



Since 1848 The Parish Family of

*The Church of the Assumption  
of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

*Welcomes You*

And how does  
this happen to  
me, that the  
mother of my  
Lord should  
come to me?  
Luke 1:43



*As we pray for you, we ask for your prayers.*

*Mass  
Schedule*

**Saturday**

8:00 a.m.  
5:30 p.m.

**Sunday**

7:00, 8:30, 10:00 a.m.  
12:15 p.m.  
5:30 p.m.  
(Sept.-May)

**Weekdays**

7:00 a.m.  
12:05 p.m.

**Holy Days**

5:30 p.m. Vigil  
(Day Before)  
7:00 a.m. &  
12:05, 7:30 p.m.

**National Holidays**

9:00 a.m.



# Church of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

91 Maple Avenue, Morristown, New Jersey 07960

973-539-2141, Fax—973-984-0632

Visit our Website: [www.assumptionparish.org](http://www.assumptionparish.org)

Email: [assumption@assumptionparish.org](mailto:assumption@assumptionparish.org)

Pastor: Rev. Msgr. John E. Hart  
Parochial Vicar: Rev. Przemyslaw Nowak  
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Msgr. Martin F. Rauscher  
In Residence: Rev. Dennis J. Crowley  
In Residence: Rev. Samuel Monaco  
In Residence: Rev. Geno Sylva

Deacons: Brian Beyerl, John Brandi, Michael Hanly, Elliott Stein

Trustees: Dan Poling 973-451-1617, Kathleen Hyland 973-539-2860

Parish Coordinator—Linda Macios Secretary—Liz Rotunno Comptroller—Robyn Morris

Parish Office Hours Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; Friday 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Parish Registration:** Call 973-539-2141 or visit the parish website at [www.assumptionparish.org](http://www.assumptionparish.org).

**Assumption School:** 973-538-0590; [www.assumptionnj.org](http://www.assumptionnj.org)  
Sr. Merris Larkin, S.C. Principal

**Religious Education:** 973-267-5638, Fax 973-267-4223

Email: [RelEd@assumptionparish.org](mailto:RelEd@assumptionparish.org)

Linda Macios: Director

Sharon Bertram: Coordinator Grades 6, 7, and 8

Lisa Sullivan: Confirmation—973-267-8519

Tara Speer: Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Sue Paradise: Secretary

**The Religious Education** program runs for 16 or 20 Sundays—October through March. Kindergarten through 5th grade classes meet 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.; 6th through 8th classes meet immediately following the 5:30 p.m. Sunday Youth Mass. The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd classes meet on Sunday mornings and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. Confirmation groups meet once or twice per month on Sunday evenings.

**Music Ministry**—973-539-2141, extension 19

Claudia Nardi: Director, Karen Chiappini: Organist

Adult Choir, Youth Ministry Choir, Children's Choir

**Holy Rood Cemetery**—973-539-7501

Website: [www.holyroodcemeterynj.com](http://www.holyroodcemeterynj.com)

Diana Loughman: Cemetery Director

Emerson Brito: Caretaker

Caleb Dunn: Caretaker

**Church Sexton**—Doug Reisch

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:**

Saturday—4:15 to 5:00 p.m. or by appointment

**Marriage:** Arrangements should be made with a priest or deacon by registered parishioners **at least one year in advance** of the marriage date. Marriage arrangements should be made PRIOR to reserving reception facility.

**Baptisms:** Registered parishioners should contact Liz Rotunno in the Parish Office to arrange for Baptismal Preparation and the Sacrament of Baptism. For first-time parents, attendance at one Baptismal Preparation evening class is required.

**Visitation of the Sick and Elderly:** Please keep us informed so that we may be attentive to those who are ill at home or in the hospital. Eucharistic Ministers are available to bring Communion on Sundays.



## Ministries

Africa Surgery	Tom Johnson	973-292-3320
Altar Linens	Mike Cherello	973-267-6825
Altar Servers	Fr. John Hart	973-539-2141
Bereavement	Marion Lapchak	973-285-1976
Bethany	Linda Macios	973-539-2141
Boy Scouts	Dave Lage	201-919-7259
Cub Scouts	John Lago	609-213-1790
Centering Prayer	Fr. Ken Lasch	973-538-2653
Children's Worship	Linda Cannilla	973-540-1683
CYO Basketball	Kevin Bopp	917-861-2876
Deaf Interpreter	Kathleen Skaf	862-432-6004
Deaf Ministry	Barbara Zurlo	973-337-7591 VP
Endowment for Poor	Claudia Nardi	973-539-2141
Eucharistic Min.	Hope Zenker	973-401-1010
Family Promise	Mary Dougherty	973-538-9003
Finance Committee	Dorothy Flynn	973-538-2634
Food Pantry	Claudia Nardi	973-539-2141
Gardening	Janet Dedrick	973-539-2141
Giving Tree	Brian Morgan	973-462-6972
Good Samaritan	Pat Moore	973-539-2141
Home School Assoc.	Debbie DeAngelis	973-889-8520
Holistic Health	Michele Cameron	973-769-9634
Homeless Solutions	Ralph Ferrara	973-538-8268
JustFaith	Kerry Mowry	973-683-1220
Knights of Columbus	Joseph Lee	973-267-9175
Moms and Tots	Henriette Kahn	973-539-1350
Nursing Homes	Joan Kramer	973-539-4910
Pre-Cana	Ken and Rosa Rose	973-539-9845
RCIA	Fr. John Hart	973-539-2141
Readers	Andrea Bozzi	973-656-9864
Respect Life	Anne Marie and Leonard Crann	973-539-4650
Senior Citizens	Joan Kramer	973-539-4910
Singles 45+	Denise Imperiale	908-477-9450
Soup Kitchen	Annaliese Rush	973-455-0391
Ushers	Anthony Romano	973-267-5433
Welcome and Hospitality	Moiria Clarkin	973-539-4390
Women's Cornerstone	Denise Imperiale	908-477-9450
Vocations	Tom Hand	973-998-4630
Young Professionals	Fr. Przemek	973-539-2141
Youth Ministry	Lisa Sullivan	973-267-8519



