

# **ASSUMPTION CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2025**

## **1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT**



"So too, you also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come." - Mt 24:44

**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.**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

<b>SATURDAY November 29</b>	
<b>4:00 PM Mass (A)</b>	<b>People of the Parish</b> †Ron Shain ( <i>Mom &amp; Dad</i> ) †Jeff Keck ( <i>Kathie Simons</i> ) †Imelda, Yolanda, Cynthia, & Joaquin Romero ( <i>Ramona Briones</i> ) †Chet Davito ( <i>Family</i> ) †Ken, Loretta, & Mike Funk ( <i>Vince, Marcie, &amp; Family</i> )
<b>SUNDAY November 30 First Sunday of Advent</b>	
<b>7:30 AM Mass (A)</b>	†Anthony Farrero ( <i>Ron &amp; Dianne Marketti</i> ) †Nancy Jacobek ( <i>Peter &amp; Carm Collins</i> )
<b>9:00 AM Mass (SH)</b>	†Pat Walsh ( <i>John T. Walsh</i> )
<b>11:30 AM Mass (A)</b>	†Pat Walker ( <i>Karen Turner</i> ) †Linda L. Jacque ( <b>Lestina</b> ) ( <i>Lestina Family</i> ) †Jeff Keck ( <i>Meg &amp; Paul Studer</i> ) †Albert Paoletti ( <i>Madonna &amp; Lucille</i> ) †All Deceased Plese Family ( <i>Lucille</i> )
<b>TUESDAY December 2 St. Peregrine Devotions</b>	
<b>6:30 PM Mass (A)</b>	†Pat Walker ( <i>Karen Turner</i> )
<b>WEDNESDAY December 3</b>	
<b>8:30 AM Mass (SH)</b>	†Kenneth Brockman
<b>THURSDAY December 4</b>	
<b>8:30 AM Mass (A)</b>	†Shirley Boero ( <i>John &amp; Teri Jo Boylan</i> )
<b>FRIDAY December 5</b>	
<b>8:30 AM Mass (A)</b>	†Mary Burch ( <i>Ron &amp; Dianne Marketti</i> )
<b>SATURDAY December 6 First Saturday</b>	
<b>8:30 AM Mass (A)</b>	†Ray & Betty Onsen ( <i>John &amp; Teri Jo Boylan</i> )
<b>4:00 PM Mass (A)</b>	<b>Special Intention (Family)</b> †Shirley Boero ( <i>Pat Davito</i> ) †Jerry Heavens ( <i>Family</i> )
<b>SUNDAY December 7 Second Sunday of Advent</b>	
<b>7:30 AM Mass (A)</b>	†Jack Naiden ( <i>John &amp; Teri Jo Boylan</i> )
<b>9:00 AM Mass (SH)</b>	†Don Bartman ( <i>Lynn Phelan</i> )
<b>11:30 AM Mass (A)</b>	†Larry Ferrari ( <i>Billy &amp; Carol Pohl</i> ) †Jack Aichele ( <i>Pat &amp; Family</i> ) †John Zentmyer ( <i>Georgia &amp; Family</i> )

## Sweets Sunday Christmas Bake Sale

Plan to stop by the narthex December 6 and 7 to pick up some sweet treats at the Sweets Sunday Christmas Bake Sale sponsored by FCSLA. All proceeds to be used for school roof repair.

Anyone wishing to donate baked goods may drop off at the Berst Center Kitchen Door on Saturday, December 6 from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Please contact Teri Jo Boylan 815.326.0254 for more information.



## Weekly Confession Times

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



## This Week's Events

<b>A:</b> Assumption	<b>SH:</b> Sacred Heart
<b>Sunday, November 30</b>	
No Events (Today's Evening Adult Bible Study session has been canceled.)	
<b>Monday, December 1</b>	
4:30 pm - St. Vincent Meals - Berst Hall Coal Food Pantry Open - 815-216-3288	
<b>Tuesday, December 2</b>	
No Events	
<b>Wednesday, December 3</b>	
7:00 pm - Choir Rehearsal - Assumption Church	
<b>Thursday, December 4</b>	
9:30 am - Bible Study - Madonna Room	
<b>Friday, December 5</b>	
No Events	
<b>Saturday, December 6</b>	
Christmas Bake Sale - Narthex - Assumption Church 2:45 pm - Children's Handbell Choir Rehearsal - Madonna Room	
<b>Sunday, December 7</b>	
Christmas Bake Sale - Narthex - Assumption Church 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

