

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FASTED

FOR 40 DAYS.

— MATTHEW 4:2 —

ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 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 February 21	
4:00 PM Mass (A)	People of the Parish Special Intention for Good Health of Cindi Meyer Brandeis (Larry & Donna) †Ken Cromer (Family)
SUNDAY February 22 First Sunday of Lent	
7:30 AM Mass (A)	†Gene Bianchetta (Noma) †Betty Onsen (Peter & Carm Collins)
9:00 AM Mass (SH)	†Loisanne O'Connell (Pam & Dave Brockman)
11:30 AM Mass (A)	†Gwendolyn Vacca (Mark & Roseanne Matteson) †Mildred L. Lestina (Lestina Family) †Sherman Hamerla (Ray & Ruth Dillon)
TUESDAY February 24	
6:30 PM Mass (A)	†Shirley Boero (Doug & Evy Letterly)
WEDNESDAY February 25	
8:30 AM Mass (SH)	†Loisanne O'Connell (Rose Mary Dix)
THURSDAY February 26	
8:30 AM Mass (A)	†Betty Watson (Nernia Walker)
FRIDAY February 27	
8:30 AM Mass (A)	†James Francis Sheehy (Rick & Laura Marizza)
SATURDAY February 28	
4:00 PM Mass (A)	†Betty Watson (Gloria Natyshok) †Marv & Helen Kessler (Family) †Louis & Pauline Bianchetta (Don & Pat Bianchetta)
SUNDAY March 1 Second Sunday of Lent	
7:30 AM Mass (A)	Special Intention for Living Members of Raymond Jones & Family (Peter & Carm Collins)
9:00 AM Mass (SH)	†Jack Dunn (Dave & Pam Brockman)
11:30 AM Mass (A)	People of the Parish †Shirley Boero (Family)

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, February 22	
6:30 pm - Evening Adult Bible Study - Madonna Room	
Monday, February 23	
Coal Food Pantry Open - 815-216-3288	
Tuesday, February 24	
No Events	
Wednesday, February 25	
6:00 pm - The Chosen Viewing - Berst Hall	
Thursday, February 26	
9:30 am - Bible Study - Madonna Room Coal Food Pantry Open - 815-216-3288	
Friday, February 27	
6:30 pm - Stations of the Cross - Assumption Church	
Saturday, February 28	
2:45 pm - Children's Bell Choir Rehearsal - Madonna Room	
Sunday, March 1	
9:45 am - Family Faith Formation - Berst Hall 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:

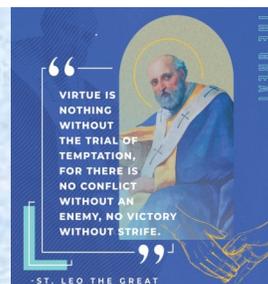
Nancy Armstrong & Family, Sharee Beeler, Barry Berta, Paula Beshoar, Cindi Meyer Brandeis, Stacey Brown, Tom Buban, Ryan Collins, Jan Dunn, Kay & Mark Francisco, Mary Jo Maland, Gloria Markl, Donna Meyer, Frank & Jean Peters, Larry Ried, Cecelia Schimandle, Steve Stork, Helen Talty, Cary Teska, Glenn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

Publications for Lent Now Available in Assumption's Narthex

- **The Little Black Book** - Suggested \$1 free will offering per copy
- **The Word Among Us** - Complimentary

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

The season of Lent begins each year with the story of the devil tempting Jesus in the desert. As we embark on the 40 days of Lent, what temptations are you willing to confront?



Breakfast

WITH OUR FATHERS

Thursday, March 19th
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.



Whistle Stop Cafe
Restaurant & Pub

The CHOSEN
ANGEL STUDIOS

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.

LENTEN DISCIPLINES OF FASTING & ABSTINENCE

Catholics in good health ages 18 to 59 are required to fast and to abstain from meat on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

Fasting consists of eating only one meal, with the possibility of two smaller snacks that do not add up to a single full meal.

Catholics age 14 and older are to abstain from meat on all Fridays in Lent.

©LPI

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

AT ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Join us all Fridays during Lent at 6:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 20 | FEBRUARY 27
MARCH 6 | MARCH 13
MARCH 20 | MARCH 27

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Calling All Children

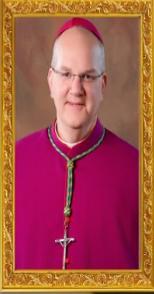
No need to know how to sing. Just have to know how to ring a bell.

