



# THIRD SUNDAY of Easter

## Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

3516 E. Monroe Rd.  
Midland, MI 48642-8824

May 4, 2025

### Weekend Liturgical Schedule

**Saturday: 4:30 p.m.**

**Sunday: 9:30 a.m.**

**Exposition/Reconciliation:**  
Wednesdays 7:15-8:15 p.m.

**Mass from Assumption** is LIVE streamed at our SUNDAY Mass, so keep an eye out for our Flocknote; you can also check out our Facebook page and website for a link.

See inside the bulletin for the weekday schedule of worship services.

### How To Contact Us

**Office Hours:** Mon - Thurs / 8:30 a.m.—4 p.m.,  
Fridays / 8:30 a.m.—noon

**Parish Office:** 989-631-4447

**Fax:** 989-835-9722

**Email:** [Assumption@AssumptionMidland.org](mailto:Assumption@AssumptionMidland.org)

**Website:** [www.AssumptionMary.org](http://www.AssumptionMary.org)

### Parish Staff

**Director of Parish Life:** John Graveline,  
Email: [john@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:john@assumptionmidland.org)

**Sacramental Minister:** Fr. Rick Filary,  
Email: [rfilary@diosag.org](mailto:rfilary@diosag.org)

**Office Manager:** Sandy Martinski,  
Email: [sandym@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:sandym@assumptionmidland.org)

**Director of Youth Ministry:** Kathy Russell,  
Email: [kathyr@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:kathyr@assumptionmidland.org)

**Children's Faith Formation:**

Wendy Graveline,

Email: [cff@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:cff@assumptionmidland.org)

**Music & Liturgy:** Jim Renfer,

Email: [jim@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:jim@assumptionmidland.org)

**Office Professionals:**

Val Rossi,

Email: [val@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:val@assumptionmidland.org)

Rachelle Boyer,

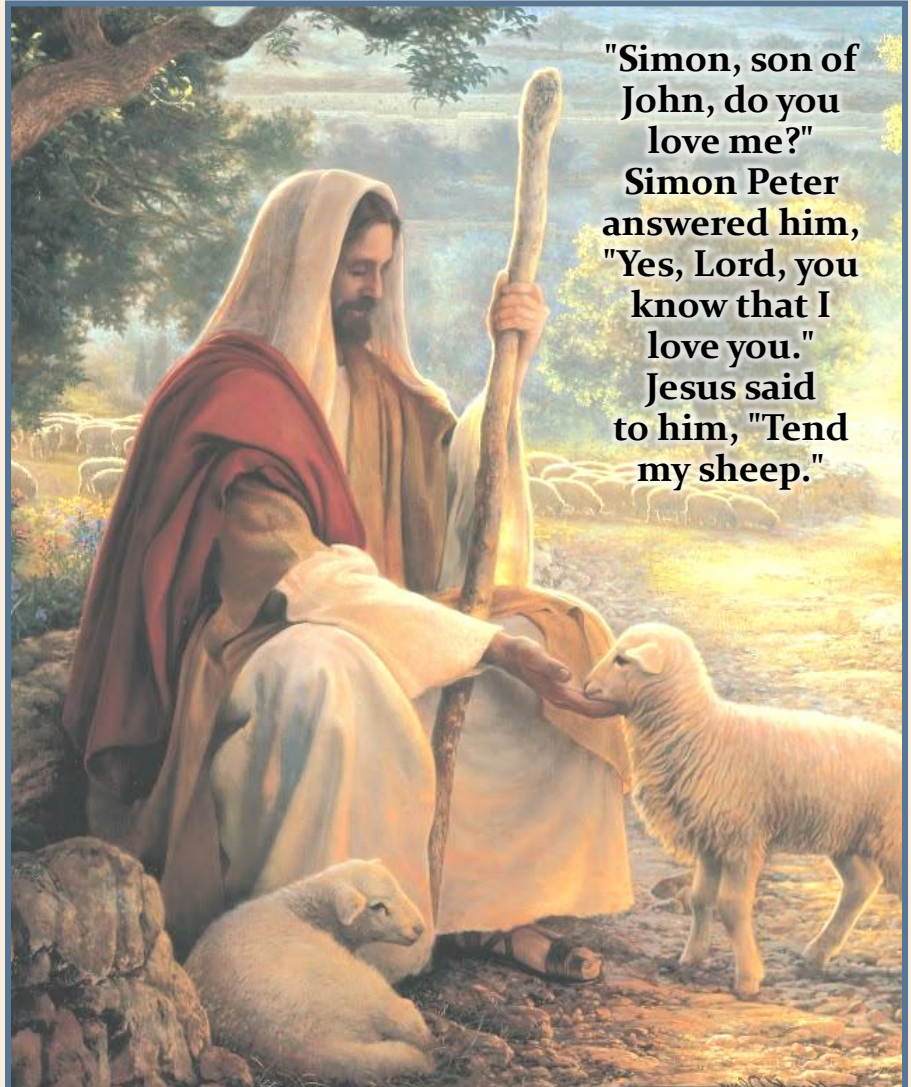
Email: [rachelle@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:rachelle@assumptionmidland.org)

**Evangelization Liaison:** Anna Martin,

Email: [anna@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:anna@assumptionmidland.org)

**Maintenance Specialist:** Brad Hill,

Email: [bradh@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:bradh@assumptionmidland.org)



"Simon, son of John, do you love me?"  
Simon Peter answered him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you."  
Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep."

#### MINISTRY TO THE SICK

Those wishing to celebrate the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick prior to surgeries, hospitalizations, or because of health concerns are asked to please contact the parish office. Otherwise, please notify the parish office if you or a family member is ill, homebound or hospitalized.