## 2025 CMAA Report (as of Nov. 16, 2025)

Goal: \$32,500 Pledged: \$43,577 Paid: \$40,658 Donors: 169

**Please pray for the sick:** Nancy Armstrong & Family, Sharee Beeler, Paula Beshoar, Stacey Brown, Tom Buban, Denise Chally, Ryan Collins, Pam Cruz, Charlotte Curtis, Jan Dunn, Mark & Kay Francisco, Doris Giordano, Dolores Hertenstein, Pat Hudetz, Jim Jacobek, Mary Jo Maland, Gloria Markl, Donna Meyer, Steven Miller, Dan Olson, Jean Peters, Larry Ried, Cecelia Schimandle, Fred & Wanda Singer, Jeff & Danita Stepanek, Helen Talty, Glenn VanDrie, Steve Varsolona, Jake Veronda, Liz Veronda, John T. Walsh  
Names will remain on the prayer list for six months. If you would like your name to remain on the list, please contact us.



# Weekly Prayer

## Sunday's Readings

### First Reading:

O house of Jacob, come,  
let us walk in the light of the LORD! (Isa 2:5)

### Psalm:

Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (Ps 122)

### Second Reading:

You know the time;  
it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep.  
For our salvation is nearer now than when  
we first believed. (Rom 13:11)

### Gospel:

"So too, you also must be prepared,  
for at an hour you do not expect,  
the Son of Man will come." (Mt 24:44)

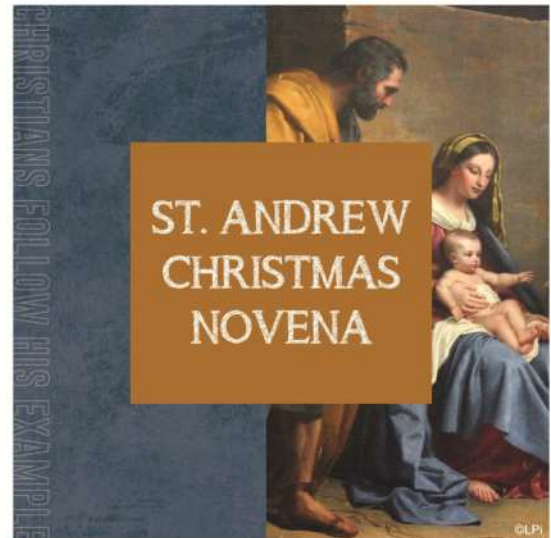
Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.  
The English translation of Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass © 1969, 1981, 1997,  
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## Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

"You do not know on which day your Lord will come," Jesus says. He is reminding us that we do not know the mind of God. But we do know the heart of God, and we know that it is filled with mercy for those who heed the warning: Stay awake!

## Observances for the week of November 30, 2025

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Advent; Respect Life Sunday  
**Wednesday:** St. Francis Xavier, Priest  
**Thursday:** St. John Damascene, Priest and Doctor of the Church  
**Saturday:** St. Nicholas, Bishop  
**Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Advent



## Devotions, Explained!

The St. Andrew Christmas novena is a prayer said from Nov. 30 through Christmas Eve. St. Andrew was the first disciple of Christ, and in saying this prayer Christians follow his example of prescient faithfulness throughout the days of Advent.

## Prayer for Advent - Arise

Bless God's Holy Name!  
Prepare our hearts for Your coming, Lord.  
Awaken them from any places that have become sleepy or despondent.  
Inspire us with new visions.  
Be with us as we climb closer to You.  
Amen.

