

GOOD NEWS MESSENGER

December 16, 2018

Third Sunday of Advent



MASS

Sunday: 7:30 a.m./9 a.m.

10:30 a.m./Noon/ 6 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m./5 p.m. Monday-Friday: 6:30 a.m./8 a.m.

CONFESSION

Sundays
Saturdays
4-4:45 p.m.
Wednesdays
6-6:45 p.m.
By Appt:
Call Father Keller
or Father Weber

CLERGY

Rev. Thomas Keller

Ext. 1202; kellert@assumptionstl.org

Rev. Ryan Weber

Ext. 1205; weberr@assumptionstl.org

Deacon Bill Meister

williammeister@archstl.org

Deacon Chuck Ryder

ryderc@assumptionstl.org

Deacon David Schaefer

Ext. 1254; schaeferd@assumptionstl.org

CONNECT

Parish APP: myParish.com
Website: assumptionstl.org
Facebook: /assumptionparishstl
Twitter: #AssumptionSTL
YouTube: /assumptionparishstl

Phone: 314-487-7970 **Fax:** 314-892-5513

Live Mass: assumptionlive.com

4725 Mattis Rd. St. Louis, MO 63128



Keep in touch with us via email and text with Flocknote!

Text <u>assumptionstl</u> to the number <u>84576</u> or visit us online at <u>flocknote.com/assumptionstl</u>!

This Week		
SUN 12/16	8 a.m. 3 p.m. 7 p.m. 7 p.m. 7 p.m.	TWB Gift Cards Available -ILL Festival of Lessons & Carols-CH Our Lady of Guadalupe for Life-AC AYM Lifenight-SALESIAN Men's Pickup Basketball-GYM
MON 12/17	8:30 a.m. 5:30 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7 p.m.	Rosary- ^{CH} PSR Choir - ^{LL} PSR Class- ^{CH} StVdP Christmas Party- ^{LL}
TUE 12/18	8:30 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Perpetual Help Devotions ^{-CH} Rosary ^{-CH} Fatima Rosary ^{-CH}
WED 12/19	8:30 a.m. 9 a.m. 10 a.m. 6 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 7 p.m. 7 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Rosary-CH Quilters-IL Chair Exercises-IL Parish Holy Hour-CH Cub Scouts (Brockmeyer)-CAFÉ Adult Choir-IL Respect Life Mtg-REC Boy Scouts (Thomas)-CAFÉ Athletic Assoc. Mtg-IL
THU 12/20	8:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 7 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Rosary-CH Grade School Christmas Parties-SC ACTS Men Small Group-REC AYM attending XLT @ QAS
FRI 12/21	8:30 a.m.	Rosary-CH
SAT 12/22	8:30 a.m. 9 a.m. 4 p.m. 4:30 p.m.	Rosary-CH Decorating the Church for Christmas-CH Confessions-CH Rosary-CH
SUN 12/23	8 a.m. 7 p.m. 7 p.m. 7 p.m.	TWB Gift Cards Available -LL Our Lady of Guadalupe for Life-AC AYM Lifenight Christmas Social-SALESIAN Men's Pickup Basketball-GYM

CH—Church SC—School CAFE—Cafeteria
H—Parish Center REC—Rectory Lower Level
LU—Church Lower Level AC—Chapel

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve— December 24, 4 p.m., 6 p.m. & 11 p.m.

Christmas Day— December 25, 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.

Holy Days & Holidays

Advent Lessons and Carols:

December 16, 3 p.m. An Advent and Christmas service of scriptural meditations and traditional carols. The Sacrament of Penance will be offered.

Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God:

Holy Day of Obligation Masses: New Year's Eve, Monday, December 31, 4 p.m. or New Year's Day, Tuesday, January 1, 8 a.m. & 10 a.m.

Notice:

Parish Offices will be closed December 24, 25 & 26 for Christmas break. We will also closing at noon on December 27, 28 & 31 and we will be closed all day on January 1 for New Year's.

