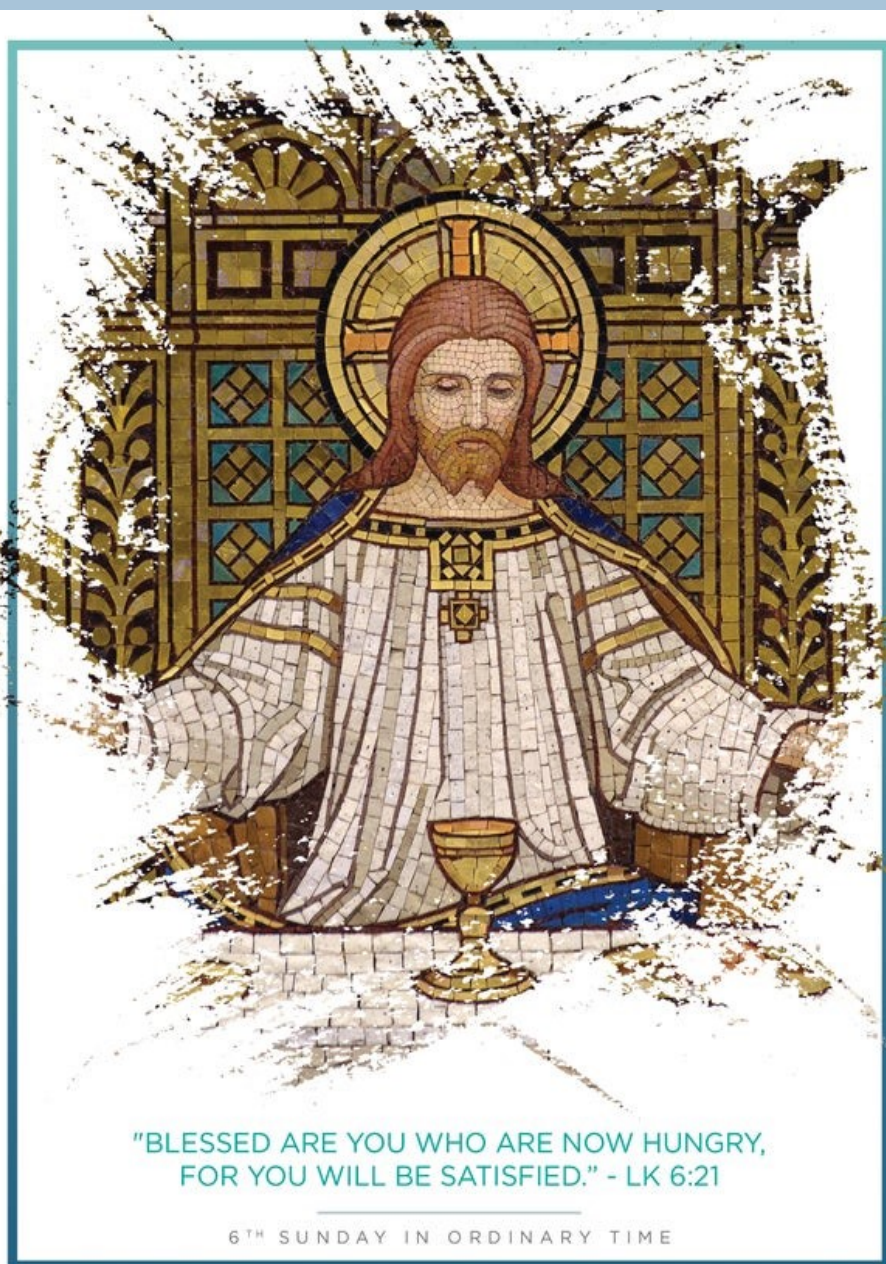




GOOD NEWS MESSENGER

Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 13, 2022



EXCERPTS FROM THE LECTIONARY FOR MASS ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD. ©LPI

MASS

Sunday: 7:30 a.m./9 a.m.
10:30 a.m./Noon/ 6 p.m.
Saturday: 8 a.m./5 p.m.
Mon.-Fri.: 6:30 a.m./8 a.m.