# Worship & Meditation

## Readings for the week of November 30, 2025

### Sunday:

Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/  
Rom 13:11-14/Mt 24:37-44

### Monday:

Is 4:2-6/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/  
Mt 8:5-11

### Tuesday:

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17/  
Lk 10:21-24

### Wednesday:

Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6/  
Mt 15:29-37

### Thursday:

Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a/  
Mt 7:21, 24-27

### Friday:

Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Mt 9:27-31

### Saturday:

Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/  
Mt 9:35-10:1, 5a, 6-8

### Next Sunday:

Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 (see 7)/  
Rom 15:4-9/Mt 3:1-12



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## Gospel Meditation

### Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

A few years ago, my house was broken into on Super Bowl Sunday. Turns out, it's a great day for burglars. If the TV isn't on, people are probably watching the game somewhere else, so ... easy pickins'. I'll never forget walking into my bedroom and realizing someone had been there. My stuff was thrown all over the floor. The closet was torn apart. It was disorienting and disturbing — someone had invaded the space I thought was secure. After that, I bought an alarm system. And every Super Bowl Sunday since, I'm extra careful to lock the doors and keep the lights on. That experience made me more alert. Not scared. Just attentive.

That's much like the spiritual place Jesus wants us to be on this first Sunday of Advent. He doesn't start the season with soft candlelight and cozy manger scenes. He starts with two brutal images: a flood and a thief. In other words, chaos and violation.

Why? Because life will flood us. Chaos *will* come. And in the midst of it, Christ will come like a thief — not to steal from us, but to steal us back. He is the intruder we should want. The one who breaks in, not to ransack, but to rescue.

Christ presents himself as the thief but also the new Noah. He builds the ark of the Church to carry us through the flood. And he invites us to join him. How? By participating fully in our parishes. By making our homes places of prayer. By guarding our hearts with truth. By refusing to let spiritual complacency leave us exposed. By repentance.

This Advent, don't just stay vaguely "awake." Prepare. Build. Watch. The flood will come. But so will he.

— Father John Muir



# Liturgical Life

## (PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

**Mini Reflection:** Of course the world is ending. It has been ending forever. And the Son of Man is coming — but don't forget, he was already here, too. And His Spirit, even now, is renewing the face of the earth. "But how?" we ask. "And when? And where?"

### Watershed Moments

In every life there are watershed moments.

I think of our time on this earth as resembling, in the beginning, a fine, firm sheet of metal, suspended with perfect balance in time and space. If a drop of water falls upon the sheet, it remains precisely where it lands.

But life goes on. We see things, we feel things, and in the seeing and the feeling, the flat, smooth metal sheet is nicked. The impacts created by those experiences are like BB pellets riddling armor; before long, the surface is pockmarked. A falling drop of water will drain or pool either in one way or the other, its action determined by the closest indentation.

A watershed has been created, a summit or valley that disrupts the smooth flatness of life. In today's Gospel, Jesus speaks about the end of the world. I'm no Biblical scholar, but I suspect the topic at hand is the Apocalypse (capital A). The big one. The explosion that upends the sheet itself and sends every drop of water crashing down. But I think, in a smaller way, it's also about all the indentations on the plane: those little apocalypses (lowercase a), the things that felt like the end of the world (or the beginning of a new one).

The loss of a job. The breakup of a relationship. The suffering of a loved one.

Of course the world is ending. It has been ending forever. And the Son of Man is coming — but don't forget, he was already here, too. And his Spirit, even now, is renewing the face of the earth.

"But how?" we ask. "And when? And where?"

Without the chinks in the armor — without the watershed moments — there is tremendous smoothness, certainly. But there is also no movement.

So look to the watershed moments, these little (and big) apocalypses. In these moments that change us, for better or worse, God is there, working, waiting.

— Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

## Why do we do that?

### Catholic Life Explained

#### Question:

When we say the Penitential Act at Mass, why do we strike our chest three times?

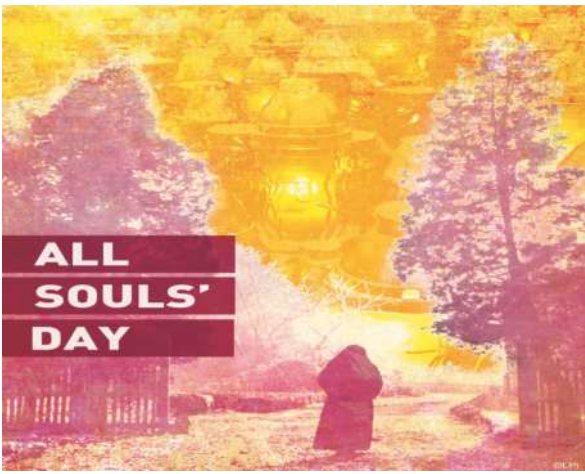
#### Answer:

Our rituals and liturgical celebrations are filled with a variety of symbols, some of which also relate to our gestures and physical postures (e.g. kneeling, sitting, processing, making the Sign of the Cross). The custom of striking our breast three times during the "I Confess" of the Penitential Act of the Mass is one of those gestures that is loaded with symbolism.