Rehearsal every Saturday starting on Feb. 21 - 28th from 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. in the Madonna Room.
Performance at 11:30 am Mass on Easter Sunday, April 5th.

please contact Alex Kuhel at (815) 655-2440.



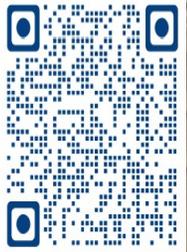
SUNDAY
MARCH 1, 2026
DisABILITIES Mass



OUR LADY OF MERCY CHURCH
701 S. EOLA RD.
AURORA, IL

Reception to Follow

Most Reverend
Dennis E. Spies

Scan to Register!



DIOCESE OF JOLIET

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION



Deacon Tony Clislem, Ed.D.

*What is spiritual direction?
How do I find a spiritual director?
Do I hear a call to be a trained spiritual director?*

COME AND SEE

WHO: Persons of Faith interested in . . .

- Learning about spiritual direction
- Finding a spiritual director.
- Becoming a spiritual director.

WHEN: Wed., March 4, 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: St. Isaac Jogues Catholic Church (Fireplace Room)
306 W. Fourth Street, Hinsdale

HOW: Enter glass doors next to main church entrance.
Limited space. Register by March 1 here:

[HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/R/9UNQN3AF3W](https://forms.office.com/R/9UNQN3AF3W)



PRESENTED BY: Deacon Tony Clislem, Ed.D. Catechetical Lead, Diocese of Joliet
WITH: Spiritual direction panel.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 815-221-6142 OR EMAIL
ACLISHEM@DIOCESEOFJOLIET.ORG

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS #1574 PRESENTS

St. Patrick's

EUCHRE NIGHT!

Sunday, March 15



Berst Center • 180 S Kankakee St, Coal City, IL
Doors Open at Noon • Games Start at 1:30PM

\$20 Entry to Play

Wear Green or Basketball Attire for a Chance to Win a Prize!
BYO Alcohol & Bring Cash for Sidepots/Loners!

RSVP: TJ Sforza: 815-608-2110 or KofCBraidwood@gmail.com

To Secure Your Spot!

EVERYONE IS WELCOMED

Assumption Church
Fellowship Committee
Presents

2nd Annual

EGG HUNT

SUN. MARCH 22ND
THE HUNT BEGINS AT 2PM

195 S Kankakee St,
Coal City, IL 60416

The fun continues after the hunt! Join us in Berst Hall for snacks,
hot dogs, games and face painting. Don't miss the petting zoo,
weather permitting!

****In the event of inclement weather, the hunt will be held in the hall****

**FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL OUR OFFICE
SECRETARY AT 815.634.4171 EXT 1**

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

The LORD God formed man out of the clay of the ground and blew into his nostrils the breath of life. (Gn 2:7)

Psalm:

Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned. (Ps 51)

Second Reading:

For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous. (Rom 5:19)

Gospel:

At that time Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil. He fasted for forty days and forty nights. (Mt 4:1-2)

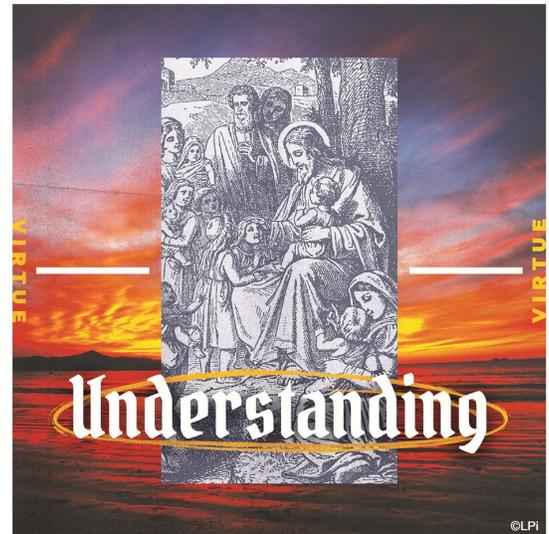
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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

Our Lord is so humble that he allows us to see him experience temptation. The vulnerability of this moment is awesome to behold. Let us learn from Jesus' interaction with the devil, and be transformed by it. Let us say, with him: "Get away, Satan."

Observances for the week of February 22, 2026

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Lent
Monday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
Friday: St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church
Next Sunday: 2nd Sunday of Lent



Virtues, Explained!