ATTENTION: SEPARATED, DIVORCED, WIDOWED OR REMARRIED OF ALL AGES

You are invited to join us for fun and to make new friends at the Annual Christmas party and meeting of the South County Separated, Divorced, Widowed and Remarried Catholics (SCDC) on Thursday, December 20, 2018 at 7:00 p.m., at the Saint Catherine Laboure parish cafeteria (next to the playground) 9740 Sappington Road, Sunset Hills, Missouri. This meeting is held the third Thursday instead of the normal fourth Thursday because of the conflict with Christmas week. Also, before the meeting, a Mass will be held for SCDC members and guests at 6:00 p.m. at the Saint Catherine Laboure parish church. SCDC is a support group for the separated, divorced, widowed and remarried of our community. SCDC offers social activities and a support group that provides the opportunity to share your personal story with caring people. For more information please call Pat Lynch at (314) 537-5930 or Bill DeCoursey at (314) 894-0733.

Mass Intentions †

sunday echiolo † ne Parish worthy † DeClue † Maniaci †
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SUNDAY
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Worth †
Piccolo †
100010
Stroup †

† Usual contributions for Mass offerings are \$5. Please stop by the Parish Office during office hours.

Rest in Peace

Caroline Madlinger

In Our Prayers

THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Daniel Brady Jim Brockmeyer Kathryn Burjeck Jim Burkhardt Eileen Caldwell Mary Ann Catalano Ralph Cernich Mary Ann Chalmere Larry Chott Jerome Coleman Irene Collette Peggy Connelly John and Gen Deely

OUR MILITARY *denotes parishioner

Matthew Titus USN* Eddie Torres, USAF Marti Torres, USAF Brett Utz, USCG Jenna Welchlen, USA Steven Wodraska, USN Nicole Wright, USA Joshua Zarr Tim Andrews USCG Isaiah Angeli USMC* Davey Ardrey USAR Raymond Bast USN Kyle Bottorf

Weekly Readings

Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18 Monday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17 **Tuesday:** Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25 Wednesday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25 **Thursday:** Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6 [cf. 7c and 10b]/Lk 1:26-38 **Friday:** Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21 [1a; 3a]/Lk 1:39-45 Saturday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd [cf. 1a]/Lk 1:46-56 Next Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15 -16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

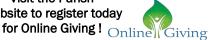
Thank You!



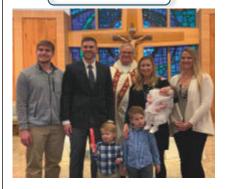
Thank you so much to parishioners Norma Gilliam and Elaine Jump and their sister Doris Wallace for the extremely generous donation of more than 30 beautiful handmade blankets and over 25 adorable handmade dolls and stuffed animals. What an amazing gift to our parish. We were able to share these ladies' incredible pieces with many families through our Giving Tree and Sponsor a Family programs. You are certainly doing God's work and we are eternally

grateful.

Visit the Parish Website to register today



Baptisms



Congratulations to Lydia Christine, who was received into the Church on December 9th, 2018 at her Baptism. Pictured with Lydia are parents, Andrew & Jessica, big brothers Drew & Will, godparents Samuel & Amanda, and Deacon David.

Thank You!

Because of your generosity and devotion, *Christmas in Prison* was once again a success. I wish you could have seen the amazement in their eyes and felt the gratitude in their hearts. Bishop Rivituso joined us and he, too, was blown away by Assumption's generosity and wanted to be sure you were thanked for all you did. I can guarantee nobody left hungry and disappointed, only that the day had come to an end. Thank you so much! The men sent a card that will be placed in the parish office. --Sue Engel

Assumption Parish Mission

Our Mission:
-Worship God
-Share the Good News of Jesus
-Serve Christ in others

Our vision:
Continue the work of
Jesus Christ
Our Goal:

Every parishioner— a saint!