The tradition of Christian's striking the breast (above the heart) is rooted in the image of Sacred Scripture, especially texts like Psalm 51 which speak of a "humbled contrite heart" or how God heals broken hearts, binding up our wounds (see Psalm 147:3). Early Christian writers like Saint Augustine of Hippo and Saint Jerome also refer to this custom in their writings.

Ultimately, this practice is an expression of our sorrow for those times when we have been guilty of faults and a sign that we are willing to take responsibility for our sins and failings. That we all perform this gesture together is also an act of solidarity, recognizing that none of us, regardless of where we are on our journey of faith, is without fault and the need for grace and forgiveness.









## Ministry Schedule December 6 & 7



### Saturday, December 6 - 4:00 p.m.

Extraordinary Ministers - Matt Skwarczek, **volunteer needed**

Lector - **Volunteer needed**

Servers - **Volunteers needed**

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

### Sunday, December 7 - 7:30 a.m.

Extraordinary Ministers - George Kaluzny, **alternate needed**

Lector - Jaiden Leman

Servers - Pete Collins, Ron Marketti

### Sunday, December 7 - 9:00 a.m. (Sacred Heart, Kinsman)

Extraordinary Minister - Brent Sulzberger

Lector - Dave Brockman

Servers - Abi & Gwen Siedentop

### Sunday, December 7 - 11:30 a.m.

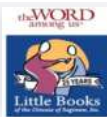
Extraordinary Ministers - Julie Keigher, **alternate needed**

Lector - **Volunteer needed**

Server - **Volunteer needed**

**Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us!**

The Word Among Us and The Little Blue Books are now in the narthex. A free will offering of only \$1 is suggested for each copy of The Little Blue Book.



The Veteran's Day card project was a huge success, so a great big thank you to everyone. The kids' cards from all of the schools and CCD classes were so cute. I read every one of them. Seneca High School was a new addition this year, so thanks to them for helping out. Also, thanks to the CCD classes from St. Lawrence and Reddick for their cards this year. We had cards for Manteno and LaSalle, the nursing homes in Morris, Dwight, Herscher, along with the VFW, and Legion Halls in Morris, Gardner, Dwight, Ottawa, and Braidwood. Needless to say, I put a few extra miles on my truck! We also have a connection with the Vets who volunteer at the Abraham Lincoln Cemetery and it was nice to get cards to them. Thanks to Laura for her help and Teri Jo for all of her help with cards and her "special snacks". The grandkids and I visited LaSalle and had a great day. The smiles made it all worthwhile. We were also invited to hand out cards at the library's ceremony here in town on the 11th and it was very special. I wish everyone who made or signed a card could deliver it personally, but we feel privileged to be able to do it for you. We'll be going back over at Christmas. Last, but not least, a special thanks to my husband and grandkids for helping me get thru the madness along with Lee and Laurie Miller for always helping me with my "projects"! Now on to Christmas!

Thanks again,

*Donna Gabehart*

## Assumption Weekly Offering + E-Giving

Annual Offering Budget (7/1/2025 - 6/30/2026)	\$326,141
YTD Offering Budget	\$125,440
YTD Actual Offering	<b>\$153,493</b>
11/16/25 Mass Offering	\$5,242
11/16/25 E-Giving Offering	\$1,668
11/16/25 Total Offering	\$6,910
<b>Weekly Goal</b>	<b>\$6,272</b>

## Assumption Church Building Loan Balance through October, 2025

Loan Amount	\$620,123
Current Loan Balance	\$591,037

## Sacred Heart, Kinsman Weekly Offering

11/9/25 Sunday Collection	\$1,456
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**Want an easy way  
to donate to Assumption?**

Scan the QR code on the left.



## CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

### Christmas Eve

4:00 p.m. - Assumption Church  
6:00 p.m. - Sacred Heart Church  
9:00 p.m. - Assumption Church

### Christmas Day

7:30 a.m. - Assumption Church  
9:00 a.m. - Sacred Heart Church  
11:30 a.m. - Assumption Church

### Confessions

**Tuesday to Friday at regular times  
None Christmas Eve or Day**

## Children's Handbell Choir



Our Children's Handbell Choir will be honoring and glorifying our Lord with their handbell music at Assumption's 4 p.m. Christmas Eve Mass. Practices are on Saturdays from 2:45 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. in the Madonna Room, through Sat., Dec. 20. For further information, or if your child would like to join, please contact Alex Kuhel at (815) 655-2440. New members are welcome!



## 38th Annual Christmas Concert Series

# Prairie Singers



*“Comfort and Joy”*

Join us as we celebrate the season with a heartwarming blend of secular and sacred music that captures the spirit of Christmas. This year marks our 38th concert series, and we are thrilled to invite you to experience the joy at any of our four festive locations.

✧ Let the harmonies of the holidays fill your heart with peace, warmth, and celebration. Whether you are a longtime fan or joining us for the first time, we promise an experience of musical magic.

Prairie Creek Public Library, Dwight, Tuesday, December 2, 6:30 p.m.  
 United Methodist Church, Morris, Saturday, December 6, 7 p.m.  
 St. Patrick Catholic Church, Seneca, Sunday, December 7, 2 p.m.  
 St. Columba Catholic Church, Ottawa, Sunday, December 14, 2 p.m.

The Dwight Public Library concert is open to the public and free of charge but reservations are required. Contact the library at 815 584 3061. The church concerts will have a free will offering.

The City-Wide Choir and  
 Coal City United Methodist Church present



## A Thrill of Hope

A Christmas Musical by Joel Raney  
 with the composer conducting

December 7, 2025

4:00 pm

Coal City UMC -  
 6805 E. McArdle Road



This event is made possible through a Vital Worship, Vital Preaching Grant from the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship, Grand Rapids, Michigan, with funds provided by Lilly Endowment Inc.

Assumption Church  
 Fellowship Committee presents

# THE CHOSEN

Episode 5

6:00-7:30pm | On Wednesday, December 10th | Berst Hall

Episode 5 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.

Diocese of Joliet Catholic Schools

## Beyond the Books

PARENTING PARTNERSHIP  
 SUPPORTING THE WHOLE CHILD

The Beyond the Books parenting workshop series accompanies parents and students as we navigate the challenging world around us.

# ONLINE SAFETY FOR PARENTS

FEATURING THE IGUARDIANS

A FREE ZOOM WEBINAR PRESENTED BY THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10 6:30 P.M.

REGISTER TODAY!

The iGuardians are savvy duo of Homeland Security Investigations special agents and their trusty canine sidekick who join forces with a student and teacher to help kids, teens and parents be smarter about online safety. Learn about the dangers of online environments, how to stay safe online, and how to report abuse and suspicious activity. Project iGuardian\* is focused on keeping children and teens safe from online predators.

## Kids Corner

### Prayer

Dear God, help me to love you and to be ready for Jesus.

### Mission for the Week

Make sure the movies, games, and music you choose help you grow closer to Jesus.

### Sharing the Gospel

Remember that when God told Noah to build an ark, his neighbors laughed at him. Then one day God sent the flood. Only Noah's family was saved because they listened to God, and they were ready. Jesus has already told you that one day he will come back. He wants you to be saved. He wants you to be ready. When you read Bible stories, listen carefully. Love God like Noah did, and learn to do what God asks.

Now color  
the picture! →

Find and circle the words from today's Gospel:

NOAH  
EATING  
DRINKING

MARRIED  
FLOOD  
TOGETHER

TAKEN  
LEFT  
READY

S	T	B	F	L	O	O	D	E	O
N	O	A	H	N	Y	U	R	M	G
U	G	R	D	O	D	T	K	A	N
O	E	A	T	I	N	G	W	R	H
N	T	Y	A	U	R	L	O	R	L
W	H	I	K	L	C	M	H	I	M
O	E	N	E	R	S	E	V	E	L
D	R	I	N	K	I	N	G	D	E
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- Asphalt

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- New Primary Care providers with expanded hours

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