

Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
Roman Catholic Parish

195 South Kankakee Street
Coal City, IL 60416

www.stmaryassumptionparish.org



Immaculate
Conception
Parish

110 South School Street
Braidwood, IL 60408

www.icparishbraidwood.org

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

INTO THE **DESERT.**

— MARK 1:13 —



— SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024 —

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parishwww.stmaryassumptionparish.org

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

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Pastor	Reverend Joshua Miller	(815) 634-4171 Ext 2	frjosh@frjosh.org
Deacon	Deacon William Dunn	(815) 634-4171 Ext 3	ddunn@abvcc.org
Business Manager	Richard Yarshen	(815) 634-4171 Ext 4	manager@abvcc.org
Property Manager	Alex Kuhel	(815) 634-4171 Ext 10	property@abvcc.org
Parish Secretary	Laura Uher	(815) 634-4171 Ext 1	secretary@abvcc.org
Youth Ministry	Dave & Sara Wollgast	(815) 287-2036	icparishbraidwood@gmail.com
Music Coordinator	Rita Wise	(815) 634-4110	rwise@abvcc.org
Director of Catechesis	Deacon William Dunn	(815) 634-4171 Ext 3	ddunn@abvcc.org

Immaculate Conception Parishwww.icparishbraidwood.org

110 South School Street • Braidwood, IL 60416 (815) 458-2125

Office hours vary; please call parish office to schedule an appointment.

Pastor	Reverend Joshua Miller	(815) 634-4171 Ext 2	frjosh@frjosh.org
Deacon	Deacon Greg Cummins	(815) 735-3016	gdmc54@att.net
Parish Secretary & Business Manager	Teri Brummerstedt	(815) 458-2125 Ext 6	icparishbraidwood@gmail.com
Youth Ministry	Dave & Sara Wollgast	(815) 287-2036	icparishbraidwood@gmail.com
Director of Catechesis	Deacon William Dunn	(815) 634-4171 Ext 3	ddunn@abvcc.org

Eucharistic Adoration Chapel**Assumption** - The Adoration Chapel is open daily from 5:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.**Immaculate Conception** - The Adoration Chapel in Fr. White Hall is open daily from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please call Anita Harding at (815) 739-9767 for the entry code before or after hours or to make an Adoration commitment.**Sacraments****ANOIDTING 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** - Second and fourth Sundays of the month after 11:30 a.m. Mass**Immaculate Conception** - First and third Sundays of the month**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.**RECONCILIATION (Different on Holy Days & Holidays)****Assumption** - Tuesday - 6:00 p.m. to 6:20 p.m., Wednesday & Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 8:20 a.m., Saturday - 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.**Immaculate Conception** - Thursday following the 8:30 a.m. Mass & Sunday following the 9:30 a.m. Mass**ST. PEREGRINE DEVOTIONS** In honor of St. Peregrine, the patron saint of those who suffer with cancer or any illness, a special devotion is held on the first Tuesday of each month following the 6:30 p.m. Mass at Assumption Church, with Adoration and Benediction.

Mass Intentions

SATURDAY February 17	
4:00 PM Mass (AP)	†Lou & Paul Ruffatti (<i>Don & Pat</i>)
SUNDAY February 18 First Sunday of Lent	
7:30 AM Mass (AP)	†Richard Marizza, Sr. (<i>Rick & Laura Marizza</i>)
9:30 AM Mass (IC)	†Deceased Members of the John Cinotto Family (<i>Jerry Cinotto</i>)
11:30 AM Mass (AP)	†Sue & A. J. Manietta (<i>Susan & Family</i>) †Megan Riley (<i>Riley Family</i>)
TUESDAY February 20	
6:30 PM Mass (AP)	†Marilyn Teresa Campbell (<i>Children</i>)
WEDNESDAY February 21	
8:30 AM Mass (AP)	†Marilyn Teresa Campbell (<i>Children</i>)
THURSDAY February 22	
8:30 AM Mass (IC)	†George Senko (<i>Joan Senko</i>)
FRIDAY February 23	
8:30 AM Mass (AP)	†Michael Marizza (<i>Rick & Laura Marizza</i>)
SATURDAY February 24	
4:00 PM Mass (AP)	Living Members of the Ruffatti & Bianchetta Families (<i>Don & Pat</i>)
SUNDAY February 25 Second Sunday of Lent	
7:30 AM Mass (AP)	†Marilyn Teresa Campbell (<i>Children</i>)
9:30 AM Mass (IC)	†Barb King (<i>Sue & Angie Kelleher</i>) †Ron Dye (<i>Kay Heberer</i>)
11:30 AM Mass (AP)	†Mildred L. Lestina (<i>Lestina Family</i>)