## Mass Intentions



<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>December 19</b>
8:00 a.m.	Joann Peters
5:30 p.m.	Richard Doran, Sr. Wallace Skibie
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>December 20</b>
7:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
8:30 a.m.	Frederick "Fritz" Grogan Bob Weis
10:00 a.m.	Ed Broderick Deacon William Harty
12:15 p.m.	Ralph Van Dyk Bob DeWitt (Living)
5:30 p.m.	Emil Barolo Moncerrate Soto and the Ramirez and Lebron Families
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>December 21</b>
7:00 a.m.	Our Deceased Friends from the 7:00 a.m. Mass
12:05 p.m.	Owen McCormack
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>December 22</b>
7:00 a.m.	Aloysius J. and Nancy Lynch Castellano
12:05 p.m.	Jane Bardes
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>December 23</b>
7:00 a.m.	Caroline Clauser
12:05 p.m.	Elizabeth Haarsgaard
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>December 24 - Christmas Eve</b>
7:00 a.m.	Phyllis Giannone
4:00 p.m.	Kevin Caracciola Michael Coppola
5:30 p.m.	Eleanor Parker Leo Fendick
7:30 p.m.	Joseph Baron Doris Arteglier
10:00 p.m.	Carlo Brigida Dominick Foti
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>December 25 - Christmas Day</b>
7:00 a.m.	Lizbeth Hernandez
8:30 a.m.	Clara and John Sexton Alice McAllister
10:00 a.m.	Stephen F. Smith, III
12:15 p.m.	Rick Baiter and Albert Callahan Marian Bello
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>December 26</b>
8:00 a.m.	Juliana Gaudioso
5:30 p.m.	Edmundo Santos
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>December 27</b>
7:00 a.m.	People of the Parish
8:30 a.m.	Norman Champlin Gary Lamb
10:00 a.m.	Richard Doran, Sr. Dean Colelli
12:15 p.m.	Julia Scolla Marie Pompei

## First Reading: Micah 5:1-4a

Living at a time when the people of Israel were surrounded by foes and ruled by corrupt kings, the prophet Micah declared that a just king would be called forth from Bethlehem, the hometown of the mighty King David. This passage reminds us Christians of Jesus, the shepherd king whose coming promises a reign of peace for the world.

## Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

For several weeks in October and November, we heard excerpts from the Letter to the Hebrews that was written after the destruction of the Temple in the year 70. This letter speaks of Jesus using the image of the high priest. Today's second reading returns to that theme, noting that, for Christians, temple sacrifices are embodied in Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.

## Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

The season of Advent draws toward its climax with today's Gospel reading. The final words of the passage are especially important for us today. Do we, like Mary, trust in the Lord's words to us?



**We invite you to prayerfully reflect  
on the Readings for the week of December 20**

<b>Monday</b>	Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21; Lk 1:39-45
<b>Tuesday</b>	1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd; Lk 1:46-56
<b>Wednesday</b>	Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10, and 14; Lk 1:57-66
<b>Thursday</b>	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, and 29; Lk 1:67-79 Vigil: Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
<b>Friday</b>	<b>The Nativity of the Lord</b> Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
<b>Saturday</b>	Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Ps 31:3cd-4, 6, 8ab, 16bc, 17; Mt 10:17-22
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph</b> Sir 3:2-6, 12-14; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5; Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17; Lk 2:41-52

**PLEASE REMEMBER AND PRAY  
FOR THE RECOVERY OF:**



Rosalie Sottile, Charles Arteglie, Jake Faccenda, Charles Arnolt, Paul Albanese, Eileen Scheibner, Dylan Lewman, Gladys Wilcox, Anthony DaMelio, Kenneth Eastman, Colin Wisniewski, Barbara O'Hagan, Sandy Hruska, Joanne Veon, Susan Krauss, Kimberly Caswell, David Harris, Anetta Burdzy, Robert Kamenetz, Julie Winne, Dr. Tom Foley, Denise Kelly, Andrew Pineda, Sadina Certa, David Sansone, Ruth Rusin, Marge Hefferon, Frank Lutz, Gloria Dabal, Jack Kelly, Allan Russo, Francis Bourdin, Jim and Kay Cavanaugh, Justin Lee, Josephine McCarthy, Albert Garcia Jr., Jim Gallo, Frank Geraghty, Phyllis Savage, Marie Therese Vaz, Brenda Hinds, John Hyland, William Peason, Carol Padden, Elaine Metzger, Julia Marley, John Geraghty, John Cvicker, Tom, Greg and John Baxter, Ruth Necco, Patty Parker Moncrief, Marva Jean Corbin, Lisa Maderna, Rossana Wright, Vivian Harris, Mary Reisch, Robert Hook, William Thigpen, Patricia Waters, Audrey Sherry, Dennis Joseph Roberts, Melissa Cavezza, Steven Cavezza, John Theivon, Mike Baxley, Dyrick Phillip, Jessie Moore, Barbara Kane, Kenneth Krause, Kathy Shay, Baby Emma Wyman, William Moeller, Augustus Perkins, Angela Irene, Cynthia Scott, Mike Sottile, Cora Brady Huston, Paul Drobbin, Francis Montemurno, Jr., Elizabeth Quinn, Fr. Martin Rauscher, Martin Cerza, Michele McNany, William Perkins, Jr, Brian Chewning, Paula Rose Carducci, Sandra Moorman, Joan Kobylarz, Matthew Luteran, Kathleen Callahan, Jack Frost, Payton O'Brien, Ralph Depp, James Preston, Deedee Bentley, Baby Wilbert Ridgley III, Nancy Arteglie, Willette Greer, Eileen Lanfare, Victoria Ramirez, Brendan Carey, Keeya Little, and Margaret Saengar.