#### ALL ARE WELCOME!

Please know that the church doors will be opened from 8:00am — 3:30pm, Mon thru Thurs if anyone is in need of a quiet place to pray and/or meditate.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:** MONDAY at noon



[www.assumptionmary.org](http://www.assumptionmary.org)



[@assumption.midland](https://www.facebook.com/@assumption.midland)



[@assumptionmidland](https://www.instagram.com/@assumptionmidland)



[@assumptionmidland](https://www.youtube.com/@assumptionmidland)

## From our Director of Parish Life



*"The LORD God took [Adam] and put him in the garden to till it and keep it." —Genesis 2:15*

As we continue the Jubilee Year of Hope, this weekend we celebrate the **Jubilee of Workers**. This past Thursday, May 1, we celebrated liturgically the memorial of St. Joseph the Worker, the carpenter of Nazareth who taught Jesus how to work as he was growing up. Work is a major part of a fully human life. Through it, we take the good gifts of God's creation and through human logic, imagination, and labor develop those gifts for the benefit of ourselves, our families and loved ones, and the entirety of humanity. We earn the things that we need to survive and flourish through our work. We all have a duty to work, to the extent that we are able according to age and ability. Not all work is paid work, and paid work (or the kind of paid work engaged in or the amount of money/property the work earns) does not give work any more dignity than unpaid work. The very fact that a human being, created in the image of God, does the work—paid or unpaid, primarily intellectual or primarily manual—gives human labor its inherent dignity. Work is not always easy or pleasant (Genesis 3:17-19), but it can be one of the main ways that we find fulfillment as human beings.

This weekend, we also celebrate the **Jubilee of Business and Entrepreneurship**. To start and maintain a business is one of the most challenging and rewarding human endeavors. It takes the ability to manage money and materials, to plan prudently and manage risk, and to relate well with people (employees and customers). Businesspeople and entrepreneurs create jobs and opportunities for workers to develop their skills and earn a living. Businesses efficiently provide goods and services that improve the lives of their customers. Business, at its best, brings people into deeper **solidarity**, seeking the common good, while simultaneously helping each person to flourish.

*"A business' objective must be met in economic terms . . . but the authentic values that bring about the concrete development of the person and society must not be neglected."*

—Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, no. 338

Profits are important to a healthy business, but they are not the sole or main reason for the business. I've heard it described that profits are like "food" to a business. Without profits, the business will starve. At the same time, the quest for "unlimited" profits or "unhealthy" profits (when a business does not provide a true human good but panders to the most base or sinful human passions, or seeks to profit from the desperation of the vulnerable, or engages in corrupt or unlawful business practices), the business itself is on the road to ruin no matter what the balance sheet states.

In the end, business, labor, and economics are meant to work together to steward and develop the gifts of God's creation as well as cultivating the gifts and talents of human beings and strengthening our bonds of solidarity. Employers, employees, and customers all become better as a result of their business relationships. Surely, tensions will arise between labor or customers and management in business. A good, healthy tension that is negotiated using honest dialogue, compromise, and encouragement to grow, develop, and retain integrity helps all human relationships and communities (marriages, sports teams, businesses, churches, etc.) to become the best versions of themselves, as long as all parties remember that we are all "on the same team" working together toward the common good. We begin and end with the principle of solidarity.



### BRING A FLOWER FOR MARY

We will be honoring our first *Follower of Jesus* in the month of May by crowning her with flowers after our Mass on **May**

**4th**. Feel free to bring your own flower to Mary, our most blessed mother.

*Vases will be provided around our statue in the church.*

**Hail Mary, Mother of God,  
Pray for Us!**

*"Simon Peter said in reply, 'You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.' Jesus said to him in reply, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah. For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, by my heavenly Father. And so I say to you, you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church.'"* —Matthew 16:16-18

This Sunday at sundown, we conclude our official time of mourning for Pope Francis. Of course, we will continue to pray for the repose of his soul and continue to put his insights into living a life of Christian discipleship into practice in our lives. The Conclave of Cardinals is scheduled to begin meeting this Wednesday in the Sistine Chapel of the Vatican to choose a successor to Pope Francis as the Bishop of Rome, successor of St. Peter, and Vicar of Christ. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 882) While Catholics do not believe that God dictates who is chosen as the "Servant of the Servants of God," we do believe that the Holy Spirit is always guiding the Church. Let us pray to the Holy Spirit in a particular way this week to grant wisdom to the Cardinal electors in their discernment of a new Pope. May the Holy Spirit strengthen him for the duties of his new office and may the entire People of God and all people of good will be blessed by his Petrine ministry.

*John*

### Third Sunday of Easter



*"Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?"*

*John 21:15*

When Jesus called Simon Peter to lead His Church, it was not a small ask or one to be taken lightly. While Peter certainly endured much more persecution and suffering for following and spreading Jesus' teachings than we will ever, sometimes following Christ can be difficult or challenging. We may need to stand up for our faith in uncomfortable or contentious situations. It is important to know and remember that Jesus is with us through all times as we follow Him.