Although Mass intentions are commonly requested for the souls of the departed, we also accept Mass intentions for the living. If you are requesting a Mass intention for the living, and it is related to a birthday or anniversary, please let us know so this can be noted alongside the intention. The stipend for each intention is \$10.

In Your Charity, Please Pray for the Sick of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary and Immaculate Conception Parishes:

Sharee Beeler, Tom Buban, Ryan Collins, Mary Lou Cobb, Charlotte Curtis, Bradley Davis, Charita Dillon, Michael Dillon, Richard Fenoglio, Anita Harding, Stanley Jerz, Karin Kendzora, Jim Micetich, Marilyn Offerman, Frank Peters, Jean Peters, Ellen Rogers, Ed Scasny, Cecelia Schimandle, Marie Swanson, Jake Veronda, Gary Wallerich
Names will remain on the prayer list for six months. If you would like your name to remain on the list, please contact us.

Sacrament of Penance Confession Schedule

TUESDAY (AP) - 5:00 p.m. to 6:20 p.m. (Expanded during Lent)
WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY (AP) - 8:00 a.m. to 8:20 a.m.
THURSDAY (IC) - Following the 8:30 a.m. Mass
SATURDAY (AP) - 3:15 p.m. to 3:45 p.m.
SUNDAY (IC) - Following the 9:30 a.m. Mass
(Different on Holy Days & Holidays)



EXPANDED CONFESSION TIME

~All Tuesdays During Lent~
February 20 through March 26
5:00 p.m. to 6:20 p.m.
Assumption Church

This Week's Events

AP: Assumption Parish **IC:** Immaculate Conception

Sunday February 18

6:00 pm - 7:30 pm - Youth Ministry Night - IC

Monday February 19 *Presidents' Day/Parish Office Closed*

8:30 am - Communion Service - IC
 4:45 pm - St. Vincent Meals - Immaculate Conception Braidwood
 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm - Stewardship Meeting - IC
 Coal City Food Pantry Open - 815-216-3288

Tuesday February 20

Braidwood Community Care Food Pantry Open - 815-325-0779

Wednesday February 21

Assumption Food Pantry Open - 815-518-2000

Thursday February 22

9:30 am - 11:00 am - Bible Study - Madonna Room @ Berst Hall
 6:00 pm - 6:30 pm - Stations of the Cross Chaplet - IC
 Coal City Food Pantry Open - 815-216-3288

Friday February 23

6:30 pm - 7:00 pm - Stations of the Cross - AP

Saturday February 24

Bethlehem Nativity Products Available After All Masses - AP

Sunday February 25

Bethlehem Nativity Products Available After All Masses - AP



We are now studying "Angels in the Bible." There is no fee to join, and everyone is welcome to attend our weekly Thursday morning sessions at 9:30 a.m. in the Madonna Room at Berst Hall, even if joining late.

We always look forward to meeting new members!
Questions? Call Pat Hudetz at (630) 935-2103.

Assumption's Marthas Ministry will be meeting on Tues., March 5 at 9:00 a.m. in the Madonna Room at Berst Hall.

This meeting is for all current members and anyone new who wishes to join this ministry.

We hope to see you there!



On behalf of St. Catherine Catholic Parish of Bethlehem and the Christian families in Bethlehem, Bethlehem Nativity Products will be visiting Assumption parish on Saturday and Sunday, February 24th and 25th.