Please call the Parish Office at 973-539-2141 with the names of who you would like included in the prayers for the good health of the sick and homebound.

**GOOD SAMARITAN MINISTRY**

Need help? Our ministry can assist Assumption parishioners with shopping, banking, local doctor and dentist appointments, and other similar errands. Contact our coordinator for December, Pat Moore, 973-267-5304.

**ASSUMPTION PARISH OFFICE HOURS  
CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR**

December 24, 25  
Closed

December 28, 29, 30  
8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

December 31, January 1  
Closed

**PLEASE PRAY FOR MEMBERS OF OUR  
PARISH COMMUNITY AND THEIR LOVED ONES  
WHO HAVE SERVED, OR ARE SERVING, IN  
THE ARMED FORCES**

CW3 Michael Benkosky Green Beret, Special Forces, Airborne Joint Forces; Commander William H. Shipp, Commanding Officer HCS-8, San Diego; Andrew Vasquez US Army; Andy Soucy US Army; Dan Lessnau Former Marine and Veteran of the Viet Nam War; Kevin Felix US Military Colonel; Lt. Tim Fleury, US Navy; Staff Sergeant William J. McSweeney Retired Marine Served Around the World; Matthew Gonabe, Lt. US Navy Pilot Serving in the Persian Gulf; David Ribardo, 1st Lt. US Army Serving in Afghanistan; Capt. Brendan Griswold 82nd Air Borne in Afghanistan; Capt. Patrick Flynn, US Army 1st Infantry, Afghanistan; Sergeant Richard Galluzzo Serving in Afghanistan, Lt. Thomas Keyes Jr.; PFC Chad Chojnacki, Combat Medic, grandson of Annabel Wannemacher; Capts. Scott and Meghan Harra, US Army in Afghanistan; Captain Timothy Newcomb, US Army Special Forces; Col. Jason M. Barrett, USMC in Iraq and Afghanistan; Capt. James Cassidy, USMC in Afghanistan; Ensign Devon Cassidy, Navy Nurse in California; Penny and Christian Jimenez, Navy Lt. Commanders in Japan; 2nd Lt. Andrew Pineda and Capt. Laurence Pineda, US Air Force, SMSgt. John Bartow, Stratton ANGB NY, Douglas Reisch, 1/325 Infantry, 82nd Airborne Division, Daniel Baron, US Navy, Hawaii, 1LT Schuyler Orecchio, 10th Mountain Division, Afghanistan.

**SENIOR CORNER  
COMMUNION BREAKFAST**

On **Saturday, January 16**, we will be holding a Communion Breakfast for all Parish Seniors immediately after the 8:00 a.m. Mass. Please call Joan Kramer at 973-539-4910 to make a reservation.

Join us for a wonderful event to usher in the New Year! Have a blessed Christmas and a happy and healthy new year!





## MARY VISITS HER COUSIN ELIZABETH

*"Blessed are you among women and blessed is the fruit of your womb . . ." (Luke 1: 39-45)*

Our Gospel on this Fourth Sunday of Advent is Saint Luke's account of the Visitation. When we reflect on Mary visiting her older cousin Elizabeth we are reminded that visiting is sacred. Spending time with people is sacred. This week, in keeping with the generous spirit of Christmas abundance, I want to share two reflections with you. Here is the first.

At the Denver airport, a 46-year-old woman is sitting at the gate waiting for her flight. She glances up to find a young man in front of her. Although there are several open seats around, he tilts his head at the seat next to her, then toward her suitcase blocking the chair. "Why this one?" she wonders. Mildly annoyed, she moves her bag.

He sits and drops his duffel bag at his feet. He is wearing a U.S. Army camouflage uniform. "Where you headed?" he asks. "Home," she replies.

He tells her that he has just come home from Afghanistan and is heading to Florida to surprise his mom. It's been five years since he's seen her. What he was most looking forward to, the woman asked. A shower, he said. He grinned when she asked if his mother would cook his favorite meal.

He says it was almost harder to leave the war than to stay, leaving others behind, knowing he had to go back. But this might be his last chance to see his mother.

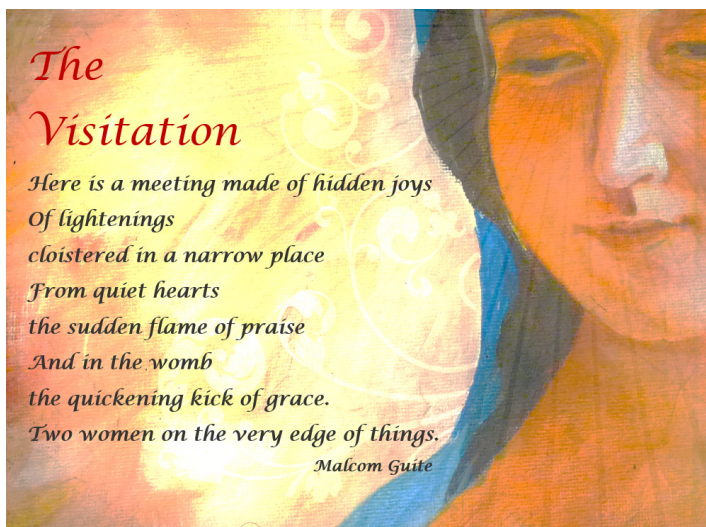
The woman notices how he keeps scanning the room warily as he talks. How when he looks at her, his eyes keep no distance. He wants something from her, but at first she doesn't know what. He says it's hard to stop scanning for danger. Yesterday he was in the desert. Fellow soldiers, men under his command, had blown into pieces around him. Today he is in an airport trying to fathom anger over flight delays, the rush for coffee. He doesn't know how to be here in this place.