CONFESSION

Saturdays 4-4:45 p.m.
Wednesdays 6-6:45 p.m.
Sundays Before All Masses
By Appt: Call Fr. Keller or Fr. Buehler

CLERGY

Rev. Thomas Keller
Ext. 1202; kellert@assumptionstl.org
Rev. Raymond Buehler
Ext. 1205; buehlerr@assumptionstl.org
Deacon Chuck Ryder
Ext. 1257; ryderc@assumptionstl.org
Deacon David Schaefer
Ext. 1254; schaeferd@assumptionstl.org
Deacon Michael Thompson
Ext. 1256; thompsonm@assumptionstl.org

CONNECT

Parish APP: myParish.com
Website: Assumptionstl.org
Facebook: [/assumptionparishstl](https://www.facebook.com/assumptionparishstl)
Twitter: [#AssumptionSTL](https://twitter.com/AssumptionSTL)
Instagram: [@assumptionstl](https://www.instagram.com/assumptionstl)
Phone: 314-487-7970
Fax: 314-892-5513
Livestream Mass: Assumptionlive.com
4725 Mattis Rd.
St. Louis, MO 63128

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

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Text STOP to 84576 to stop txt notifications at any time. Text HELP for help. There is no charge for this service, but your carrier message and data rates may apply. View full privacy policy & terms at flocknote.com/txt

INSIDE

It's back!

Catholicism

Want to become a *disciple-maker*?

Join us for... **"The Heart of the Evangelist,"**

led by Fr. Buehler, Sr. Associate Pastor!

Wednesdays, February 7 - 8:30 p.m. 2, 9, 16, & 23
in the Church Lower Level



**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!

Registering at Assumption

Assumption Parish (Mattese) warmly welcomes you to our family of Faith! I/We would like to register at Assumption:

Name: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Address: _____

Zip Code: _____

Please return this slip to the Parish Office (located in the Rectory) or drop in the offertory basket, and we will be in touch soon to help you register here! You may also visit the office Monday-Friday, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to register.

Special Events

March 2 Blood Drive

March 4 Fish Fry

Mar. 21-23 Parish Mission

Stewardship January 31–Feb 6

#AssumptionTogether	\$195.00
Black-Native America	\$200.00
Candle Fund	\$28.00
Cardinal Glennon Hospital	\$5.00
General Fund 2022	\$28,329.25
Lifeline Coalition	\$140.00
Maintenance Fund	\$246.00
Partner in Education	\$430.00
Preserving Our Heritage	\$25.00
Pro-Life Stewardship	\$15.00
SEEK22 Offering	\$914.00
Solemnity of Mary	\$40.00
St. Louis Review Subscription	\$270.00
St. Vincent de Paul	\$2,040.00
Tithing for the Poor	\$20.00
	\$32,897.25

Mass Intentions †

February 13	SUNDAY
7:30 a.m.	Dillon Chiodini †
9 a.m.	Timothy Meagher †
10:30 a.m.	People of the Parish
Noon	Henrietta Dostal †
6 p.m.	Linda DeClue †
February 14	MONDAY
6:30 a.m.	Rick Allgeyer †
8 a.m.	Motz Gapsch †
February 15	TUESDAY
6:30 a.m.	Jeff Ross
8 a.m.	Bob Farley †
February 16	WEDNESDAY
6:30 a.m.	Dorothy & Tom Figliola †
8 a.m.	Richard Allgeyer †
February 17	THURSDAY
6:30 a.m.	James Mackiewicz †
8 a.m.	John & Frances Meagher †
February 18	FRIDAY
6:30 a.m.	Gene Karhammer †
8 a.m.	Gary Lindsey †
February 19	SATURDAY
8 a.m.	Don & Brett Grant †
5 p.m.	Marlene Kauffmann †
February 20	SUNDAY
7:30 a.m.	Linda DeClue †
9 a.m.	People of the Parish
10:30 a.m.	Rick Allgeyer †
Noon	Thomas W. Vorholt †
6 p.m.	Sal & Eleanor Catanzaro †
	† denotes deceased

In Our Prayers

THOSE WHO ARE ILL

Michael Manning
 Michael Manzelli
 Ann Marie Marelli
 Maureen Mattingly
 Brenden McDaniels
 Dionne McPike
 Kevin McPike
 Carolyn Messmer
 Ken Messmer
 Judith Metzger
 Arthur Miller
 Carole Ann Miller
 Mary Miloscia

OUR MILITARY **denotes parishioner*

Jenna Welchlen, USA
 Steven Wodraska, USN
 Nicole Wright, USA
 Joshua Zarr
 Tim Andrews, USCG
 Isaiah Angeli, USMC*
 Davey Ardrey, USAR
 Raymond Bast, USN
 Ryan Boedeker
 Kyle Bottorf
 Robert Bryant III, USAF*
 Dustin Burnett, USAF
 Dominic Catalano

† Usual contributions for Mass offerings are \$10. Please stop by the Parish Office to arrange to have a Mass offered.