For centuries, the Christians 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.

Hand-carved Nativity scenes, ornaments, statues, crosses, and more beautiful olive wood hand-carved religious items will be available for purchase. Please consider purchasing a piece of art from the Holy Land to support 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.

Cash, personal checks, credit cards, and monthly installment payments will be accepted. Thank you for your generosity. Visit: www.bethlehemnativity.com.



James Niedzwiedz & Elena Cabral

~Assumption Church~

We're so happy you're here!

Little Black Books Return For Lent



The short daily entries in each book are a nice way to spend some quiet time with our Lord each day during the Lenten season.

A free will offering of only \$1 is suggested for each book, and they may be found in the narthex of Assumption Church while supplies last. Be sure to pick up your copy today!

The Unlikely Suspects

Have you ever taken a nature walk? Have you leisurely strolled through a forest or field, with no real destination in mind and your only objective being receptivity to and observation of all God's creation?

Sometimes, Scripture readings can feel like a nature walk. All of salvation history plays out against the backdrop of the natural world, with all elements of God's creation — plants and animals and the dust of the earth itself — turning in a supporting performance. How about Jesus in the hot and dusty desert, tempted, living "among the wild beasts?" Noah departed from his ark with the animals he rescued, observing God's sign in the very clouds of the sky. Even God Himself, offering us salvation from original sin through the waters of baptism.

How often do we remember that God speaks to us through all of His creation, even in the unlikely suspects?

Let's go back to the nature walk. It sounds like a lovely way to pass an afternoon, amongst wildflowers and butterflies, but don't forget the beating hot sun, mosquitos, and threat of rain on the horizon. Remember, we're not in heaven yet. Here on earth, God may be present in His creation, but that doesn't mean it's always easy to endure.

Lent is, essentially, a time to listen for the voice of God in places we may not expect: the mild irritations you experience when you're craving the chocolate you gave up, or the dull pangs of hunger during the Ash Wednesday fast. It's a golden opportunity to see the divine hand in all of creation, even those unlikely suspects.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS ©LPi



**Our parish office
will be closed on
Monday, February 19th
in observance of the
Presidents' Day holiday.**

Seeing Past The Distractions

When I was a teenager, the experience of Catholic retreat basically changed my life. I wasn't lost or hurting, but the 3 days placed me on a path that led to where I am today. Certainly, my experiences of faith before and after that week-end also played a role in the person I have become. However, the power of God I felt in that short period of time had such a profound effect on me it became a type of lens through which I then came to see the rest of my life.

Sometimes we need to get away from it all to realize what really matters in life. We step back and see things more clearly. When we are fully in the world it is hard to get past the busyness and constant noise of modern existence. Distractions are all around us and our attention span can be so limited when it comes to truth.

This Lent, find the time to slow down, to get away from it all, and to rest in the peaceful arms of God. Go to the desert and work on surrendering all you are, and have, and will be to Jesus. Reflect on the many gifts you have been given and discern the best ways to cultivate those for God's glory. As this season begins, be mindful of the fact that this time will never come again. There might be a Lenten season next year, but God is calling you now.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

The Way of the Cross (Stations)

**Every Thursday
at 6 PM**

**February 15 to
March 21, 2024**

**Immaculate
Conception Parish**

Lite meal served after in Fr. White Hall



Dear Brothers and sisters, a happy and holy Lenten Season!

The message which Christians bring to the world is this! Jesus, Love incarnate, died on the cross for our sins. But God the Father raised him and made him the Lord of life and death. In Jesus, love has triumphed over hatred. Mercy over sinfulness. Goodness over evil. Truth over falsehood. Life over death.

*-From the Urbi et Orbi Message of Pope Francis
Easter 2014*

**This is why we come to do the Stations of the Cross.
To walk the path Jesus walked to his death
and resurrection on the cross.**

Please come join us on Jesus' path this Lenten Season!