The woman understands. One week before, her friend's teenage son had died suddenly and, being a mother herself, felt so disoriented and distant from the everyday world around her. She tells the soldier about it. He breathes deeply, shows a small smile.

They had made a sliver of connection. The woman writes:

"He'd seen the raw and unbearable. He knew what was real and mattered. He knew it was not the time of the flight, or a latte. But he did not know how to tell us. This was what he needed from me, I realized. What we all need. He did not want the seat beside mine. He wanted to sit with me. He needed to feel safe and understood for a brief while between here and there."

*[From "Sitting with a soldier: An airport encounter leads to an understanding about what we all need" by Stacy Clark, The Boston Sunday Globe Magazine, September 7, 2014.]*



A soldier finds an understanding "mom" to talk to in a busy airport; a teenage mother-to-be goes to be with her elderly cousin, also pregnant, and finds consolation and support. In both meetings, we see grace: love that enables one cousin to put aside her own plight to help the other cousin, compassion that enables a mom to provide a safe, understanding place for another mom's son. In Mary and Elizabeth's visit and in our own similar "visitations," the Spirit of God is present in the healing, comfort and support we can extend to one another in such moments. Whether bound by blood or by spirit, in Mary's Child the inexplicable love of God becomes real to us, the peace and justice of God become possible in our own "visitations" and encounters with all our sisters and brothers in whom God is present.

Here is a second reflection I hope you enjoy as well.

The journey of Edith Stein from atheism to God, from Jewish scholar to Carmelite nun, is one of the great odysseys of faith. The former Jewish-atheist scholar died as a Carmelite nun in the gas chamber of Auschwitz in 1942. Edith Stein - Sister Teresa Benedicta of the Cross - was canonized in 1998.

One of the most influential people in Edith's life was the philosopher Adolf Reinach, her professor at the University of Gottingen. In Reinach's writings and teachings, Edith began to see the wisdom of God illuminating the philosophical wisdom of the ages. Both Professor Reinach and his wife, Anna, were unstinting in their friendship and support to Edith, one of the very few women pursuing higher studies in the early days of the 20th century. Anna's friendship and counsel were especially valued by Edith.

At the outbreak of World War I, the wise and humble professor went off to fight for the German fatherland. Awarded the Iron Cross for his bravery, Reinach was killed in Flanders in 1917. When word of Reinach's death was received, the devastated Edith immediately went to comfort Reinach's young widow. Edith had no idea what to say. But it was Anna who provided hope and consolation to Edith. Despite her grief, Anna's trust in God and the meaning of the Cross seemed stronger than ever.

Edith later wrote of that moment: "It was my first encounter with the Cross and the divine power it bestows in those who carry it. For the first time I was seeing with my very own eyes the Church, born from its Redeemer's sufferings, triumphant over the sting of death. That was the moment when my unbelief collapsed and Christ shone forth - in the mystery of the Cross."

Edith and Anna's "visitation" was a turning point in Edith's own journey of faith, leading her to Christianity and baptism, to profession as a religious, and, finally, to the company of the saints. In today's Gospel, Mary travels "in haste" to be with her cousin Elizabeth. Luke never says exactly why she goes, but we can guess: Mary wants to be with her beloved cousin in the last months of what must have been a very difficult pregnancy, but also to seek the elder Elizabeth's counsel and support during her own tumultuous time. In Mary and Elizabeth's meeting and in our own similar "visitations," the Spirit of God is present in the healing, comfort and support we can extend to one another in such moments. In the stirring of the infant in Elizabeth's womb, God calls to humanity in every time and place: I am with you every step of the way. I am with you in every storm. I am with you when the night seems unending. In Christ's birth, the inexplicable love of God becomes real to us, the peace and justice of God become possible. (Connections)

In Christ's Peace,  
Father John

## JOYFUL RECOGNITION

Elizabeth recognized the divine significance of Mary's visit because of the Holy Spirit. In the Spirit Elizabeth proclaimed Mary's greatness and called her blessed. Mary was also praised because of her trust in God's word of promise.

*Adults:* How has the Holy Spirit stirred me to recognize God's presence?

*Children:* What can I learn from Mary's visit to Elizabeth?

*A Family Perspective:* The theme of the season of Advent is sometimes described as a period of waiting for the birth of Jesus. However, today's Gospel reading suggests something different. John the Baptist did not tell the crowds to wait for the Messiah. He told them to prepare for the Messiah through acts of repentance. If Advent is a time of waiting, it is not the sitting in the doctor's office kind of waiting. It is a busy time of preparation, more like the waiting we might do when preparing for dinner guests. Our challenge is to not make this season a frenzied time, but rather a time of joyful anticipation and making ready for God who comes to dwell among us and changes our lives with the gift of salvation. As you gather as a family, work together on a word search or hidden-picture puzzle. Help one another until everyone has found each of the words or pictures in the puzzle. Talk about this experience, noticing how some people found words or pictures more easily than others and how easy it was to see the word or picture once someone else pointed it out. Observe that sometimes we need the help of others to recognize God's presence and action in our lives. Read together today's Gospel, Luke 1:39-45. Ask: What did Elizabeth recognize about Mary? How did Elizabeth know this? Pray together that as we share our faith together as a family, we may help one another recognize God's presence and action in our lives. Pray together the Hail Mary.



On Christmas Eve and Christmas Day there will be fifteen minutes of Christmas Prelude Music at each Mass. At 9:30 p.m. Christmas Eve the Adult Choir will sing a collection of Christmas music accompanied by the Claremont String Ensemble with Director, Vivian Penham; Percussionist, Joe DeVico; Woodwind and Trumpet player, John Martin; and Oboist, Lynne Grice. Thank you to our adult soloists, Kyle McLaughlin, Elena Teresa Bird, Sharon Lynch and Mark Enea; our youth, bell and children's choirs as well as choir mothers Diane Long, Sharon Lynch, Hope Zenker and Yolanta Enea for making this a joyous and music filled Christmas. All Masses will feature our organist Karen Chiappini and our wonderful 42 rank Gress-Miles organ.