IIIIIIaculate Conception		
Stewardship December 8		
Christmas Flowers	\$75.00	
End of Year: Parish General Fund	\$50.00	
End of Year: SvDP	\$50.00	
End of Year: Where Most Needed	\$120.00	
Flood/Disaster Relief	\$580.00	
General Fund 2018	\$954.00	
Immaculate Conception	\$1,907.71	
Partner in Education	\$40.00	
Permanent Diaconate	\$25.00	
Prison Ministry	\$10.00	

\$123.00

\$510.00

\$4,444.71

Immaculate Conception

Welcome to our Parish!

St. Vincent de Paul

Year End

Total

The Herbig Family Stanley Soboleski

Welcome to Assumption!

We are so glad that you have chosen to be part of our Parish family!

Registering at Assumption

Stewardship Dec	ember 9
Cardinal Glennon Hospital	\$5.00
Christmas	\$135.00
Christmas Flowers	\$365.00
End of Year: Annual Catholic Appeal	\$100.00
End of Year: Parish Enhancement/ Maintainance	\$300.00
End of Year: Parish General Fund	\$100.00
End of Year: SvDP	\$350.00
End of Year: Where Most Needed	\$1,310.00
Flood/Disaster Relief	\$3,385.00
General Fund 2018	\$26,297.44
Giving Tuesday	\$33.00
Immaculate Conception	\$772.00
Maintenance Fund	\$345.00
Parish Gift	\$325.00
Partner in Education	\$1,105.00
Preserving Our Heritage	\$100.00
Pro-Life Stewardship	\$125.00
Retired Religious	\$20.00
School Support	\$125.00
Seminary	\$20.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$1,396.00
Tithing for the Poor	\$535.00
Year End	\$195.00
Total	\$37,443.44

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I/We would like to register at Assumption:	s v = - v =
Name:	
Phone:	
E-mail:	
Please return this slip to the Parish Office (located in the Rectory basket, and we will be in touch soon to help you register here! You Monday-Friday, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. to register.	1 30 3

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Pastor's Column



What is going on at Assumption?

Parish Auction

Ever since I arrived at Assumption, I have been asked if we are going to "bring back the Parish Auction?" The answer is YES! I know auctions are fun events where people get great deals and it benefits the parish.

We are thinking about having the Parish Auction next fall. It will take the place of the Fall Fling and the Fall Festival. The volunteers who have worked those events are going to come together to make a really fun and really big event for everyone. Please start thinking about possible auction items to donate. Everything from vacations, tickets to big sporting or entertainment events, antiques, new items, or whatever you think people will be willing to bid on will be accepted. "Father, can I re-gift something I received at Christmas?" Yes, as long as you think someone else would be willing to pay for it!

Hopefully, we will still have a family-friendly fall event to take the place of Fall Festival, so if you love the dinners, chili and dessert competitions or the fellowship, we will still make it happen.

Handicapped accessible shuttle bus

We received a number of great potential volunteer drivers. It looks like we are going to take the next step and begin looking at specific vehicles. It is possible that we will purchase a shuttle bus for Senior Ministry by the end of the year and have it delivered soon. It's not too late to volunteer to be a driver. Now, if you know a shut-it who needs a ride to Sunday Mass, let our Senior Minister, Laura Benson know (314.487.7970 x1228).

Holy Land Pilgrimage

As you may remember, I am going to lead a pilgrimage to the Holy Land (Israel and Jordan) in January. About half of the pilgrims are from Assumption. Please remember to pray that we have a spiritually beneficial pilgrimage!

Thanksgiving Brunch

If you haven't heard, the Thanksgiving Brunch was a HUGE success! Given the positive feedback and the grateful notes from parishioners, we are planning to do it again next year. A HUGE thanks to the volunteers who pulled it all together!

Christmas Spirit

Assumption parishioners do a great job of welcoming guests. In case you forget how, be sure to welcome them into the pews, move over, smile, even say, "Merry Christmas!" It is that simple! Let's all make Assumption a welcoming place.

