He was angry. He was confused. He felt abandoned and deeply disoriented. The last thing on his mind was the words of Jesus in today's Gospel: **"Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me ... Rejoice and be glad"** (Matthew 5:11-12). Rejoice? He felt anything but.

And yet... something holy slowly grew in him. Not overnight, and not without pain. But as the truth came to light and his name was cleared, I watched him become more Christlike — more patient, more compassionate, more detached from human approval.

Maybe you haven't faced something so dramatic. But where do you feel judged? Misrepresented? Overlooked? Maybe someone else got the credit or the promotion. Maybe someone you love isn't getting their due. In those moments, the Cross of Jesus is near. When we feel accused, that's when we ask him for the grace not just to endure, but somehow, mysteriously, to rejoice and be glad.

— Father John Muir

# Liturgical Life

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** How similar we all are in sin. How similar we all are in potential. How different we look to the world. And yet, how wondrous it is that we are all offered the same hope: "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in Heaven."

### What Stays the Same

Somewhere, there is a monk whose life is very quiet and who devotes long hours to prayer. And somewhere there is a nun, cloistered in a life of contemplation, who speaks very little except to God.

Somewhere, there is a father whose days are filled with noise, who hasn't finished a Rosary in years because he keeps falling asleep. Somewhere there is a mother whose voice is weak with giving direction and offering counsel.

Somewhere, there is a teenage girl with much to say, but few people to listen — fewer, at least, than she would like.

Somewhere there is a woman who holds a positive pregnancy test in one hand and a phone in the other, and somewhere there is a man on the other end of that phone who waits for her to speak.

In the Beatitudes, Jesus utilizes a literary device called anaphora. Both as a reader and a writer, I love anaphora. It's a clean, unfussy way to communicate a point. By repeating the same word or phrase at the beginning of successive clauses, you're basically saying the same thing over and over again, just a little bit differently each time. Those small differences tease at your audience's brain, gently highlighting the consistencies.

Discipleship is a lot like anaphora. It's the differences — those little aberrations from person to person, life to life — that so beautifully illustrate what remains the same across the broad spectrum of what it means to live out the Beatitudes.

Me. You. The monk. The nun. The father. The mother. The lonely girl. The man and woman who decided their own future without realizing it. How similar we all are in sin. How similar we all are in potential. How different we look to the world.

And yet, how wondrous it is that we are all offered the same hope: "Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in Heaven."

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

### Why do we do that?

#### Catholic Life Explained

##### Question:

Can you explain what we mean by a vocation or calling? I have heard this term used in many different contexts and am not sure what it means. Does it apply to religious life?

##### Answer:

A vocation or calling refers to a spiritual experience whereby a person senses within oneself the closeness of God and what he is asking in one's life. It is a realization of what one's part in God's plan could be. Vocation comes in all kinds of ways. Some are as dramatic as St. Paul's, being knocked off his horse, blinded, and hearing God's voice. Others are less dramatic, often occurring over time through little events and personal interests. Others happen in a hurry, accompanied by great spiritual insight or conversion. We often think that this applies to religious vocation, but in fact, every Christian has a vocation, a calling to serve others in and through the church. Whether married or single, religious or lay, we are all called to live out our baptismal commitment to preach and teach the Gospel message. Each of us has our role to play in God's plan, and we become coworkers with God in the work of redemption. With a little confidence, a willing spirit and God's grace, we can and will respond to his unique call.



## Ministry Schedule

### February 7 & 8

**Saturday, February 7 - 4:00 p.m.**Extraordinary Minister - Matt Skwarczek, **alternate needed**Lector - **Volunteer needed**Servers - **Volunteers needed**

Ushers - Ron Henke, Bob Jacovec, Doug Letterly, Bob Schmitt, Fran Schmitt

**Sunday, February 8 - 7:30 a.m.**Extraordinary Ministers - **Two volunteers needed**Lector - **Volunteer needed**

Servers - Pete Collins, Ron Marketti

**Sunday, February 8 - 9:00 a.m. (Sacred Heart, Kinsman)**

Extraordinary Minister - Pam Siedentop

Lector - Ed Condon

Servers - Emma McDonald &amp; Jack Veselak

**Sunday, February 8 - 11:30 a.m.**Extraordinary Ministers - **Two volunteers needed**Lector - **Volunteer needed**Servers - **Volunteers needed**

Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us!

**MEN OF CHRIST**  
LIVE YOUR FAITH BOLDLY  
JOLIET

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**SATURDAY 14 MARCH 2026**  
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Ages 14 & Over

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Young men ages 14-17 are welcome to attend when accompanied by a father or adult guardian.

**REGISTER @**  
[menofchrist.net/joliet](http://menofchrist.net/joliet)

**Assumption Weekly Offering + E-Giving**

Annual Offering Budget (7/1/2025 - 6/30/2026)	\$326,141
YTD Offering Budget	\$188,160
YTD Actual Offering	<b>\$229,904</b>
Last Week's Mass Offering	\$4,595
Last Week's E-Giving Offering	\$1,263
Last Week's Total Offering	\$5,858
<b>Weekly Goal</b>	<b>\$6,272</b>

**Assumption Church Building Loan Balance through December, 2025**

Loan Amount	\$620,123
Current Loan Balance	\$587,099

**Sacred Heart, Kinsman Weekly Offering**

1/18/26 Sunday Collection	\$1,309
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to donate to Assumption?**



Scan the QR code on the left.

**Ash Wednesday Masses****Wednesday, February 18**

8:30 a.m. - Sacred Heart/Kinsman

12:00 p.m. - Assumption

6:30 p.m. - Assumption

**DID YOU KNOW?**

**THERE ARE 5 PATRON SAINTS OF NURSES! ST. AGATHA, ST. CAMILLUS, ST. CATHERINE OF SIENA, ST. JOHN OF GOD, AND RAPHAEL THE ARCHANGEL.**

## Kids Corner

### Prayer

Dear God, help me love other people the way you want me to.

### Mission for the Week

God loves peacemakers. The next time you are tempted to argue with someone, think of ways to get along instead.

### Sharing the Gospel

God sees the loving things you do. When you show kindness to others, especially when they don't deserve it, your kindness will come back to you. When you see others fighting, and you help them get along, you show that you are God's child. When you are gentle, not bossy, you make God smile. Even when it is hard, keep on doing what's right. One day in heaven God will reward you for the good choices you make.

Now color  
the picture!



Unscramble words from today's Gospel.

blessed  
meek  
filled

mercy  
pure  
peace

kingdom  
reward  
heaven

bsedles      b l e s s e d

pacee      \_\_\_\_\_

meke      \_\_\_\_\_

kidomng      \_\_\_\_\_

filedl      \_\_\_\_\_

reardw      \_\_\_\_\_

mecyr      \_\_\_\_\_

hevena      \_\_\_\_\_

peur      \_\_\_\_\_



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