**BECOME AN AFS HOST FAMILY**

Morristown High School is thrilled to have an internationally published teenage writer and U.S. Department of State "YES" scholar and AFS Exchange Student this year from India! We are presently looking for Sumaiya's 2nd semester host family, to begin later this month. Perhaps this Holiday Season and year your family opens its heart and home to an exceptional AFS International Exchange student!

Her English skills are spectacular, she loves writing and tutoring English, is very mature and has participated in the Model U.N. Club, International Business Club, Academic Decathlon and Debate Club while at the high school. While your family enjoys learning about her Indian culture, you get to share your day-to-day life, family customs, activities and holidays and everything important to your family with her AFS Host Families are responsible for 3 meals a day and the student may share a bedroom with a host sibling of the same gender, but they must have their own bed. AFS students have their own comprehensive medical coverage if they become sick or injured, and spending money for their shopping and teenage activities.

Host families come in all ages and sizes! Won't you please make this "the year" that you welcome an exceptional AFS student into your hearts as you've always been thinking of doing?

I'm happy to answer any questions you may have about Sumaiya and the AFS Program. Thank you in advance for your consideration!

Alison Colaluca

AFS-NJ Volunteer Hosting Coordinator


[973-985-3583](tel:973-985-3583), [agcolaluca@gmail.com](mailto:agcolaluca@gmail.com)

**2015 NEW JERSEY RIGHT TO LIFE  
RESPECT LIFE RAFFLE**

New Jersey Right to Life and its county chapters thank those who supported us through the 2015 Respect Life Raffle. Prize winners are:

- 2016 Volvo, Dorota Szumski, Middlesex County
- \$1,000 Shoprite Gift Card, Anthony Raimo, Bergen County
- \$750 Shoprite Gift Card, John & Joyce Paciga, Hunterdon County
- \$500 Shoprite Gift Card, Marjorie Bryner, Somerset County

Morris County raised \$32,660! God bless you all, and please consider becoming member of New Jersey Right to Life. [www.morriscountyrighttolife.org](http://www.morriscountyrighttolife.org).



**WE WELCOME INTO THE CHURCH  
THROUGH THE  
SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Lindsay Grace VanDerhoef  
Daughter of James and Leslie

**MASS ATTENDANCE DEC. 12/13**

5:30 p.m.	290
7:00 a.m.	122
8:30 a.m.	214
10:00 a.m.	472
12:15 p.m.	319
5:30 p.m.	<u>426</u>
Total:	1,840

**FINANCIAL BLESSINGS****Assumption is a Tithing Parish**

The collection total for the weekend of December 12/13 was \$27,678. The collection total for that weekend last year was \$22,987. The collection for the Religious Retirement totaled \$7,196.

Thank you for your outstanding generosity and enthusiastic support! Your sacrificial giving in our offertory enables us to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ in this portion of the Lord's Vineyard and beyond.

**GRATEFUL THANKS TO OUR PARISHIONERS**


On behalf of the Giving Tree Committee, we would like to thank you for your overwhelming outreach to the poor and less-fortunate. Thanks to your generosity, we were able to provide over 870 gifts to seven different social service organizations throughout Morris County.

Thank you to all the following "elves" who helped ensure the gifts were sorted, purchased, and delivered: Barbara Glogolich, Beatriz Brandt, Beverly Robbins, Bill Reynolds, Ching Wu, Christine Olivo, Connor McGahan, Diane Otto, Eric Rush, Eve and Tim Shea, Gina Giarratana, Jean Viotto, Kathy and Owen Kelly, Maureen Medure, Michelle Baron Romans, Pavel Srnensky, Robyn and Dick Keelty, Robyn Morris, Susan McGahan, Tiffany Srnensky, and Tina Terraciano Weber

I also thank Claudia Nardi for all she does to help the local poor who come to our parish looking for help - both at Christmas and throughout the year. An enormous thanks to Doug Reisch and the rest of our Assumption staff for all they do to support this wonderful undertaking each year.

You can be certain that this Christmas season the recipients of your gifts will be filled with joy as they find God's loving "presence" in your "presents."

Cornelia Anderson, Terri Meier  
Brian Morgan, Barbara Orfini  
The Giving Tree Committee



**ETERNAL REST  
GRANT UNTO THEM, O LORD**

Jane Dericks  
Mother of Jane Kurek

John Pavlik  
Brother of Fr. Ray Pavlik



### Prayer Before Christmas Dinner

*God of all gifts,*

*We thank you for the many ways you have blessed us this day. We are grateful for each of those who are gathered around this table. We ask you to bless us and our food and to bless those we love who are not with us today.*

*In our gratitude and love, we remember your humble birth into our lives and pray for those who are without enough to eat.*

*We remember the stable in which you were born and pray for those who have no place to live.*

*We remember your challenging message of caring and giving and we pray for peace in families and nations throughout the world.*

*We bless you and give you thanks for your Spirit who brings our hearts to life this Christmas Day and forever.*



### **PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND WITH FATHER PRZEMEK**

Join Fr. Przemyslaw Nowak and other Assumption parishioners on a Jubilee Year of Mercy pilgrimage to Poland. The trip will take place from September 1 through September 9, 2016, and the cost per person is \$2,999. The trip includes:

- Round-trip airfare from Newark or New York
- 7 nights at centrally located First Class Hotels in Warsaw, Czestochowa, Zakopane, and Krakow
- Breakfast and Dinner daily
- Transportation by air-conditioned motor coach
- Sightseeing and admissions fees as per itinerary
- Mass daily & Spiritual activities

To learn more about the trip, visit [www.assumptionparish.org](http://www.assumptionparish.org), and click on the link to the pilgrimage. For more information, call 206 Tours at 800-206-8687 and ask for Elise, Katherine or Yaritza.