Year-End Gifts

It is not too late to make a year-end gift! A donation of cash, stock, charitable IRA rollover, property, or another kind of gift may be tax-deductible and it certainly is appreciated. While we are thinking of "the end" remember Assumption in your will or trust! Continue the good work begun here!

God bless, Fr. Keller

5 December 16, 2018

RECLAIMING MY CATHOLIC FAITH

Week 3 Meditation on Fortitude

Almost everyone has had the experience of making a decision as a teenager – "Do I do what my friends are doing or do I do what I know in my heart is right?"

When we think of strength, we usually think of physical power. But, the virtue of fortitude has to do with strength of will. The will is the place in each of our souls from which we use our rational faculties to choose.

The virtue of Fortitude is expressed in an act of the will that removes obstacles to doing what is right.

Fortitude is a natural virtue meaning everyone has this virtue to some extent, but it is also listed as a gift of the Holy Spirit, so God also may confer it for a supernatural end. This means to exercise the gift of Fortitude in a natural way leads to natural happiness, but to exercise this gift in a supernatural way leads to eternal happiness.

The natural virtue of fortitude builds on Prudence. The virtue of Prudence helps us to know what is good. Fortitude helps us not only to will good things, but to do good things despite difficulties or obstacles found along the way. Often, Fortitude is best expressed in a natural setting when it leads to Justice for others.

The supernatural gift of fortitude helps the Catholic to profess his or her Faith without fear. This gift is conferred through the Sacrament of Confirmation.

"Perhaps today as never before the moral virtue of Fortitude needs the support of the corresponding gift of the Holy Spirit. The gift of Fortitude is a supernatural impulse which gives strength to the soul, not only in exceptional occasions such as that of martyrdom, but also in normal difficulties: in the struggle to remain consistent with one's principles; in putting up with insults and unjust attacks; in courageous perseverance on the path of truth and uprightness, in spite of lack of understanding and hostility." – Pope St. John Paul II

Fortitude leads to other virtues:

Courage (bravery) – despite evils or difficulties, one embarks on doing right Perseverance – disposes us to endure evils or difficulties to attain the right end Patience – disposes us to endure evils or difficulties without losing heart

Questions?

Do I follow through with decisions?

Do I defend others?

Do I patiently persevere through difficulties?

Do I worry about what others think of me?

Do I fear to practice my Catholic Faith openly?

Early Learning Center Shelly Michael Director



In preschool, we have been learning about where our food comes from. We are growing our own food inside our Tower garden, which is an aeroponic growing system. We have started from planting seeds to watching our plants beautifully grow bigger every week! Not only are we taking care of plants, but we are also cultivating strong bodies and minds inside our preschool classroom that will last a life time.





Elementary Religious Education Valerie Stringer Director



On Monday during PSR, all children are invited to bring the infant Jesus figurines from their home Nativity scenes for the traditional "Bambinelli blessing". This blessing usually happens in Rome on the 3rd Sunday of Advent, as people begin to set up their Nativity scenes in preparation for Christmas. Also, the 4th graders in PSR will be enrolled in the St. John Berchmans Altar Server Society at the beginning of PSR on Monday.



Senior Ministry Laura Benson Senior Apostolate Coordinator

12/17

1 p.m. Women's Senior Small Group meeting in the Guadalupe Room; Join us for the final segment of *ADVENT* series on FORMED.

12/19 Senior Wednesday

8 a.m. Mass

8:30 a.m. Coffee, Tea, Juice and Sweet Treats Watch "The Lemon Drop Kid" movie starring Bob Hope 10 a.m. Chair Exercises

11 a.m. Carpool from church parking lot
11:30 a.m. Tour the "Joy to the World" Nativity Display at the
Franciscan Sisters of Our Lady of Perpetual Help convent,
335 Kirkwood Road. Admission cost = \$5 or pack of diapers
or new/gently used baby item. View more than 150 different
nativity sets inspired by St. Francis of Assisi. RSVP to Senior
Ministry office, 314.487.7970 x1228. Let me know if you can
drive others!