Weekly Readings

Readings for the week of February 13, 2022

Sunday: Jer 17:5-8/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4, 6 [40:5a]/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/Lk 6:17, 20-26

Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/Mk 8:11-13

Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/Mk 8:14-21

Wednesday: Jas 1:19-27/Ps 15:2-3a, 3bc-4ab, 5/Mk 8:22-26

Thursday: Jas 2:1-9/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7/Mk 8:27-33

Friday: Jas 2:14-24, 26/Ps 112:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Mk 8:34—9:1

Saturday: Jas 3:1-10/Ps 12:2-3, 4-5, 7-8/Mk 9:2-13

Next Sunday: 1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8, 10, 12-13 [8a]/1 Cor 15:45-49/Lk 6:27-38

Rest in Peace:

Richard S. Blumm

Denise K. Fischer



Pastor's Column

Fr. Thomas Keller

The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly

Last week was a memorable week.

The Good

Last Sunday we concluded the SEEK22 Conference. SEEK is an annual conference presented by a ministry called FOCUS Federation of Catholic University Students. FOCUS is an international organization that trains “missionaries” to go to university campuses to call fallen away Catholic students back to the Faith or to accompany individuals who want to become Catholic. FOCUS Missionaries encourage “disciple-making” through a practice called “spiritual multiplication.” Spiritual multiplication is the practice of developing deep spiritual relationships with a few people, helping them become true disciples of Jesus by living their Catholic faith, and then preparing them to develop meaningful relationships with others so they can multiply disciples themselves.

There were approximately 150 people including the staff that organized the weekend participating in SEEK22. Most were Assumption parishioners and staff, but we also welcomed some Carmelites of the Divine Heart of Jesus, parishioners from Good Shepherd in Hillsboro, and ABIDE – the South County young adult ministry. The weekend seemed like a great success and a lot of people are on fire to share the Good News of Jesus with others.

The Bad

On Monday a homeless man was dropped off on our campus looking for financial help at the rectory. We do not give out money so staff members try to listen to the person to see how we can help their situation. Often our St. Vincent de Paul Society can offer assistance, so they usually get involved. While most homeless ask for a few dollars, what they really need are mental health resources, and unfortunately these are difficult to find in today's world. Within minutes of arrival the person became belligerent and began making serious threats. Usually threats from people seeking assistance are exaggerated, but because underlying mental health issues or intoxication amplify emotions, the threats point to the possibility of physical violence. So, this triggered a lockdown in school and in the moment, it was not possible to describe exactly what was going on and it made for a very tense and scary moment for the faculty and students. Other staff members quickly arrived for support and the police arrived quickly and the man was taken into custody. This kind of incident is an unfortunate possibility for anyone who helps the poorest of the poor, but we do it because it is intrinsic to our Catholic faith. When it happens, our goal is to keep everyone safe.

The Ugly

To everyone's surprise, the following day, we all awoke to news that a St. Louis County judge was treating this incident very seriously and considered some of the man's statements a terrorist threat. The judge placed the man's bail extremely high, meaning the court system would be forced to deal with the man's inappropriate behavior. We are very grateful that the police and judge did not just return a man in need of mental health care back onto the street. However, the judge's actions caught the attention of the local media. As we read the story, it made the incident seem very different than it unfolded. Unfortunately, local newsrooms are understaffed leaving someone to piece together stories from police reports and court records and put them in print or on the air. The details of the incident at Assumption were completely different from what was reported and unfortunately no one from the St. Louis Post Dispatch, KSDK, or any other outlet that reported on it bothered to reach out to us for a comment. This is inexcusable and lacked journalistic integrity or human compassion for the children involved. If someone had called, we would have been happy to explain the details of the story. In a case of bad timing, the Archdiocese Communication Office recently experienced a change of personnel, and the normally very proactive office did not come to our rescue as expected. So, Assumption administrators were occupied the entire day responding to unnecessarily frightened, shocked, or angry parents and parishioners each time the media fleshed out their story with inaccurate details.

Now, I know you skipped “The Good” news in the first paragraphs. Stop and read that because it will be the news of lasting importance.

God blesss, Fr. Keller



ALL THINGS NEW

STEADFAST IN FAITH • FORWARD IN HOPE

All Things New” Reflection and Report

The day-to-day work of the Catholic Church is found in parishes. This is where the sacraments are conferred, relationships are built, catechesis takes place, and charity is exercised. The heart of the Church is really the local parish.

The parochial system (system of parishes with territorial boundaries) has been part of the Catholic Church since the time of the Apostles when they appointed overseers, elders, and servants (bishops, priests, and deacons) over little Christian communities in various towns. In larger cities a bishop divided up the neighborhoods and placed priests and deacons in each area to serve the Christians and the poor in that place. The parochial system is still in use today.