### **CALLING ALL ALL MORRIS PLAINS BASEBALL AND SOFTBALL PLAYERS!**

Registration Is Now Open! Sign-Up between December 15 and January 15, 2016. Players between ages 4 and 12 years old are welcome! We're looking forward to a great season and we need you to make it happen! Sign up today at <http://mpbaseball.assn.la/>.

### **ASSUMPTION SCHOOL REGISTRATION**

Assumption School is happy to welcome new students at any time when space is available. Pre-registration forms for the 2016-2017 school year are available at [www.assumptionnj.org](http://www.assumptionnj.org) under "forms".

Call the school at 973-538-0590, or stop by the school office for further information. If you would like to visit the school, please call to set-up an appointment.

### **HOLIDAY WEEKEND HOURS AT MACCULLOCH HALL!**

Come tour the Old House and enjoy special holiday programs free with admission Sunday December 20, from 1:00-4:00 p.m.





# Assumption Parish Just Got FORMED



## THE BEST CATHOLIC CONTENT. ALL IN ONE PLACE.

- ▶ Access the truth, beauty, and meaning of the Catholic Faith anytime, anywhere... with FORMED.
- ▶ Use it on your computer, tablet, or smartphone.
- ▶ Informative and inspiring teaching from renowned speakers Scott Hahn, Edward Sri, Fr. Robert Barron, Tim Gray, Chris Stefanick, Teresa Tomeo... and many more.
- ▶ Multiple programs to address multiple parish needs: Adult Faith Formation, Marriage Preparation & Enrichment, Scripture Study, RCIA, Sacrament Preparation, Small Group Teen Discipleship, and much more!



Register at [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org)

Parishioners, enter code: PRNMFC

We are excited to announce that our parish has subscribed to a dynamic new online platform called **FORMED**. Every parishioner will have 24/7 access to the best Catholic content on any device, including your computer, smartphone and tablet with internet access. With **FORMED** you'll find video programs that explain the Catholic faith, explore the deepest meaning of marriage, receive Bible studies on a variety of topics and includes inspiring audio talks.

Here's how easy it is to get **FORMED**: Go to [www.FORMED.org](http://www.FORMED.org). You should see the registration box for parishioners. Type in the parish code **PRNMFC**. Now set up a username and a password. Now you are all set to use all the great programs on [FORMED.org](http://FORMED.org) anytime by simply logging in.

# FORMED®

THE CATHOLIC FAITH.  
ON DEMAND.

Formed.org

## Advent and Christmas 2015

## Christmas Eve — Thursday, December 24

3:00 p.m.	Children's Nativity Story
4:00 p.m.	Children's Mass of Christmas
5:30 p.m.	Mass of Christmas
7:30 p.m.	Mass of Christmas
9:30 p.m.	Choir Carol Program
10:00 p.m.	Mass of Christmas

## Christmas Day — Friday, December 25

7:00, 8:30, 10:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

Saturday, December 26 - 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, December 27 — 7:00, 8:30, 10:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

The Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

Thursday, December 31 - 5:30 p.m.

Friday, January 1, 2016 - 9:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m.

*Assumption Women's Cornerstone Experience**"Go Light Your World"*

Please prayerfully consider joining the women of Assumption Parish to attend the Women's Cornerstone Experience. Gather with us to experience the warmth and wonder of a Cornerstone weekend and strengthen your relationship with God and those around you.

This overnight retreat will be held on **February 5 - 6, 2016**, beginning with a light supper at 5:30 pm on Friday and concluding with Mass at 7 pm on Saturday at Assumption Parish in Morristown. Meals and accommodations will be provided at St. Mary's Abbey Retreat Center in Morristown.

Space is limited; please register by January 8! Registration brochures may be found in the Church or by contacting one of our team members. For additional information, please call team members **Denise Imperiale** at 908-477-9450 [deeimperiale@gmail.com](mailto:deeimperiale@gmail.com), or **Sarah Neuhoff** at 202-210-9152, [sarah.k.neuhoff@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.k.neuhoff@gmail.com).