STATIONS OF THE CROSS

ASSUMPTION CHURCH

Please join us on all Fridays in Lent | 6:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 16	FEBRUARY 23
MARCH 1	MARCH 8
MARCH 15	MARCH 22

815-634-4171 | stmmaryassumptionparish.org



Assumption of the BVM Catholic Church Super Bowl Square Fundraiser

Congratulations to our winners!

SQUARES	SCORE	AMOUNT	WINNER	SQUARES	AMOUNT	WINNER
1ST QUARTER	0,0	\$800	Cale Ripsch	1ST REVERSE	\$200	Cale Ripsch
2ND QUARTER	SF 10, KC 3	\$800	Nick Bonarek	2ND REVERSE	\$200	Lucy Cueller
3RD QUARTER	SF 10, KC 13	\$800	Nick Bonarek	3RD REVERSE	\$200	Lucy Cueller
FINAL	SF 22, KC 25	\$1,600	Bill Berry	FINAL REVERSE	\$400	Terry Halliday
Double numbers		\$100	0,0- Cale Ripsch, 1,1- J&M Micetich, 2,2- Georgene Vanduyne, 3,3- Mark Masters, 4,4- Ashley B., 5,5- Dave Mondo, 6,6- Melissa Karp, 7,7- Larry Meyer, 8,8- Stacey Liebhauser, 9,9- Bob Frendling			

Weekly Prayer

Sunday's Readings

First Reading:

God said to Noah and to his sons with him:
 "See, I am now establishing my covenant with you
 and your descendants after you
 and with every living creature that was with you."
 (Gn 9:8-10)

Psalm:

Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who
 keep your covenant. (Ps 25)

Second Reading:

It is not a removal of dirt from the body
 but an appeal to God for a clear conscience,
 through the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (1 Pt 3:21)

Gospel:

He was among wild beasts,
 and the angels ministered to him. (Mk 1:13)

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Live The Liturgy Inspiration of the Week

In the desert, Jesus endured forty days of hardship and temptation. But he did not endure it alone: "the angels ministered to him," the Gospel tells us. Remember that you do not face Lent alone. God is beside you in your journey to the desert.

Observances for the week of February 18, 2024

- Sunday:** 1st Sunday of Lent
- Monday:** Presidents' Day
- Wednesday:** St. Peter Damian, Bishop and Doctor of the Church
- Thursday:** The Chair of St. Peter the Apostle
- Friday:** St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr
- Next Sunday:** 2nd Sunday of Lent



Saint of the week

St. Pius X's devotion to the Eucharist was truly inspiring! He lowered the age of First Communion to seven years old, encouraging young hearts to encounter Christ early-on. He also advocated that everyone, regardless of their social class, should have access to the Eucharist.

Prayer for Lent

Dear Jesus,
 This is the first Sunday of Lent, and I want to commit myself more deeply to you this season. Inspire me with the Lenten penances you most desire, the ones that help me to grow ever nearer to you. Amen.

Worship & Meditation

Readings for the week of February 18, 2024

Sunday:

Gn 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (see 10)/
1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

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:

1 Pt 5:1-4/Ps 23:1-3a, 4, 5, 6/Mt 16:13-19

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 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18/Ps 116:10, 15,
16-17, 18-19 (116:9)/Rom 8:31b-34/
Mk 9:2-10



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Gospel Meditation

Encourage Deeper Understanding of Scripture

When I feel down, I sometimes watch the famous “Double Rainbow” video on YouTube to feel better. It’s hilarious. A young man camping in Yosemite Park sees two rainbows stretching across the sky. He bursts into a kind of ecstasy. “Double rainbow, all the way! Oh my God!” he announces. Then he starts to weep. He cries out, “What does it *mean*?” Beneath the humor of his glorious overreaction is the deep intuition we all have, I think, when we see the colorful bow in the sky. This Sunday, God sends a rainbow to Noah, and to us. What *does* it mean?