St. Louis parishes come with a lot of emotional attachments. Parishes reflect neighborhood pride. Parishes are a place of family occasions. Parishes are the patrimony of generations of donors. Many St. Louis parishes have schools. This adds a lot of other feelings, because growing up on a parish campus makes it feel like an extension of oneself. St. Louis has one other thing, CYC sports. We may have the most comprehensive youth sports program of any diocese. Most diocese have none. Because of this we have developed a strong sense of competition with our neighboring parishes. One long time difficulty in St. Louis is getting parishes to do things together successfully. This inability to work together is sometimes called “parochialism.”

While we love our parishes, St. Louis Catholics often display opposition or suspicion toward “The Archdiocese.” It used to be called under the euphemism “Lindell” referring to the former location of the Chancery on Lindell Boulevard. Now the Chancery, Curia and Archbishop’s offices are in Shrewsbury in the closed Kenrick Seminary building known as the Rigali Center or Pastoral Center. It is not uncommon for a donor to say, “My donation isn’t going to end up on Lindell, is it?” It is easy for “The Archdiocese” to be perceived as the enemy, but what is “The Archdiocese?” On one level it is an archbishop and the priests and laypeople who advise him. But the archdiocese is really us, all the parishes and other Catholic institutions working together to a common goal.

The Archdiocese of St. Louis strategic plan “*All Things New*” is asking very difficult questions – how can we care for all these campuses? How can we continue to have a sacramental, pastoral, and educational presence in all these parishes with fewer priests, declining and aging populations, and stretched financial resources? The more important questions – how can we reach out to others to invite them to deeper faith? How can we do a better job of handing the faith to the next generation? Without answering these questions, we will continue to see decline. But the hard reality is that it is unreasonable to believe that we are going to suddenly - after 50 years of decline - change our behavior and live in a way that attracts others to faith without serious self-reflection.

Yes, the *All Things New* strategic plan is an example of central planning by the archdiocese, but to be successful it will also will require all the parishes and parishioners participate as we refine our goals as Catholics and discern how we will achieve this goal despite formidable challenges. To this end, the archdiocese has been divided into 15 geographic planning groups to get parishes to work together on the strategic plan. These groups have common challenges and resources. Assumption is grouped with 14 other parishes on both sides of Highway 270. Presumably, we will evaluate how we can best address these challenges and be better stewards of our common resources to accomplish the mission of the Church more effectively.

God bless, Fr. Keller



seek²²
focus



FISH FRY FRIDAYS

Mark your calendar—you don't want to miss the Best Fish Fry in town!

Every Friday during Lent
(March 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th and April 1st, 8th and 15th)

- Dine-In and Carry-Out will be available. Pre-Orders for Curbside Pickup available at AssumptionFishFry.Org
- We are actively seeking volunteers. Please contact Tammy Kenniston tammy@kenniston.us
- Due to health department regulations and COVID guidelines, we will not be accepting Homemade Desserts this year. However, we will be accepting pre-packaged store-bought desserts at the Parish Center on Fridays.



Annual Assumption Men's White House Retreat

Men of the parish are invited to participate in the annual Assumption Men's Retreat at White House.

The retreat will begin with dinner on Thursday, March 3rd and conclude with lunch on Sunday, March 6th.

The weekend is based on the Spiritual Exercises of St. Ignatius Loyola and will include group conferences, celebration of the sacraments and plenty of time for peaceful prayer, reflection, and relaxation.

Please refer to www.whretreat.org for information about this beautiful 80 acre facility, which overlooks the Mississippi River in Oakville. The retreat house currently has capacity for 72 retreatants. Each retreatant has a private room and bathroom plus three sit-down meals per day.

Take this opportunity to step aside and rest awhile in consideration of God's many gifts.

For more information, contact any of the following men:

John Laschober 314-680-8281
Scott Benson 314-882-9505
Jim Haferkamp 314-941-3894
Jerry Lesmeister 314-585-2836
Mike Meyer 314-604-8127
Dan Ranson 314-238-4649

*Rooted in Faith,
Growing in Grace!*



Schedule a tour today!



Assumption Parish School
& Early Learning Center

 314-487-6520

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ARE YOU A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT?

THIS RETREAT IS FOR YOU!