## Blessing of a Christmas Manger or Nativity Scene

In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to Saint Francis of Assisi who made the Christmas crèche or manger for Christmas eve of 1223. However, as early as the fourth century, representations of the nativity of the Lord were painted as wall decorations depicting not only the infancy narrative accounts of Christ's birth, but also the words of the prophets Isaiah and Habakkuk taken to mean that the Messiah would be born in the midst of animals in a manger. The blessing of the Christmas manger or nativity scene may take place on the Vigil of Christmas or at another more suitable time.

~~~~~

*When the family has gathered, a suitable song may be sung. After the singing, the leader says:*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

*All make the sign of the cross and reply: Amen.*

*The leader continues:*

Praised be Jesus Christ, who dwells among us, now and for ever.

R: Amen.

*In the following or similar words, the leader prepares those present for the blessing.*

As we prepare to celebrate the birth of Christ, we pause to bless this Christmas manger scene. The practice of erecting such mangers was begun by Saint Francis of Assisi as a means to set forth the message of Christmas. When we look upon these figures, the Christmas Gospel comes alive and we are moved to rejoice in the mystery of the incarnation of the Son of God.

*The leader or another person present reads a text of sacred Scripture.*

Brothers and sisters, listen to the words of the Holy Gospel according to Luke:

2:1-8

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that the whole world should be enrolled. This was the first enrollment, when Quirinius was governor of Syria. So all went to be enrolled, each to his own town. And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, to be enrolled with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. While they were there, the time came for her to have her child, and she gave birth to her firstborn son. She wrapped him in swaddling clothes and laid him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Now there were shepherds in that region living in the fields and keeping the night watch over their flock.

The Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.



*The intercessions are then prayed. The leader says:*

Let us ask for God's blessing on this Christmas manger and upon ourselves, that we who reflect on the birth of Jesus may share in the salvation he accomplished. Please respond, "Come, Lord, dwell with us."

- + For the church of God, as we recall the circumstances surrounding the birth of Christ, that we may always proclaim his gift of new life for all people, we pray to the Lord.  
R: Come, Lord, dwell with us.
- + For the world in which we live, that it may come to recognize Christ who was greeted by the angels and shepherds, we pray to the Lord. R: Come, Lord, dwell with us.
- + For our families and our homes, that Christ who was laid in the manger may dwell with us always, we pray to the Lord. R: Come, Lord, dwell with us.
- + For parents, that their love for their children may be modeled on that of the Virgin Mary and Saint Joseph, we pray to the Lord. R: Come, Lord, dwell with us.

*After the intercessions the leader invites all present to say the Lord's Prayer.*

All: Our Father. . .

*The leader then says the following prayer with hands joined:*

God of every nation and people,  
from the very beginning of creation  
you have made manifest your love;  
when our need for a Savior was great  
you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin Mary.  
To our lives he brings joy and peace,  
justice, mercy, and love.

Lord, bless all who look upon this manger;  
may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,  
and raise up our thoughts to him,  
who is God-with-us and Savior of all,  
and who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

R: Amen.

*The leader concludes the rite by signing himself or herself with the sign of the cross and saying:*

May Christ our God enlighten our hearts and minds, now and for ever.

R: Amen.

*It is preferable to end the celebration with a suitable song.*





Independent Financial Advisors and Assumption Parishioners  
Timothy J. Brunnock, Esq. • John P. Hyland, CFP® • John J. Murphy

65 Madison Ave, Ste. 300 Morristown, NJ 07960 • 973.538.7010

Securities offered through LPL Financial, member FINRA/SIPC. Private Advisor Group is a separate entity from LPL Financial



### John Cortese Mason Contractors

Stone Work Specialists  
Stone Walls • Patios • Walks  
www.cortesemasons.com

Morris Plains **973-539-5004**



### Mary E. Dougherty Sales Associate

**ReMax Properties Unlimited**

**862.812.0962**

realtormaryd@gmail.com

15 Year Assumption Catechist

Coordinator for Family Promise Program



**Fast, Friendly and Family Oriented Care**

Hrs: M-F 8a-8p, Sat. 8a-4p, Sun. 9a-2p, Major Holidays 9a-1p

130 Speedwell Ave., Morris Plains, NJ  
On the corner of Mill Rd. across from Alfred Vail School

**+ 862-242-8053 +**  
**www.FastERuc.com**

### Sidney Chonowski DMD, FAGD

Family, Aesthetic  
& Implant Dentistry

**973-538-1100**

sidchow@aol.com

www.morristowndentist.com

66 Maple Ave.

Morristown, NJ 07960

### SHRINE OF ST. JOSEPH



GIFT & BOOK SHOP

1050 Long Hill Rd.

Stirling, NJ

**908-647-2766**

Open 10-5 • Th 10-7

### HICKORY TREE DELICATESSEN

Salads • Cold Cuts  
Sloppy Joe Sandwiches • Panini's

**973.822.1956**

www.hickorytreedeli.com

Open 7 Days A Week • Chatham Mall  
648 Shunpike Rd, Chatham Township, NJ

### JNI HOME IMPROVEMENTS & REPAIRS

Kitchens & Baths • Patios & Decks  
Basements & Closets

JOHN IOANNOU, PARISHIONER

**973.953.5605**

### KEVIN P. BRENNAN Good Rest Design

Home Project Consultant

kevin@goodrestdesign.org

53 Miller Road Morristown, NJ 07960

973.769.8188 • www.goodrestdesign.org



### Real Estate Attorney

Martin D. Eagan, Esq.

**973-898-7300**

52 Maple Avenue

Morristown

www.martyeagan.com

### Creating Healing Outcomes One Patient at a Time

CareOne at Madison Avenue



5-Star Rated Clinical Care and State-of-the-Art Rehabilitation  
Focused on Providing Healing for your Mind, Body and Soul