 Worship Schedule	
ASSUMPTION	
<b>MON, May 5</b> Acts 6:8-15; Jn 6:22-29	
<b>TUES, May 6</b> Acts 7:51-8:1a Jn 6:30-35	<b>8:00a Mass—<i>Mary Bowne</i></b> 8:30a Rosary <i>Followed by Meditation</i>
<b>WED, May 7</b> Acts 8:1b-8 Jn 6:35-40	<b>6:30p Mass—<i>Larry Lovely</i></b> <i>Followed by Exposition and Reconciliation 7:15-8:15</i>
<b>THUR, May 8</b> Acts 8:26-40 Jn 6:44-51	<b>8:00a Mass</b> 8:30a Rosary <i>Followed by Scripture</i>
<b>FRI, May 9</b> Acts 9:1-20 Jn 6:52-59	<b>8:00a Mass</b> 8:30a Rosary
<b>SAT, May 10</b> Acts 9:31-42 Jn 6:60-69	<b>8:00a Mass</b> 8:30a Rosary <b>4:30p Mass</b> <i>People of the Parish</i>
<b>SUN, May 11</b> Acts 13:14, 43-52 Rev 7:9, 14b-17 Jn 10:27-30	<b>MOTHER'S DAY</b> <b>9:30a Mass</b> <i>People of the Parish</i>

## V is for Vocation: The Workers Around Us



We give thanks for the workers around us as we celebrate the Jubilee of Workers this May 1-4. We pray for all who work since "through our work both in and outside of the home, we enter into God's creative enterprise. Living out our vocation gives glory to God." -- USCCB

*Lord God, Master of the Vineyard, how wonderful that you have invited us who labor by the sweat of our brow to be workers in the vineyard and assist your work to shape the world around us. As we seek to respond to this call, make us attentive to those who seek work but cannot find it. Help us listen to the struggles of those who work hard to provide for their families but still have trouble making ends meet. Let work not be a vehicle for exploitation but a radiant expression of our human dignity. Give all who labor listening hearts that we may pause from our work to receive your gift of rest. Fill us with your Holy Spirit that you might work through us to let your justice reign. Amen. (adapted -2019, USCCB)*

## MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION TRUCK Wednesday, July 16th

*We have reached our financial goal to sponsor this July's Food Truck.*  
*Thank you so much for your generous support!*

However, we need 80 volunteers for the day, we have 37, **need 43 more**. Please take time to consider signing up to help out with this very important ministry to those in need of food for their table. **Families are welcomed! A great gift that you can pass on to your kids is the gift of volunteering!** Questions or to sign-up, please call the parish office at 989-631-4447.



**Coffee, Donuts and Fellowship**  
**will be served after Mass**  
**this Sunday, May 4th.**



*Please plan to join us as we also thank Sharon Worthington for all her years of service to our parish!*

### Memorial Day Mass Mark your calendars!

The annual Memorial Day Mass in honor of our veterans will take place at New Calvary Catholic Cemetery, 2743 E. Bombay Road, on **Monday, May 26 at 8:30 a.m.**

Father Stephen Blaxton, from St. Brigid Church, will be conducting the Mass. The Mass will take place in the Chapel outdoor parking area. Due to very limited seating attendees are requested to bring their own lawn chairs.

## ~ This Week ~

### Sunday, May 4

**9:30 am Mass**  
**Last C.L.O.W., Last CFF**  
**May Crowning after Mass**  
**Baby Shower Collection**  
**Coffee and Donut Sunday**



### Tuesday, May 6

**8:00 am Mass**  
**8:30 am Rosary followed by meditation**  
**3:30 pm Millions of Monicas**  
**6:30 pm Pastoral Council Mtg**

### Wednesday, May 7

**10:00 am Open Door in Kitchen**  
**6:15 pm Confirmation**  
**6:30 pm Mass followed by Exposition and Reconciliation**  
**6:30 pm Last CFF class**  
**7:00 pm Choir**  
**7:30 pm K of C Exemplification**

### Thursday, May 8

**8:00 am Mass**  
**8:30 am Rosary followed by scripture**

### Friday, May 9

**8:00 am Mass**  
**8:30 am Rosary**

### Saturday, May 10

**8:00 am Mass**  
**8:30 am Rosary**  
**4:30 pm Mass**  
**First Communion Retreat**  
**Baby Shower Collection**

### Sunday, May 11

**9:30 am Mass**  
**Happy Mother's Day**  
**(brunch after Mass)**  
**Baby Shower Collection**





## REGISTRATION DEADLINE EXTENDED TO WEDNESDAY, MAY 7TH

**Where:** Cedar Point

**When:** Tuesday, June 3rd

**Time:** Arrive to Blessed Sacrament at 5:30 am, arrive back to Blessed Sacrament at Midnight

**Cost:** \$125 (includes park admission, transportation, and all-day drink wristband)

**Buddy System:** All middle and high school students must be signed up with a buddy & stay with that friends throughout the day.

*Scan the QR code to register today!!*

**We are requiring a minimum of 40 people registered by May 7th to make this event happen!**

**We encourage your teens to invite friends!!**

*If we do not have 40 registered the event will be cancelled and refunds issued.*

**Chaperones:** Adults are needed to serve as chaperones for this trip. Adults selected as chaperones will go for FREE!

**For questions contact Kathy Russell**



## HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE GRADUATES

We would like to celebrate with you on



**Sunday, June 1st at the 9:30 a.m. Mass**

*Followed by a reception for you and your family.*

*If you are or have a senior in high school, you should have received an invitation to the graduation Mass and reception (parents, too, received a letter!) If you are not able to attend, we would still like to honor you in our graduation insert. Please send a senior photo and information about future plans!*

**College graduates...** We do not send out invitation, but if you or your son/daughter are graduating from college, please email Kathy Russell at [kathyr@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:kathyr@assumptionmidland.org) by May 15th. Let us know the college you are graduating from, your degree, future plans, send a photo and let us know if you and your family will be able to attend Mass and the reception following.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL GRADUATES!**

## Children's Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

### CHILDREN

May 4	Last CFF, Last CLOW, May Crowning
7	Last Wednesday CFF
10	First Eucharist Retreat (noon-3pm)
18	First Eucharist Mass, 9:30am
June 9-12	Vacation Bible School (9am-noon at Blessed Sacrament)



**If you have any questions about Children's Faith Formation or Children's Liturgy of the Word, please contact Wendy Graveline at [cff@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:cff@assumptionmidland.org)**

### YOUTH MINISTRY

**Middle School and High School Sunday evening Youth Ministry has ended for the year. Watch for registration for the 25-26 year! Also watch your email and the bulletin for YM events!**

June 1	Graduation Mass
3	Cedar Point
9-12	Vacation Bible School—MS & HS volunteers needed
23-27	ND Vision (9th-12th grade)
July 7-11	ND Vision (9th-12th grade)
Nov. 20-23	NCYC (HS—Save the Date) Register today!!