12/21

10 a.m. Chair Exercises

All further Senior Ministry activities are postponed until Friday 12/28, as our Campus closes for Christmas break.

AYM upcoming events:

Dec. 16TH- NUESTRA SENORA

7:00-8:30pm. Salsa & chips, and a night on Our Lady of Guadalupe. Vamonos!

Dec. 23rD- CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

7:00-8:30pm. "First, we'll make snow angels for two hours, and then we'll go ice skating, and then we'll eat a whole roll of Toll-House cookie dough as fast as we can...." Wear your ugly Christmas sweater and come watch Elf with us!

DEC. 30TH- NO LIFE NIGHT!

Enjoy the Holidays! We will see everyone after the new year!





7 December 16, 2018

Our Lady's Inn Benefit Trivia Night

Our Lady's Inn Maternity Homes is having their Annual Trivia Night – Saturday, January 19th at Chaminade College Prep School (425 S. Lindbergh). Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and trivia begins at 7:00 p.m. Cost is \$25 per person and \$200 for a table of ten. For more information or to register, visit www.ourladysinn.org or call Katrina at 314-736-1544.



Our Lady Help of Christians Adoration Chapel

Open 24/7. Come spend an hour with our Lord!

Women's ACTS Retreat

SAVE THE DATE!

The Assumption Women's ACTS Retreat is **Jan. 31– Feb. 3, 2019.** To register for the retreat, simply fill out and mail in a registration form (found in the foyers of Church). For more information or to *register* and pay your deposit online, go to

www.assumptionstl.org/ACTS-Ret

The 20th Anniversary St. Louis Marian Conference

The Conference will be held at the Renaissance Hotel Jan 11-12-13, 2019. Confirmed speakers are Raymond Leo Cardinal Burke, Dr. Gregory Thompson, Peggy Schneier, Fr. Vincent Lampert, Mary Lou McCall, Fr. Tom Sullivan, Bishop Robert Hermann, and Fr. Charles Becker. For additional information, call cell # 314-401-1707, or visit our website: stlmarianconference.net The cost for the 3-day event is **only** \$35. (\$40 after 12/31 and at the door, and \$40 for Saturday only.) Groups of 8 or more: \$25 per person (prior to 12/31). Young Adults: \$15. Children (5-11): \$5. Registration for Priests, Deacons, Vowed Religious: no charge!



Thank You!



A huge thank you to the Cub Scouts, who came to the parish rectory on Sunday, December 9th, to put up a Christmas tree and spruced up the place with some holiday cheer!

Fr. Keller & Fr. Weber were very grateful for all of your work!

** New ** Eucharistic Adoration Chapel Committee

We are establishing a small committee to coordinate the operation of our Perpetual Adoration Chapel. The newly formed committee will work with the Parish Clergy and staff to maintain and suggest improvements as well as help parish ministries and groups incorporate Adoration into their activity plans. If you are interested in volunteering some time to keep our Chapel beautiful and operational, please email Dcn. David Schaefer at schaeferd@assumptionstl.org

ASSUMPTION PARISH HOLY HOUR

The Parish Holy Hour is open to everyone. It is intended as an opportunity for parishioners to spend time in prayer and adoration, as well as receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Join us each Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in the church.



MATERIALS MAKING PARTY



All ages and skill levels welcome!
Instructions and materials provided.

RSVP to Miss Stringer stringerv@assumptionstl.org

FORMED PICK



Brother Francis: O Holy Night

Celebrate the Birth of Jesus

Recall the wonder and joy of Christmas with Brother Francis in this heartwarming presentation that will remind you Who we celebrate during the Christmas season!

Watch on formed.org





"Awesome for the kids big and small."

-Toby J., Toledo, OH

Thank You!



Thank you to all who contributed to our Giving Tree! Your generosity will make Christmas that much more special for those in need!