*Come visit us and tour our center*

151 Madison Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960 • 973.656.2700

TRUST IN OUR CARE



### Joseph M. Arvay, D.M.D.

**Orthodontics**

28 DeHart Street

Morristown, NJ 07960

**(973) 538-5067**

www.arvayortho.com

*Providing great smiles for Assumption  
Families for over 20 years*



*A ministry of the Sisters  
of the Sorrowful Mother*



~Since 1895~

*Affordable Senior Living*

**973-627-5000**

www.saintfrancisres.com

122 Diamond Spring Rd., Denville

### TheCatholicDirectory.com

**Helping People Find Mass.**

As Seasons change, so do Mass times.

View our site to stay informed.



### The World's Most Beautiful Bible

This magnificent Family Bible is an extraordinary  
work of art you and your family will treasure for  
generations to come.

**"World's Most Beautiful Bible"**

Features:

- Easy-to-read type • Biblical Dictionary • Concordance
- 1708 pages and 180 color illustrations
- Special sections on devotions, shrines, the Vatican and the Holy Land • Stunning Old Master art

Ideal gift for weddings, anniversaries, housewarmings, holidays...any  
special occasion. This Bible will guide you and your family to the riches  
of the Word of God.

Call **1-800-750-7824** and ask for **Tony** for more details

**Only \$89**  
Black or Ivory  
shipping and  
handling included



### METRO DENTAL ASSOCIATES

*Visit Our Beautiful, High-Tech Office!*

**JAY S. SCHUSTER, DDS**

The only Morristown General Dentist chosen by his peers as a  
New Jersey Monthly Top Dentist every year since 2009

**29 ELM STREET MORRISTOWN 973-538-2563 WWW.METRODENTALASSOCIATES.COM**





# Doyle Funeral Home, Inc.



Family owned and operated for over 95 years ~ 1914-2013

106 Maple Avenue,  
Morristown, NJ 07960

MICHAEL A. DOYLE, SR. 1882-1953 • LAWRENCE A. DOYLE, SR. 1917-1984 • EDWARD H. DOYLE 1946-2005

~providing continuous, caring service to the community~

**973-539-0622**

## ROOFING & SIDING

Replacement Windows

**Steve Carfaro, Parishioner**  
**Green Valley Contractors**

**973-538-2488**



## SHADE TREE GARAGE

Personal Automotive Services

Trusted Auto Repair in Morristown for Over 30 Years

- Full Warranty
  - Courtesy Transportation
  - AAA-Approved Auto Repair
  - ASE-Certified Professionals
- Parishioner



Get Savings  
Coupon

## Weichert

John Loughman, Sales Associate

O: 973-539-8000 • C: 973-476-7967

jloughman@weichert.com

Life-Long Parishioner



20 Madison Avenue  
Morristown, NJ 07960



Estate Planning, Probate, Guardianships,  
Estate Litigation, Elder Law, Trusts, Medicaid Planning

**Thomas G. Hand, Esq.**  
(Parishioner)

**973-512-2612**

thomas@thomasghand.com

**PAUL M. BANGIOLA, ESQ.**

Trusted Legal  
Counseling and Problem  
Solving for 30 years.

- Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts, Powers of Attorney, Living Wills
- Probate and Estate Administration
- Problems of the Elderly
- Estate Litigation and Disputes
- Personal Injury, Criminal, DWI, Traffic (Former Morristown Prosecutor)

**Bangiola Professional Offices**  
32 Franklin Street  
Morristown  
**973-644-4040**

paulmbangiolaesq@gmail.com

## Holy Rood Cemetery

61 WHIPPANY ROAD • MORRIS TOWNSHIP

EST. 1875

4 Mausoleums • Full Selection • Beautiful • Intimate • Local

Diana Loughman, Director

www.holyroodcemeterynj.com **(973) 539-7501**



grasshopper off the green

IRISH PUB & FAMILY RESTAURANT

Ph: 973-285-5150

41-43 Morris Street, Morristown, NJ

WWW.GRASSHOPPEROFFTHEGREEN.COM

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY BRUNCH 10AM - 2PM

Serving Lunch & Dinner 7 days a week • With Childrens Menu & Daily Specials

## MORRISTOWN DINER

"OPEN 24 HOURS"

Early Bird Specials  
**\$8.50**

73 Morris St. • Morristown • 538-0228  
www.morristowndiner.net

## Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC

67 East Park Place • Morristown, NJ 07960

**973-267-1776**

Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC, Member SIPC. 1111-0060 11/11

## Harding

Private Livery

LIMOUSINES FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Dependable • Prompt • Courteous  
Airport - Morris & Somerset Counties

Call Tim Scanlon

**973-540-9324**

## TASHMOO RESTAURANT & BAR

Daily  
Specials

8 DeHart St

Morristown, NJ

www.Tashmoobar.com

Serving lunch  
& dinner 7  
days a week

**973.998.6133**

## PODIATRIST

www.FootDrBrady.com

DR. FRANK J. BRADY, JR.

**973-669-1119**

2 Powder Horn Drive  
Convent Station, NJ



Accounting, Tax, &  
Business Consulting Services

**John P. Kearney**  
Certified Public Accountant

55 Madison Ave., Suite 400  
Morristown, NJ 07960

**973-590-4446**

www.kearncpa.com

## MESLER'S AUTO BODY

EXPERT COLLISION REPAIRS

FRED MESLER, JR.  
Body Shop Manager



Auto Body Shop: 267-9481

24 Hr. Towing: 455-9862

Fax: 267-2132

LIC.# 02170A-18

163 Morris Street • Morristown, NJ 07960

## ARCADE MARBLE & GRANITE

**973-678-4600**

arcaderoks@aol.com

416 Central Avenue

East Orange, N.J. 07018

## THOMAS BOAS PAINTING

www.tomboaspainting.com

Interior & Exterior

Power Washing, Faux Finish

Childrens Murals

Free Estimates from

Tom Boas, Parishioner

boaspainting@aol.com • 917-589-6106



**CatholicMatch**  
New Jersey

CatholicMatch.com/goNJ

**13stars  
CROSSFIT**  
\*\*\*\*\*

74 Elm Street ★ crossfit13stars.com

Dan Moran and Brian Vagnini (Assumption Parishioners)



**EmbroidMe.**

EMBROIDERY • SCREEN PRINTING • PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS  
Assumption School Store Supplier & Vendor

16 Pine Street  
Morristown, NJ 07960

www.embroidme-morristown.com

**973-267-3000**

**GODBY REALTORS®**  
TRUSTED SINCE 1979

29 DeHart Street  
Morristown, NJ 07960

Residential & Commercial Real Estate  
**973-539-9151**

www.Godby.com

## Atlantic Home Care and Hospice



Providing skilled and  
compassionate care to the  
residents of Essex, Morris,  
Somerset, Sussex, Union and  
Warren Counties in New Jersey  
and Pike County in Pennsylvania.

Services include:

- › Nursing
- › Disease management
- › Home Telemonitoring
- › Wound and Ostomy care
- › Physical, occupational and speech therapy
- › End of life care/Hospice

Joint Commission  
accredited and Medicare  
and Medicaid certified.

For more information,  
call 973-379-8472.