**Have questions about YM or events, please contact: Kathy Russell ([kathyr@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:kathyr@assumptionmidland.org))**

# NCYC

**NOVEMBER 20-22, 2025  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN**



What is NCYC? NCYC (National Catholic Youth Conference) is a powerfully unique three-day experience of prayer, community, evangelization, catechesis, service, and empowerment for Catholic teenagers, of high school age. It is the premier Catholic youth event on a national scale that gathers people from all across America for a life-changing encounter with Christ.

The 2025 theme, I Am | Yo Soy, will reflect on the time God appeared to Moses through the burning bush and explore how the Sacraments are the living story of God's love, uniting us with Him through Jesus and the Church. Through the Sacraments, we encounter the fullness of salvation and the tangible presence of Immanuel—God with us.

**Cost: \$350 for registered families (\$150 with registration by Sunday, May 11th, balance of \$200 due Sept. 30th)**

*See the weekly Flocknote for registration or scan the QR code.*

*For questions, contact Kathy Russell @ [kathyr@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:kathyr@assumptionmidland.org).*



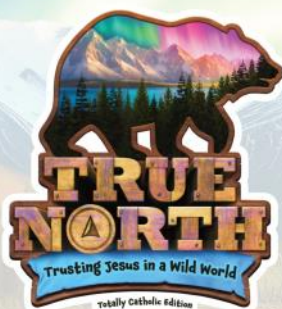


Midland Area Catholic Churches Totally Catholic

# Vacation Bible School

When:

Monday, June 9  
through  
Thursday, June 12,  
9:00am to noon



Where:

Blessed Sacrament  
Church  
(3109 Swede Ave)

Cost:

(Includes True North music CD  
or digital download code)

\$30 for one child

\$50 for two siblings  
in the same family

\$70 for three or more siblings  
in the same family

We need volunteers to make  
this week a success!  
You can volunteer using the  
same link!

Register here:

<https://www.blessed-midland.org/events/vacation-bible-school/>  
or using QR code



Space is limited,  
so register early!  
Deadline for Registration  
and Payment is June 2.

Questions? Contact Wendy Graveline  
at (989) 631-4447 or  
[cff@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:cff@assumptionmidland.org)

Once again we are sponsoring a



## Mothers' Day Baby Shower Collection

For Life Clinic

Bring In Your Donations  
May 3/4 and May 10/11

### TOP DONATION REQUESTS:

Infant onesies, receiving blankets

\*Toddler pajamas and clothing for sizes  
24 mo., 2 T, and 4T

\*Diapers (name brand or store brand) sizes  
4 through 7

Diaper bags

Sippy cups

Baby wash or shampoo

Desitin or A&D ointment

Formula—Regular (yellow can)  
and Gentlease (purple can)

New or gently used infant or children's books  
Rice packs/lotions, breast pads for  
mother's comfort

\$10 gas only, gas cards

Cash donations also accepted

*\*They have extended their offerings to include  
items for children up to 3 years old and are  
especially in need of these items.*



The Knights of Fr. Henry P.  
DuRussel Council 2141 would  
like to extend their thanks  
and appreciation to those  
who supported the council's

Tootsie Roll drive on Palm Sunday week-  
end. The collection of \$465.34 will be  
shared with Special Olympics Area 30  
[Midland County], Tall In The Saddle, and  
The Arc of Midland. Look for the Knights  
giving away Tootsie Rolls at the Kroger  
store in Midland on May 2-4.

## You're Invited!!

Join your fellow parishioners in the Knights  
of Columbus and keep our parish strong!

### K of C Exemplification Ceremony

Wednesday, May 7  
at 7:30pm in DuRussel Hall

For more info, contact Matt Glaccum  
989-430-8622 | [md2141@mikofc.org](mailto:md2141@mikofc.org)



## ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

May 20-22, 2025

The parish rummage sale for charity, is coming up  
soon, just in time for spring cleaning!

### DROP OFF SCHEDULE:

**MAY 15-17 FROM 9 A.M. TO 5 P.M.**

are the available hours for donating items. PLEASE, NO EXCEPTIONS.

*We are unable to accept large pieces of indoor exercise  
equipment (treadmills, stationary bikes, etc.), expired baby items  
like car seats and cribs, non-flat screen monitors or TVs.*

### SALE DATES ARE MAY 20-22

Tuesday, May 20.....9 am – 7 pm

Wednesday, May 21.....9 am – 5 pm

Thursday, May 22 (bag day).....9 am – Noon

Help is needed from May 15-22, times are flexible.

Sign-up sheets are at the welcome circle at church or  
contact Laura Atton [lauraatton@gmail.com](mailto:lauraatton@gmail.com).

# Create More MOMents



## BLOOD DRIVE

Monday  
**MAY  
12**

1:30 PM - 6:00 PM

**Helpful tip:**  
Make sure to eat a healthy meal and drink plenty of water before donating.



### Assumption Knights of Columbus Council #2141

Blood Drive Location: Holy Grounds  
3516 E. Monroe Rd.  
Midland, MI

Schedule your appointment today:  
-Scan the QR Code OR  
-Call 866-642-5663



Take me out to the ballgame! All attempting donors will be entered for a chance to win two tickets to a Detroit Tigers Game at Comerica Park this summer!\*

Help achieve hospital needs goal of 15+ donations while impacting 45 lives in Michigan Hospitals!