Understanding is the "food" of faith. "I believe, in order to understand," said St. Augustine. We must constantly ask the Holy Spirit for greater and more profound understanding, for though understanding proceeds from faith, it in turn nourishes that faith.

Lenten Blessing

Bless us in Your mercy, Lord, as we enter these 40 Days of Lent. Use this time to call, anoint, bind, strengthen, and inspire us anew. Like a good shepherd, teach us Your voice, and give us the strength to follow. Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of February 22, 2026

Sunday:

Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17/
Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

Monday:

Lv 19:1-2, 11-18/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/
Mt 25:31-46

Tuesday:

Is 55:10-11/Ps 34:4-5, 6-7, 16-17, 18-19/
Mt 6:7-15

Wednesday:

Jon 3:1-10/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 18-19/
Lk 11:29-32

Thursday:

Est C:12, 14-16, 23-25/Ps 138:1-2ab,
2cde-3, 7c-8/Mt 7:7-12

Friday:

Ez 18:21-28/Ps 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-7a, 7bc-8/
Mt 5:20-26

Saturday:

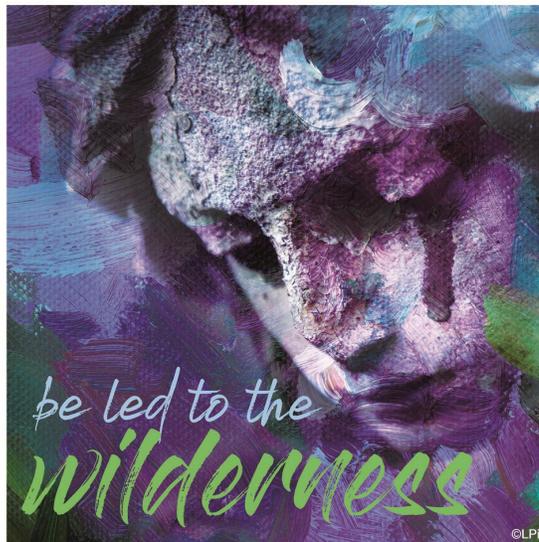
Dt 26:16-19/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 7-8/
Mt 5:43-48

Next Sunday:

Gn 12:1-4a/Ps 33:4-5, 18-19, 20, 22/
2 Tm 1:8b-10/Mt 17:1-9



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

In my second-to-last year of seminary, I woke up one September morning to devastating news: two beloved classmates had died in a car crash. I was overwhelmed with grief and anger like I had never known. I entered therapy for the first time and had intense conversations with my spiritual director. For months I felt lost in a spiritual wilderness. But something unexpected happened: I encountered Christ there. The fear and sorrow didn't destroy me. In fact, that spiritual desert was a time of intense growth in faith.

Today's Gospel begins: **"Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil" (Matthew 4:1).** The word "led" denotes a gentle, humble submission to the Spirit. Jesus does not send himself into this desolate place where wild beasts roam and Satan tempts. Who wants to be around roaming, wild beasts? The Church Fathers saw them as symbols of our inner chaos: fears, temptations, wounds. The Spirit leads us there, sometimes against our wishes. But those same Fathers also saw that this deserted place is also where angels ministered to Jesus, amidst his great trial and temptation.

Lenten Challenge: This Lent and throughout life's struggles, the Spirit leads you and me into the wilderness. Name one "desert" into which the Spirit has led you: perhaps grief, fear, silence, change, disappointment. Ask for the grace to go there willingly. The beasts may be real, but they will not harm you. There, the angels are waiting to minister to the Christ living in you, who always goes where the Spirit leads.

— *Father John Muir*

Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Mini Reflection: There are many reasons why the Word became flesh. But I think one of the most important reasons must have been that God wanted to show us that He knows, intimately, how easily the devil exploits our physical experience of this world.

Into the Desert

When we first got married, I wanted to know everything my husband was thinking, exactly when he was thinking it.

Thirteen years later, I still want to know it all. But I want to know it after he's had a snack.

I think he still wants to know what I'm thinking, too. But he wants to know it after I've had 10 minutes without hearing the word, "Mommy!"

Life has taught us, you see, that it's hard to be a good person, a nice person, a gentle person, when your body doesn't feel good or nice or gentle. When you're hungry. When you're exhausted. When you're anxious.

It's not impossible, of course. It's just ... *hard*.

We're entering a penitential season, a time in which we purposefully deprive ourselves in certain ways. During Lent, we intentionally enter into the desert of physical hunger and weakness. Why, in preparation for Easter and in an effort to spiritually purify ourselves, do we go to this place where it's so *hard to be good*? Why do we go to the desert?