RESPECT LIFE APOSTOLATE



Dear Friend of Life,

We wanted to let you know that <u>Christ Prince of Peace</u>
<u>Parish</u> is holding a Naming & Commendation Rite on Saturday,
January 5. The rite will be held at 8:30 a.m. in the church directly
following the parish's morning Mass. It is offered to any parent,
family, or individual who has lost a child before birth due to
miscarriage, stillbirth, accident, or abortion. All are welcome; the
parish respect life committee kindly requests an RSVP to Val at
314-402-3534 or Susan at 636-253-6308. More information
about <u>Naming & Commendation</u> is available at <u>STLRespect-Life.org</u> under "Programs" then "Pastoral Care" or by contacting prolife@archstl.org or 314-792-7555.

Conta	act Us	
CLERGY 314-487-7970		
Reverend Thomas Keller Pastor	Ext. 1202	kellert@assumptionstl.org
Reverend Ryan Weber Associate Pastor	Ext. 1205	weberr@assumptionstl.org
Deacon Bill Meister		williammeister@archstl.org
Deacon Chuck Ryder		ryderc@assumptionstl.org
Deacon David Schaefer	Ext. 1254	schaeferd@assumptionstl.org
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Sr. Lorraine T. DeFebbo, OSF. Parish Secretary	Ext. 1215	defebbol@assumptionstl.org
Miss Caitlyn Chickey Youth Minister	Ext. 1233	chickeyc@assumptionstl.org
Miss Cecilia Detwiler Coordinator of Evangelization	Ext. 1203	detwilerc@assumptionstl.org
Mrs. Nancy Pyle Music Director		pylen@assumptionstl.org
Mrs. Denise Riek Office Manager	Ext. 1235	riekd@assumptionstl.org
Mr. Matt Yates Maintenance Coordinator	Ext. 2235	yatesm@assumptionstl.org
PARISH and SCHOOL EDUCATION STAFF 314-487-6520		
Mrs. Julie Connors PSR Principal	Ext. 2219	connorsj@assumptionstl.org
Miss Valerie Stringer Director of Elementary Religious Education	Ext. 2218	stringerv@assumptionstl.org
Mrs. Shelley Michael Assumption Early Learning Center Director	Ext. 1227	michaels@assumptionstl.org
Mrs. Jennifer Sykora School Principal	Ext. 2121	sykoraj@assumptionstl.org

Good News Messenger

Issue	Deadline	
	(4 p.m.)	
Dec. 16	Dec. 6	
Dec. 23	Dec. 12	

- PDF files cannot be used
- .jpg files required
- -Photo media releases required
- —NO FLYERS, unless the same textual content is also submitted via email

Please submit news to: newsletter@assumptionstl.org

Society of St. Vincent de Paul Hotline 314-289-6101, ext. 2227

Finance Council —New Members

The Assumption Finance Council needs a few new members. Specifically, we are looking for individuals who are or were small business owners or who have accounting, management or investing experience. The Finance Council meets once a month on the fourth Wednesday of month at 6:15 p.m. Members make

Please contact Fr. Keller 314-487-7970 ex 1202 or email assumptionstl.org

yearly commitments and can always renew their commitment.

Have a question about our Catholic faith?

Email it to newsletter@assumptionstl.org for our "Bother the Fathers" video series!

Please Support Our Advertisers!

Fr. Griffin Council Collects \$8,700 for the Knights of Columbus Developmental Disabilities Drive

The total amount of money collected by the Fr. Griffin Council for the Knights of Columbus Developmental Disabilities drive was \$8,700. This money came from the three parishes our council serves: Assumption, Seven Holy Founders and Our Lady of Providence. Additional money was collected at the intersection of Watson and Sappington, Dierberg's Southroads, plus additional donations. As reported earlier, Assumption donated \$1,218. Assumption's youth group handled the collection at Dierberg's on Saturday, October 6th and collected \$474. Special thanks goes to various members of the youth group, the core team and Melissa Hunter! Melissa coordinated these efforts in place of Caitlyn Chickey, who was out of town.



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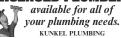


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