Blood Center of Michigan

\*NO PURCHASE NECESSARY, void where prohibited. Open to U.S. residents, 18+. Ends 5/16/25. Two methods of entry: (i) blood donation or (ii) online entry. See Official Rules at <http://www.versiti.org/takemeouttotheballgame> for details. Sponsor: Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 1036 Fuller Ave. NE, Grand Rapids, MI, 49503.

### Diocese of Saginaw Migrant Collection

Migrant workers are a big part of all those that do the essential work needed to help feed our nation. Some migrant workers have nothing but each other, some clothes, and their faith in God, and yet, are filled with gratitude. The Diocese of Saginaw's Migrant Ministry programs are not possible without help from people like you.

You may drop off food, clothing items, and monetary donations **beginning May 17/18 and concluding May 31/June 1**. This will take the place of our monthly food pantry collection. (\* high demand items)

#### MOST REQUESTED ITEMS

White Flour\*  
Shortening\*  
Baking Powder\*  
Cooking Oil  
Corn  
Pinto Beans  
Rice  
Cereal  
Peanut Butter & Jelly  
Salt & Black Pepper  
Toiletries  
Cleaning Supplies  
Baby Diapers  
All sizes children's clothing

Men's and Women's clothing suitable for field work: long sleeve shirts, jeans/workpants, shoes, socks.

**We will deliver the collected items to the Diocese June 2nd.**

#### **Thank You!**

We continue to collect cans and bottles for Youth Ministry events. There is a container by the doors to the DuRussel Hall on the south side of the building. **Thank you all for your continued support of our youth!!** ~Kathy

#### **Rachel's Vineyard Retreat**

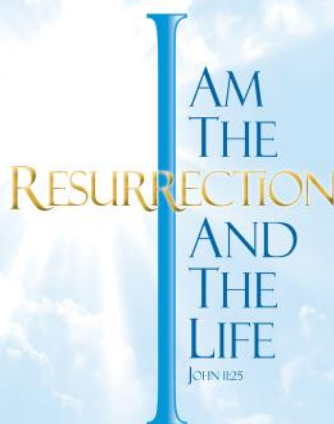
The pain, shame, guilt, and betrayal of abortion runs deep and wide, but the unconditional love, mercy, and forgiveness of God is available to all who seek Him. Anyone who has been impacted by abortion is invited to attend a retreat. Contact Beth at [toheal4give@outlook.com](mailto:toheal4give@outlook.com) or call 734.879.0427.

Our upcoming retreat dates are:  
**July 11 – 13, 2025**

### In Loving Memory of Betty Kielpinski

Lord, we remember in our prayers Betty whom you have recently called to be with you. May the calming peace of your love be with her family.

**"I am the resurrection and the life.  
The one who believes in me will live,  
even though they die; and whoever lives  
by believing in me will never die."**  
~John 11:25-26





# **ABVM Administration/Finance Council Meeting Minutes**

## **March 18, 2025**

Present: John Graveline, Dave Vickery – Chairperson, Paul Brown,  
Brenda Gordert, Barbara Junga, Sandy Martinski, April Timm



The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

*John Graveline led the group in prayer.*

The meeting minutes from February 18, 2025 were approved.

### **Administrator's Report**

John gave an update on the Christ Mission Appeal. We currently have pledges and donations totaling approximately 85% of our \$95,236 goal. John and Dave are developing a plan to call parishioners who have not yet responded.

### **Finance Review FY 2024-2025**

- The financial statement for February was presented and discussed.
- Sunday collections for the month were under budget \$130. The parish received a one-time interest rebate from the Diocese of approximately \$26,000. YTD total revenue is under budget \$374.99.
- Expenses for the month were under budget \$5,730.24. The YTD total expenses are over budget \$5,422.33.
- YTD we are -\$5,797.32 net income.
- John and Paul are forming a subcommittee to look into new fundraising activities.
- Mass attendance numbers are down from last year but are tracking pretty steady currently. A drop in attendance over the summer months could have an impact on Sunday collections and the committee will monitor this.

### **Building and Grounds**

Nothing to report.

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 pm.**

*Respectfully submitted by Brenda Gordert*

### **Future Meeting Dates**

April 29, 2025

May TBD, 2025

Come join your Assumption Parish family!

**You're Invited!**

# Take Mom to Brunch



**Sunday, May 11**

**DuRussel Hall  
after the  
9:30am Mass**

**Sign up in the Gathering Space or call  
the parish office: 989-631-4447**

Fresh Fruit • Scrambled Eggs • Smoked Ham  
Bacon & Onion Potatoes • Polish Meatballs  
Roasted Carrots • Applesauce • Mixed Greens  
Fresh Baked Breads • Assorted Cereals • All the fixin's!!

Meal provided by Assumption Parish and supported by  
Knights of Columbus - Fr. Henry P. DuRussel Council 2141



# Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

May 2025

## Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish



### Thoughtful Moments

#### St. Augustine of Canterbury

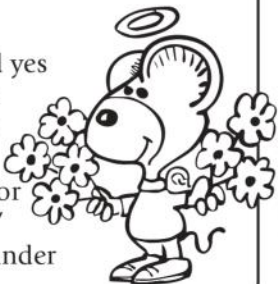
St. Augustine was an Italian Benedictine monk who was friends with Pope St. Gregory the Great. Pope Gregory thought so highly of St. Augustine that he sent him to go and re-evangelize England, whose people were disheartened because of ongoing invasions. Thankfully, King Ethelbert of Kent welcomed the monks to England and allowed them to preach the Gospel there. St. Augustine and his companions successfully converted southern England, and St. Augustine became the first Archbishop of Canterbury.