Long before YouTube had the double rainbow, Dante’s medieval poem *The Divine Comedy* featured one in his image of paradise. Seeing two rainbows, he muses that one is born of the other. The bow is God’s promise of peace. For Dante, it’s even more: nature’s encrypted image of the Trinitarian God. One visible rainbow (God the Son) is begotten of another usually invisible one (God the Father) united by invisible light between them (God the Spirit). Like invisible light, Trinitarian glory surrounds us in every moment — but Jesus has made it visible in his glorious body.

Lenten challenge: This might seem silly, but this Lent I invite you to find a rainbow and meditate on it. You might have to make one yourself, like this current desert-dweller will. Gaze on it. See there a natural gift from the Creator, saying to you, “Here I am! I will love and protect you, surrounding you in My glory.” This Lent let’s embrace that with confidence, rain, or shine.

— Father John Muir

Liturgical Life

(PRACTICING) CATHOLIC

Lent and the Flood

I would bet money that somewhere in your church this Lent, there's a bare tree branch draped in purple fabric and an empty bowl filled with rocks.

I'm not poking fun, the desert imagery that surrounds the season of Lent isn't a cliché — or if it is, it's only because clichés are essentially true. Lent is the desert. Lent is the wilderness. Lent is the time of less.

But what if Lent was also the flood?

It seems counterintuitive, floods are excessive, and we don't think of Lent as a time for superabundance. Lent is when we limit experiences outside of ourselves in order to limit proclivities within ourselves. Lent is not a time for anything to be washing over us, consuming us, carrying us away on a tide.

Unless...it is.

Consider the flood of the Old Testament. An act of destruction, yes, but also an act of purification. An endurance test for the soul, an epic trust fall exercise between God and Noah in which Noah had to ride the literal waves, clinging to life as God wiped away everything familiar. Everything sinful.

In Lent, we relinquish our weaknesses and our infirmities to the flood. It's frightening, certainly. But it's also exciting. Because just as the flood destroys everything, it also makes everything possible. It is a baptism.

Lent, like the flood, makes the world new.

"Put to death in the flesh, he was brought to life in the Spirit." — 1 Peter 3:18

Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

Why do we do that? Catholic Life Explained

Question:

What do the colors of the priest's and deacon's vestments mean?

Answer:

In the Roman Rite of the Catholic Church, the colors of the vestments evolved over the course of several centuries and there was wide variation both in the colors used, and in the feasts and seasons associated with particular colors. It was Pope Innocent III (d. 1216) who gave us the basic outline that was later prescribed by Pope Saint Pius V in 1570. The various colors remind us of the dominant themes of a particular season or celebration.

- **White:** Used for the seasons of Christmas and Easter and in celebrations of the Lord, of Mary, the angels, and saints who were not martyrs. This color is also used in Masses for the dead, at baptisms, weddings and other festive celebrations.
- **Red:** As the color of both blood and fire, red is used on Palm Sunday and Good Friday, as well as Pentecost and special celebrations of the Holy Spirit. Moreover, red is used on the feasts and memorials of the Apostles and those saints who died as martyrs.
- **Violet:** The color for Advent and Lent. Violet may also be used in Masses for the dead and on All Souls Day (November 2).
- **Green:** A color of life and hope, green is used throughout Ordinary Time.

Other colors: Rose may be used on the Third Sunday of Advent and the Fourth Sunday of Lent, black may be used in Masses of the dead and on All Souls Day, gold or silver may be used on solemn occasions in place of white, red, or green.

Liturgical Life

After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."
- Mk 1:14-15

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

Questions of the Week

Invite Parishioners to Reflect and Respond to Scripture

First Reading

God used a rainbow as a sign of his covenant with Noah and all living creatures to never again flood the earth. Are there some additional signs in your life of God's love for us?

Second Reading

Peter taught that baptism serves as an appeal or pledge to God for a clear conscience. What leads you to an examination of conscience?