NEW FRESHMAN THROUGH
GRADUATED SENIORS
JULY 15-17TH, 2022
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
\$270.00

 **STEBENVILLE
CONFERENCES**
An outreach of Franciscan University of Steubenville



FEARLESS

JOHN 16:33

 **FRANCISCAN**

JOIN US (AND 4000 OTHER HIGH SCHOOL CATHOLICS) FOR A WEEKEND AWAY WITH AMAZING MUSICIANS, INCREDIBLE SPEAKERS AND A CHANCE TO GROW IN YOUR FAITH WITH ASSUMPTION YOUTH MINISTRY!!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BE TAKEN TO THE REGISTRATION PAGE!



**SIGN UPS
DUE BY FEB
13TH!**

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

STARTING JANUARY 18, 2022

*Looking for a scholarship for the
2022-2023 school year?*

- All elementary schools in the Archdiocese of St. Louis
- All Catholic high schools
- Any private elementary school in the City of St. Louis

Apply online at TTEF-STL.ORG

Deadline is February 28th, 2022.

Go to: ttef-stl.org
or call Laura George,
Senior Director of Scholarships
at 314-792-7777

Free Online Application



STL Catholic Women for Christ Conference – Saturday, March 12

The Catholic Women for Christ Conference offers women a day of spiritually uplifting speakers and a chance to commune with other women on their faith journey. The event will be held at the Si Commons at St. Louis University High School on Saturday, March 12th, giving us a capacity to welcome over 1,000 ladies to the conference! We are thrilled to welcome Julianne Stanz, noted international speaker and Director of Evangelization and Discipleship for the Diocese of Green Bay, as well as Chika Anyanwu, Director of Missionary Experience for Vagabond Missions and Fr. Paul Hoesing, Dean of Men at Kenrick-Glennon seminary for what is sure to be an inspiring and challenging day. You can register online at catholicwomenforchrist.org or by contacting Deacon Brian Selsor in the conference office at 314-792-7182. Early bird tickets are available for only \$30, but hurry as early bird pricing is only available through February 17th when prices increase, so sign up today!



BLOOD DRIVE

**Assumption Catholic
Church Basement**
4725 Mattis Rd.
Saint Louis, MO 63128

Wednesday, March 2, 2022
2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767)
or visit **RedCrossBlood.org**
and
enter: AssumptionCC
to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience
and save up to 15 minutes by visiting
RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass
to complete your pre-donation reading
and health history questions
on the day of your appointment.

Visit **AssumptionSTL.org**
to register
today for
Online Giving!



UPCOMING EVENTS

**Assumption Youth
Ministry**

FEB 13: No Life Night

FEB 16: Upper Room
Mental Health Series, pt 3

FEB 20: Life Night
Thomistic Spirituality

all events held in the
Youth Room from 7-9pm



PARISH HOLY HOUR

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

OurCatholicRadio.org

Our Church has been celebrating the manifestation of Jesus Christ for over a month now. Christ was made manifest to the shepherds at His birth; to the three kings (hence the Gentiles) at the Feast of the Epiphany; to the Hebrews at His Baptism; and to His disciples at Cana.

Covenant Network makes Christ manifest daily through faith-nourishing programming. Tune into AM 1460 or 96.7 FM or listen live anytime on the free Covenant Network app or at **Our-CatholicRadio.org**

Contact Us

CLERGY		314-487-7970
Reverend Thomas Keller Pastor	Ext. 1202	kellert@assumptionstl.org
Reverend Raymond Buehler Senior Associate Pastor	Ext. 1205	buehlerr@assumptionstl.org
Deacon Chuck Ryder	Ext. 1257	ryderc@assumptionstl.org
Deacon David Schaefer	Ext. 1254	schaeferd@assumptionstl.org
Deacon Michael Thompson	Ext. 1256	thompsonm@assumptionstl.org
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Miss Shari Heitmann Office Manager	Ext. 1232	heitmanns@assumptionstl.org
Mrs. Nancy Pyle Music Director	Ext. 1229	pylen@assumptionstl.org
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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.)
Feb. 27	Feb. 17
Mar. 6	Feb. 24

- Please go to www.assumptionstl.org/bulletin-submissions and submit an online form to request event promotion and/or to book a room
- PDF files cannot be used
- .jpg files required for any photos/graphics

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**Our Lady, Help of Christians
Adoration Chapel**

Open 24/7!
Contact the Parish Office
for the keycode.

FORMED

PICK OF THE WEEK

February 13, 2022

WATCH

BELOVED—SESSION 1: DOES MARRIAGE MATTER?

Happy Feast of St. Valentine! This Valentine's Day, remind yourself of the beauty of the Sacrament of Marriage with the Beloved series, presented by the Augustine Institute.



To set up your free account visit formed.org/signup and select our parish.