*"May it be done to me according to your word" (Luke 1:38)*

When faced with events beyond her understanding or control, Mary leaned on God. We, too, encounter situations we can't understand or control. That's when we can imitate Mary's trust in God. His plan for her worked out better than she could have dreamed. The same will be true for us.

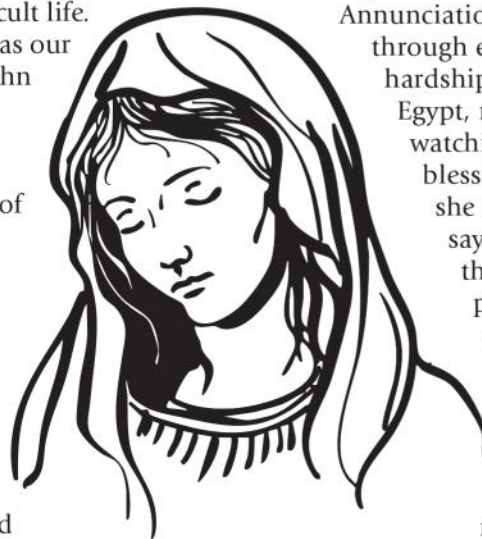
*"Our Lady said yes for the human race. Each one of us must echo that yes for our own lives."*  
Caryll Houselander



### "Behold your Mother"

Remember, although she was full of grace, Mary lived a mostly ordinary, often difficult life. Jesus gave her to us as our spiritual mother (John 19:27) so we could follow her example, know Him more deeply, and be part of His family.

Mary leads us to Jesus. In the Gospels, Mary always brought people to Jesus—or brought Him to them. She talked about Him, pointed to Him, and stayed near Him. When we pray the Rosary as a family, Mary helps us reflect on Christ's life, one mystery at a time. If you want your family to grow closer to Jesus, start by spending time with His mother.



Mary is a model for family life. Her "yes" to God at the Annunciation continued daily, through every joy and hardship — fleeing to Egypt, raising Jesus, watching Him suffer. In blessings and struggles, she shows us how to say "yes" to God through our parenting challenges.

*"Behold your mother" (John 19:27).* Mary isn't distant — she's our mother. Jesus

wants us to draw close to her, talk to her, and love her. We are never alone. We can always turn to God, but our heavenly mother is always with us, praying for us, and guiding us home.

### Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics invoke the Holy Spirit?

As the Third Person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit is invoked every time we make the Sign of the Cross. In Baptism, He dwells in our souls and makes us children of God (Romans 8:15). He makes us



receptive to God's grace. He also teaches and helps us to pray. He guides and protects us, just as He guides and protects the Church. Through His gifts, He inspires and enables us to do the good we ought to do.



## What to do when “everyone else is doing it”

Your 10-year-old wants to play a T- or M-rated video game because “everyone else has it.” Your 8-year-old wants a phone to send emails and messages like “all” her friends. So how do we decide wisely when our children insist that everyone else is doing it?

**Start by asking:** Is this good for my child’s soul? Will it help build the virtues essential to strong character—faith, hope, charity, prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance? Or could it hinder growth of these critical virtues?

Seek guidance from trustworthy parents,



especially those with more experience. Their perspective can help you see more clearly.

**Trust your instincts.** Just because something is popular doesn’t mean it’s good. If something doesn’t feel right, it probably isn’t. God often speaks to us through that quiet inner sense.

**Most importantly, pray.** Actively ask God for the grace to lead your children well. He can reach their hearts in ways we can’t. A simple prayer — “Jesus, I trust in You” — can lead to the best, most trustworthy guidance.

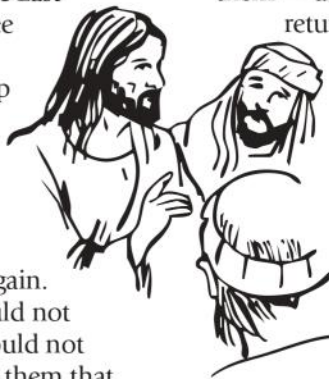
### Scripture LESSON

#### John 14:23-29, Jesus is always with us

This Gospel reading comes from Jesus’ Farewell Speech at the Last Supper. After spending three years together, He had to prepare the close-knit group for His departure. He was going to suffer, die, and rise again. After that night, everything would be different: they would not see Him in the same way again.

Yet, He promised He would not leave them orphans. He would not abandon them. He assured them that He would remain with them if they loved Him and kept His word. Jesus would send the Holy Spirit to guide, comfort, teach, and remind them of all

He taught them. Lastly, He promised them — and us — that He would return.



**What can a parent do?** Remind children that Jesus is still present among us today in the Church. Tell them we meet Him in prayer, encounter Him in the Sacraments, hear Him in the Scriptures, and receive Him in the Eucharist at Mass.

Encourage them to pray to Him whenever they want. He loves them always and is never too busy or too far away to help them.

### Parent TALK

My older daughter, Kara, was late getting ready for school every day—making the whole family late.



Meanwhile, my other daughter, Tessa, regularly “forgot” her chores. I was pretty frustrated with their irresponsibility.

Finally, I told them, “If you’re late or forget your responsibilities, you’ll write an essay.” The next time my older daughter was late, I assigned a 300-word essay on the importance of being on time. Her first draft was sloppy, so I had her rewrite it – twice. The final version was thoughtful—and she started showing up on time.

When my younger daughter skipped her chores, I assigned her a paragraph detailing why chores matter. She ignored it at first and lost play time, but eventually completed the assignment and started “remembering” her chores.