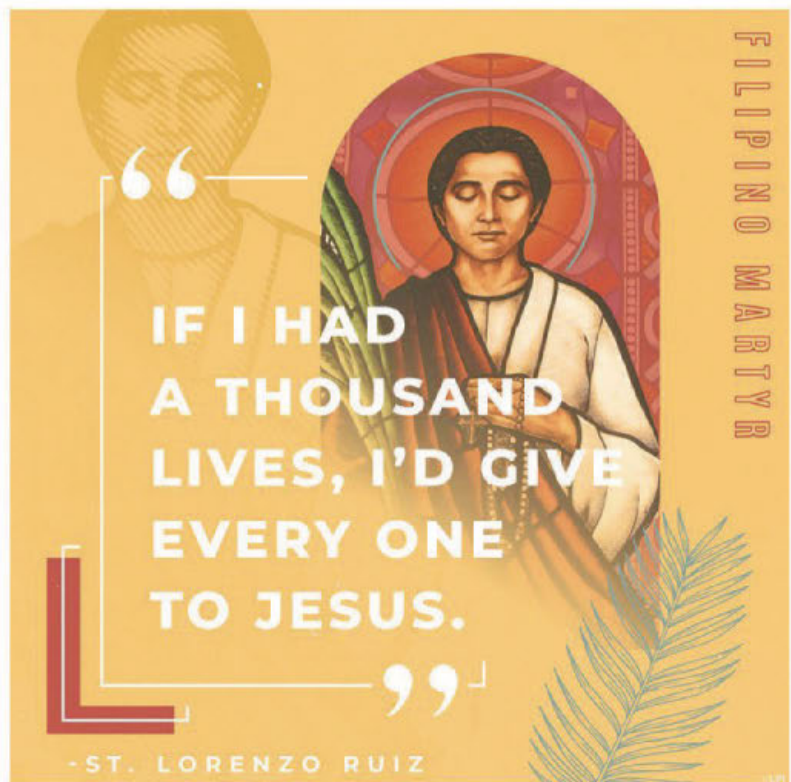
Gospel Reading

After a brief report of Jesus' temptation by Satan in the desert, we hear the first words of Jesus at the launch of his public ministry in Galilee: "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel." As we begin the Lenten journey, what are some temptations you plan to face this Lent?



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Please show your support for your parish by also supporting our advertisers. We wouldn't be able to bring you our bulletin every week without them. Please encourage and remind others to show their support and shop local.





Ministry Schedule



Assumption Church - Feb. 23 - 25

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 call or email Laura at the parish office. Confirmed volunteers for our upcoming services are below:

Friday, February 23 - 6:30 p.m. - Stations of the Cross

Server - John Boylan

Saturday, February 24 - 4:00 p.m.

Extraordinary Ministers - Tim O'Keefe, **volunteer needed**

Lector - Laura Marizza

Servers - **Volunteers needed**

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

Sunday, February 25 - 7:30 a.m.

Extraordinary Ministers - Therese Bouvier, **volunteer needed**

Lector - Jaiden Leman

Servers - Ron Marketti, Pete Collins

Sunday, February 25 - 11:30 a.m.

Extraordinary Ministers - **Volunteers needed**

Lector - John Buell

Server - Hannah Krull

Immaculate Conception Church - February 25

Sunday, February 25 - 9:30 a.m.

Extraordinary Ministers - Cheryl Boyd, Lee Roberts, Rita Werner

Greeters - Reese Evans, Fred Hejna, Angie Kelleher, Mike Molloy

Lector - Bob Dragovan

Servers - Eamon, Harper, & Margot Roberts

Thank you for sharing your time and talents with us!

Assumption Weekly Offering + E-Giving

Annual Offering Budget (7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024)	\$341,590
YTD Offering Budget	\$216,777
YTD Actual Offering	\$215,631
Last Week's Mass Offering	\$3,715
Last Week's E-Giving Offering	\$1,106
Last Week's Total Offering	\$4,821
Weekly Goal	\$6,569

Assumption Church Building Loan Balance Through November, 2023

Original Note Amount	\$796,607
Monthly Loan Payment	\$3,574
Current Loan Balance	\$467,506

Immaculate Conception Weekly Offering

Annual Offering Budget (7/1/2023 - 6/30/2024)	\$115,440
YTD Offering Budget	\$71,040
YTD Actual Offering	\$81,922
Last Week's Total Offering	TBD
Weekly Goal	\$2,220

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

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY

Synod Sessions

The Diocese of Joliet will host two Synod Sessions to gather feedback from diocesan parishioners in preparation for the Second Session of the Synodal Assembly in October 2024. The guiding questions for the sessions are:

1. Where have I seen or experienced successes—and distresses—within the Church's structure(s)/organization/leadership/life that encourage or hinder the mission?
2. How can the structures and organization of the Church help all the baptized to respond to the call to proclaim the Gospel and to live as a community of love and mercy in Christ?