Because Christ has shown us that the desert is where decisions are made.

There are many reasons why the Word became flesh to accomplish God's plan for our salvation. But I think one of the most important reasons must have been that God wanted to show us that He knows, intimately, how easily the devil exploits our physical experience of this world. We see it in today's Gospel: Jesus, hungry and weary. Jesus, taunted and tempted.

We see him. We recognize him. We are him.

And we hear his voice, even though it trembles with fatigue: "Get away, Satan!"

Today, we enter the desert. Because the desert is where decisions are made.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that?

Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What does Jesus mean when he talks about taking up our cross?

Answer:

Our journey of faith begins in baptism. When we are faithful to it, we find God's plan for us, his way of allowing us to participate in his saving work, which in turn becomes for us our own salvation. Stated simply, we share in the mission of Jesus each day. We live our life with all of its ups, downs, joys, and sorrows in union with the mission of Jesus. Our work then is holy. It is joined to the cross, God's will for Jesus — the way in which he destroys sin and death and makes eternal life possible. His sacrifice accomplishes what we ourselves cannot do.

To take up the cross, then, means that we share in the mission of Jesus and so embrace the sufferings of the cross. It is our daily life made holy, given a redemptive mission. It is our purpose and goal to unite our life to that of Christ. St. Paul says it best, "If we have grown into union with him through a death like his, we shall also be united with him in the resurrection" (Rom 6:5).



Ministry Schedule

Feb. 27 – Mar. 1



Friday, February 27 - Stations of the Cross - 6:30 p.m.
 Server - Bill Pohl

Saturday, February 28 - 4:00 p.m.
 Extraordinary Minister - **Two volunteers needed**
 Lector - **Volunteer needed**
 Servers - **Volunteers needed**
 Ushers - Ron Henke, Bob Jacovec, Doug Letterly, Bob Schmitt, Fran Schmitt

Sunday, March 1 - 7:30 a.m.
 Extraordinary Ministers - Carm Collins, **alternate needed**
 Lector - **Volunteer needed**
 Servers - Pete Collins, Ron Marketti

Sunday, March 1 - 9:00 a.m. (Sacred Heart, Kinsman)
 Extraordinary Minister - Pam Siedentop
 Lector - Ed Condon
 Servers - Emma McDonald & Jack Veselak

Sunday, March 1 - 11:30 a.m.
 Extraordinary Ministers - Julie Keigher, **alternate needed**
 Lector - **Volunteer needed**
 Servers - **Volunteers needed**

Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us!

Assumption Weekly Offering + E-Giving	
Annual Offering Budget (7/1/2025 - 6/30/2026)	\$326,141
YTD Offering Budget	\$206,976
YTD Actual Offering	\$253,738
Last Week's Mass Offering	\$5,602
Last Week's E-Giving Offering	\$2,268
Last Week's Total Offering	\$7,870
Weekly Goal	\$6,272

Assumption Church Building Loan Balance through January, 2026	
Loan Amount	\$620,123
Current Loan Balance	\$585,215

Sacred Heart, Kinsman Weekly Offering	
2/8/26 Sunday Collection	\$1,543



Want an easy way to donate to Assumption?

Scan the QR code on the left.





Jessica Davis & Family

We're so happy you're here!



Amelia Grace Leiterman
Benjamin Daniel Leiterman
Charlotte Marie Leiterman

Parents: Brent & Alison Leiterman

February 15, 2026
Assumption Church

May our Lord bless each of you!

CHOIR PRACTICE

Our weekly Wednesday evening choir practices for Easter Masses at Assumption Church are scheduled for 7 p.m. in the church on March 18, March 25, and April 1. Please be sure to mark your calendars.

Let's Meet Our CMAA Goal

If you have already pledged to the Catholic Ministries Annual Appeal (CMAA), we sincerely thank you! Let's join together to meet our parish goal of \$34,200. Every gift makes a difference.

If you still plan on making your gift, please prayerfully consider how you can elevate your faith beyond all expectations in support of those in need. Pledge envelopes are still available in church, or you can use the envelope you received in the mail from the diocese. We also welcome online gifts at jolietdioceseappeal.org

Remember, we receive 70% of any amount raised over our goal to reinvest in our own parish. This is an incredible opportunity and blessing!

CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: According to the Acts of the Apostles, who was selected to replace the Apostle Judas?
Answer: St. Matthias.

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