The results? Calmer mornings, an ordered home, and a powerful lesson learned: responsibility is part of family life. Discipline, done with love, benefits everyone.

### Feasts & Celebrations

**May 1 – St. Joseph the Worker (1st century).** Joseph, a humble carpenter, was entrusted with the care of the Blessed Mother and Jesus—a responsibility he carried with quiet strength, unwavering devotion, and deep obedience to God.

**May 13 – Our Lady of Fatima (1917).** The Blessed Virgin Mary appeared to three shepherd children near Fatima, Portugal, and asked that they pray the Rosary for peace, for the end of World War I, for sinners, and for the conversion of Russia.

**May 20 – St. Bernardine of Siena (1444).** St. Bernard channeled his boundless energy and joy into running the local hospital during the great plague in Europe. At twenty-two, he became a Franciscan friar. After years in solitude, he traveled around Italy, preaching. He later became the General of the Friars of the Strict Observance.

**May 29 – Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord (1st Century).** Today marks the completion of Jesus’ mission of salvation and His triumphant entry into Heaven. (Observance may be moved to Sunday.)



### Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children  
Success Publishing & Media, LLC  
Publishers of Growing in Faith™ and Partners in Faith™  
(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax  
<http://www.partnersinfaith.com>  
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)



## Christ's Mission Appeal 2024-25

We are getting closer to our goal. Please give careful consideration about how you will respond. Fill out the pledge card and return it to the Diocese of Saginaw or put it in the collection basket. **Remember, checks should be made payable to the Diocese of Saginaw, not our parish.** You can also give online on the Diocese website at [www.saginaw.org/appeal](http://www.saginaw.org/appeal), through the weekly Flocknote or scan the QR Code.



## LADIES of BLESSED SACRAMENT RUMMAGE SALE

3109 Swede Ave, Midland

### RUMMAGE SALE HOURS:

Wednesday May 14<sup>th</sup> – 9 am – 5 pm

Thursday May 15<sup>th</sup> – 9 am – 5 pm

Friday May 16<sup>th</sup> (bag day) – 9 am – Noon

*All proceeds will go to local charities!*



Sing praise to the LORD, you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger lasts but a moment; a lifetime, his good will. At nightfall, weeping enters in, but with the dawn, rejoicing.

## Weekend Offerings

### April 26/27, 2025

Weekly Envelopes .....	\$3,067
Online Giving (4/21–4/27) .....	\$1,167
Donations .....	\$2,500
Weekend Total .....	\$6,734
Weekly Goal .....	\$9,231
Overage/(Shortfall) .....	(\$2,497)

### April 1-27, 2025

Weekly Envelopes .....	\$16,397
Online Giving .....	\$10,144
Donations .....	\$2,800
Weekend Total .....	\$29,341
Goal .....	\$36,924
Overage/(Shortfall) .....	(\$7,583)



**THANK YOU** so much for your continued support in getting your contributions into the office.

*Please make out a separate check for the special collections.*



## Online Giving

It is easy to sign up, just go to our website at:

**[AssumptionMary.org](http://AssumptionMary.org)**

If you have any questions: email Sandy at [sandym@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:sandym@assumptionmidland.org) or call the parish office at 989-631-4447.



## Monthly Praise and Worship is Thursday, May 15!

Come lift your voice to the Lord in song!  
**At Our Lady of Grace Church  
in Sanford at 7:00pm**



Let's craft  
your future.



**Michael Gavin CFP®**  
Senior Vice President,  
Financial Advisor

989-631-1454

2401 Eastlawn Dr | Midland, MI 48642

[wealthenhancement.com](http://wealthenhancement.com)

Wealth Enhancement®

Wealth is in the details.

what's on your horizon?  
let us help you find the path.



989-497-1600

[frankenmuthcu.org](http://frankenmuthcu.org)

**ACE  
HARDWARE**  
832-8829

Mon-Fri 8am-8pm  
Sat 8am-5:30pm  
Sun 10am-4pm  
419 E. MAIN, DOWNTOWN  
Greg White • Parishioner

[www.midlandace.com](http://www.midlandace.com)



Consider  
Remembering  
Your Parish in  
Your Will

For further information,  
please call the parish office.

IN LOVING  
MEMORY OF

Avery  
Murphy

**Harbron  
Electric**  
Since 1976

RESIDENTIAL  
COMMERCIAL  
Family Owned  
Family Operated  
Family Service

832-3743  
2370 N. EASTMAN RD.  
MIDLAND



**TODD M. GAMBRELL**  
ATTORNEY AT LAW

**Gambrell**  
and ASSOCIATES PLC

Practicing in Wills,  
Trusts, Tax and  
Estate Planning

1605 ASHMAN ST.  
MIDLAND

[www.gambrelllaw.com](http://www.gambrelllaw.com)  
989.631.7626



[midlandallergyclinic.com](http://midlandallergyclinic.com)  
(989) 631-1010

Jonathan M. Horbal, D.O.P.L.C.  
Richard J. Horbal, M.D., P.C.  
Alexander A. Horbal, D.O., P.L.C.  
MIDLAND ALLERGY CLINIC

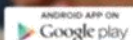
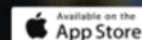
555 W. Wackerly, Ste. 2675  
Midland, Michigan 48640



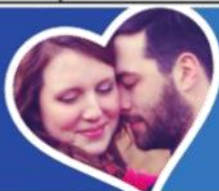
myParish

The App for  
Catholic Life Every Day

[www.myParishApp.com](http://www.myParishApp.com)



**catholicmatch®**  
Michigan



[CatholicMatch.com/goMI](http://CatholicMatch.com/goMI)