All diocesan parishioners are invited to attend one of two Synod Sessions offered:

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27
6 TO 8:30 PM

ST. RAPHAEL

1215 Modaff Road
Naperville, IL 60540
Room: Sts. Joachim and Anne

THURSDAY, MARCH 14
6 TO 8:30 PM

ST. JOHN PAUL II

907 South 9th Avenue
Kankakee, IL 60901
Room: Parish Hall

Those who are unable to attend can email responses to the above questions to dsalvato@dioceseofjoliet.org.



For a synodal Church
communion | participation | mission

Synod Session Outline

- 6 p.m. Sign-in/refreshments
- 6:30 p.m. Opening prayer/reflection
- 7 p.m. Small group discussion of two questions (see left)
- 7:45 p.m. Break
- 8 p.m. Share themes from small group discussions
- 8:30 p.m. End



Pre-registration for either date is required. Please scan the QR code or visit qrco.de/Synod



COMMEMORATING 75 YEARS OF CATECHESIS,
EVANGELIZATION AND SERVICE

Lesson Plans

Available for K–12 students: Parents, Religious Education Programs, Catholic Schools, High School Youth Groups, Scouting Groups, First Communion Retreats, and Homeschool Curricula

LESSON 2

THE MOST HOLY EUCHARIST

The real presence of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist is both a treasure and a mystery. We have been gifted by Christ with the opportunity to receive His precious Body and Blood every bit as authentically as the Apostles did at the Last Supper.

Get the PDF including three Lesson Plan modules for grades K–2, 3–5, and 6–12 at diojoliet.org/75th



75TH ANNIVERSARY
LESSON PLANS
AND
RESOURCES

DIocese of Joliet

Faith Into Action Podcast Episode 4

In Episode 4, Michelle Dellinger interviews Katie Golwacz, a parishioner at Church of the Holy Ghost in Wood Dale. Katie's story about her struggle to receive childhood sacraments in Yugoslavia following WWII is fascinating. She can give us all a new perspective about our faith—and the religious freedom we likely take for granted.



Faith Into Action
YouTube (video)



Faith Into Action
Podcast (audio)



From podcasts and youth events to service and prayer cards, scan the QR code or visit the website for the full list of events and activities surrounding the 75th anniversary.

diojoliet.org/75th

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS



Upcoming Dates

- ★ 2/18 - YM Night
6:00 - 7:30 pm Braidwood
- ★ 3/3 - YM Night
6:00 - 7:30 pm Coal City
- ★ 3/10 - Living Stations
Practice
6:00 - 7:30 pm Braidwood

World Day of Social Justice February 20th

The World Day of Social Justice was first observed in 2007 with the intent to promote international awareness and activities corresponding to the objectives and goals of the World Summit for Social Development. Since, it has evolved into a commemoration of the very principle that is at the heart of peaceful and dignified coexistence within and between all nations and peoples. We should try to live a life of love based on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy!

Corporal Works of Mercy

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Caring for the sick
- Visit the imprisoned
- Bury the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

- Counsel the doubtful
- Instruct the ignorant
- Admonish the sinner
- Comfort the sorrowful
- Forgive injuries
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Pray for the living and the dead

For questions: Sara Wollgast (815) 341-5946

Kids Corner

Prayer

God, help me to stay close to you so that I am ready for my tests.

Mission for the Week

Memorize Proverbs 1:3, "You will learn what is right and honest and fair." Practice writing it and saying it every day, until you know this verse by heart.

Sharing the Gospel

In today's Gospel, Jesus spent forty days in the desert. Jesus stayed close to God, and he followed God's directions every day of his life. When Satan came to test Jesus he was ready. Jesus passed every test beautifully. He said "No" to temptation. When you write spelling words over and over, it is easier to remember them. If you are learning a new language, it helps to make flash cards to practice with. Once you memorize all your words, taking the test is pretty easy. The more you read the Bible and do what God asks in his word, the easier it will be for you to pass Satan's tests, too.

Now color
the picture!



Find and circle the words from today's Gospel:

SPIRIT
JESUS
DESERT

FORTY
SATAN
TESTED

ANIMALS
ANGELS
BELIEVE

E	S	Y	T	U	O	I	G	U	F	E
R	A	N	I	M	A	L	S	J	O	R
I	T	G	S	Y	N	O	E	A	R	I
S	A	L	O	F	G	D	N	S	T	N
T	N	E	T	A	E	S	J	I	Y	O
E	M	S	B	E	L	I	E	V	E	S
S	U	O	J	T	S	R	S	O	S	U
T	S	P	I	R	I	T	U	P	A	T
E	L	A	D	L	U	N	S	E	D	Y
D	E	S	E	R	T	M	I	R	O	N
O	T	I	M	Y	B	A	L	Y	T	A



2024 Lent 1-Day Retreat

The Language of God's Love

What do you know about God's love? How do you experience God's love? We will look at covenant, relationship, zeal, gift and surrender as together we reflect on God's love in our lives. This Lent we are offering a 1-day hybrid retreat experience at One Heart, One Soul Spirituality Center in Kankakee, IL and virtually via Zoom. This retreat is open to women and men who desire to enrich their spiritual growth this Lenten season. Please give yourself the gift of time and join us for this Lent retreat.

**WHEN: Saturday, March 9, 2024
8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

(coffee and rolls will be served in the morning and lunch is provided)

LOCATION:

**One Heart, One Soul Spirituality Center
2041 W. State Route 113
Kankakee, IL 60901**

Sponsored by:

Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary

Retreat Leaders:

**Sr. Linda Hatton, sscm
Frank Modica**

To register, please follow this link:

REGISTRATION

Cost for the 1-Day Retreat is \$35.

You can pay by credit card:

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Or by check** mailed to:

**Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary
Attn: Susan Amann
2041 W. State Route 113
Kankakee, IL 60901**

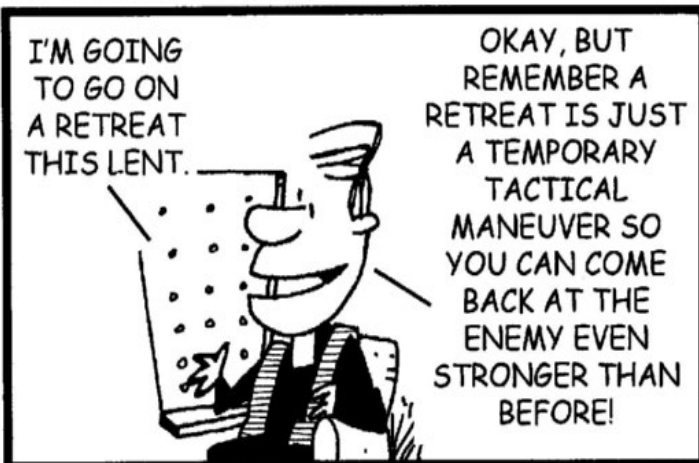
**Please make checks payable to *Servants of the Holy Heart of Mary*

**Registrations cannot be confirmed until
payment is received in full.**

**Registration deadline is
Friday, March 1, 2024**

For more information about our programming,
please contact Susan Amann:
samann@sscm-usa.org or (708) 790-8141

1ST SUNDAY OF LENT



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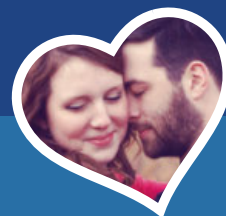
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