**Modern NAILS**  
Professional Nail Care for Ladies  
and Gentlemen  
989.832.8780  
Midland Mall (6800 Eastman Ave.)  
*Modern NAILS2* (113 W Wackerly)  
Receive 10th Refill FREE (\$32 value)  
Facials • Waxing  
Walk-ins Welcome  
Gift Certificates Available

**Stolz-Smith**  
Financial Consulting Group  
CONNECTED WITH YOU  
**STIFEL**  
Doak R. Stolz, CFP®  
Managing Director/  
Investments  
Branch Manager  
Scott A. Smith, CFP®  
Managing Director/  
Investments  
(989) 941-3501  
415 Rodd Street, Suite 1  
Midland, Michigan 48640  
[www.stolzsmith.com](http://www.stolzsmith.com)  
Stifel, Nicolaus & Company, Incorporated

**Village & Green**  
Est. 1963  
Flowers • Godiva • Vera Bradley • Trollbeads  
Gifts • Gourmet • Wine  
(989) 631-2500  
715 S. Saginaw Rd. • Midland, MI 48640  
[www.thevg.com](http://www.thevg.com)

**Lighthouse Family Dental Care**  
Cynthia Skiba D.D.S.  
111 Harold Street, Midland  
**989-631-6760**  
[www.cynthiaskebadds.com](http://www.cynthiaskebadds.com)  
Let us light up your smile!

**NORTHTOWN**  
Collision • 835-5668  
Auto Glass • 835-1145  
All Insurances Welcome  
ALL OF OUR WORK IS WARRANTED

**NOVAK BROTHERS**  
LANDSCAPING  
(989) 640-7133  
[novakbrothersmidland.com](http://novakbrothersmidland.com)  
[novakbrotherslandscaping@gmail.com](mailto:novakbrotherslandscaping@gmail.com)  
Connect with one of our experts to make  
your vision come to fruition. We thrive on  
taking a dream and making it a reality!

Get this bulletin emailed to  
you every week.  
Simply go to  
[www.DM.CHURCH/1484](http://www.DM.CHURCH/1484) ...or scan →  
DISCOVERMASS

**Ware-Smith**  
**Woolever**  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS  
1200 W. Wheeler Street • 631-2292  
[www.waresmithwoolever.com](http://www.waresmithwoolever.com)

**EWTN.COM/RADIO**  
**EWTN**  
Global Catholic  
Radio  
TUNE IN

**State Farm** **Scott MacGregor**  
Agent  
Providing Insurance  
and Financial Services  
5108 Eastman Ave. Ste 2  
Midland, MI 48640  
989-631-5512  
[www.scottmacgregor.com](http://www.scottmacgregor.com)

**Avon**  
Don Murphy  
Independent Avon Representative  
To buy or sell 989-631-1855  
[murphyavon@charter.net](mailto:murphyavon@charter.net)  
[www.youravon.com/cmurphyc](http://www.youravon.com/cmurphyc)  
The Company for Women...  
and a Few Good Men

**Dennis J. Taylor, CFP®**  
Financial Advisor  
231 E. Wackerly St.  
Midland, MI 48642  
**989-635-1231**  
**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

**Satkowiak**  
& SONS ASPHALT  
989-697-3297

**ADVERTISE HERE**  
Promote your Business **Andrew Beadling**  
AND support your Parish. **616-446-6892**

**MICHIGAN DOODLE RESCUE CONNECT**  
MATCHING DOGS TO PEOPLE  
fetch our social media  
call or text 989-486-3315  
[www.michigandoodlerescueconnect.org](http://www.michigandoodlerescueconnect.org)

**Knights of Columbus**  
Fr. Henry P. DuRussel  
Council 2141  
Assumption BVM Parish  
To join K of C Council 2141  
please call Max Schneider at 989-859-4288  
or email us at [gk2141midland@gmail.com](mailto:gk2141midland@gmail.com)  
[KofC2141.org](http://KofC2141.org)

**TRI CITY REMODELING**  
When only the best craftsmanship will do!!!  
COMPLETE INTERIOR & EXTERIOR REMODELING  
KITCHENS • BATHS • BASEMENTS  
ROOFING • GUTTERS • SIDING • WINDOWS • DOORS  
**Nowak Cabinets**  
Of Midland  
Serving You Proudly  
Since 1980  
Brandon Boothe  
989-496-9326  
[tricityremodeling.com](http://tricityremodeling.com)  
[www.nowakcabinets-midland.com](http://www.nowakcabinets-midland.com)

Home Visits & Drop Off Services  
Wireless Networking  
Virus & Malware Removal  
Online Backup  
Computer Sales  
**LINKED**  
JAMES MAHONEY • Parishioner  
Changing The Way You Think About Technology!  
(989) 837-3060 • [www.linkedtech.com](http://www.linkedtech.com)

**faith**

**LANDSCAPE CONTRACTORS**  
SERVING THE MIDLAND AREA SINCE 1967  
**SERVINSKI**  
**OD SERVICE**  
COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL  
Grading • Hydro Seeding  
Lawn Maintenance  
Snow Removal  
New Lawn Construction  
Athletic Fields  
Licensed Pesticide Applicator  
CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATES  
**835-4810**  
414 E. Lyon Rd. • Midland

**RELIABLE**  
Plumbing • Heating  
Air Conditioning  
Since 1949  
**Residential Commercial**  
**835-6451**  
414 E. Lyon Rd • Midland, MI  
[reliableplumbing.com](http://reliableplumbing.com)  
One Call Takes Care of it All!

**POZNAK DYER KANAR**  
**SCHEFSKY THOMPSON PLC**  
Attorneys at Law  
143 McDonald Street  
832-1770  
Wendy D. Kanar, Parishioner

**ThankYouForYourPriesthood.com**  
**#ThankYouForYourPriesthood**

