



TWENTIETH *Sunday in Ordinary Time*

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

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

August 17, 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.,

Closed on Fridays until after Labor Day

Parish Office: 989-631-4447

Fax: 989-835-9722

Email: Assumption@AssumptionMidland.org

Website: www.AssumptionMary.org

Parish Staff

Director of Parish Life: John Graveline,

Email: john@assumptionmidland.org

Sacramental Minister: Fr. Rick Filary,

Email: rfilary@diosag.org

Office Manager: Sandy Martinski,

Email: sandym@assumptionmidland.org

Director of Youth Ministry: Kathy Russell,

Email: kathyr@assumptionmidland.org

Children's Faith Formation:

Wendy Graveline,

Email: cff@assumptionmidland.org

Music & Liturgy: Jim Renfer,

Email: jim@assumptionmidland.org

Office Professionals:

Val Rossi,

Email: val@assumptionmidland.org

Rachelle Boyer,

Email: rachelle@assumptionmidland.org

Evangelization Liaison: Anna Martin,

Email: anna@assumptionmidland.org

Maintenance Specialist: Brad Hill,

Email: bradh@assumptionmidland.org



**I have come to set the earth on fire,
and how I wish it were already blazing!**

Luke 12:49

BULLETIN DEADLINES:

MONDAY at noon Aug 18

for both Aug 31 and Sept 7 bulletin



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

"Train children in the right way, and when old, they will not stray."
— Proverbs 22:6

This weekend, we are happy to welcome Fr. Stephen Blaxton, Pastor of St. Brigid Parish, as our guest Presider. He will speak with us about Catholic education and the wonderful ministry of St. Brigid School, which benefits the entire Midland Area Catholic Community. This week is the first week of school for both St. Brigid and the Midland Public Schools. Many of our college students are now moving back to campus or beginning classes for the fall semester. This is an opportunity to reflect on **the meaning of education**, whether in Catholic schools, public schools, charter and private schools, or homeschools.

The first tasks of education are **to awaken students to wonder and to lead them in the discovery of the truth**. Our society is awash in opinions. Television news channels, talk radio, and podcasts are very short on facts and feature endless hours of "hot takes" and bickering, generating much heat but little light. This state of affairs is both the result and the cause of a culture of relativism. People are no longer seeking "the truth" but are ensuring that "their truth" gets a hearing. A wise teacher does not indoctrinate his or her students in opinions, even their own opinions. She or he challenges their students to unmask and lay aside their opinions. They view themselves as fellow travelers and guides, orienting his or her students toward the truth of reality be it scientific, mathematical, historical, sociological, theological, etc. The best teachers do not provide rote answers to be parroted back on tests; they encourage their students to open themselves up to wonder, guiding them to ask better questions, exploring the depths

of the goodness and woundedness of God's creation.

Another task of education is **to demonstrate the connectedness and beauty of all things**. Again, our society is marked by isolation and polarization. True education takes a holistic approach that leads students to the ongoing discovery of the interconnectedness of all creation. True education is not merely the "uploading" of disparate facts into student's brains. It helps students to more clearly see and recognize *the whole* of creation and how *the parts* of creation are related to each other and to the whole cosmos. In other words, it teaches better stewardship of God's good gifts. We have all heard the maxim, "knowledge is power!" But this begs the questions, "power over who or what?" and "for what purpose or aim is this power wielded?" Is the purpose of education to dominate nature and other people, or to accumulate more and more resources for myself at the expense of others and our common home? The biblical understanding of *knowledge* is not merely about information, but about an intimate communion of mind, heart, and body—formation of the whole person. This communion is what is meant when the biblical authors wrote "the man knew his wife Eve and she conceived," (Genesis 4:1) or "be still and know that I am God." (Psalm 46:11). The beauty of creation's unity and interconnectedness inspires students to live in peace with others and our common home and to create beautiful things themselves.

Finally, education aims **to instill good character** in students. Often, the message that our society sends is that there is no absolute right and wrong,

but whatever gains one an advantage or pleasure in business and interpersonal relationships is to be praised. Never admit responsibility and social justice is reduced to whatever you can get the other party to legally agree to or to financially settle for. Everything, even morality, is negotiable. Our young people notice. Truly human education teaches right from wrong, justice from injustice, integrity from duplicity. It not only teaches ethics and morality in theory; it gives students an opportunity to practice virtue. It shapes character through habitual choosing of the good and just actions, looking out for the good of everyone, especially the weakest and most vulnerable. When students make wrong choices, educators help them to take responsibility for their actions and the consequences of those choices, make amends, encourage a change of heart and behavior, and give them an opportunity to be restored once again the good graces of the school community.

Educators are ultimately in the business of soulcraft. When a student's character is formed honorably, they recognize their moral responsibility "to all for all for everything."

As young people begin their new school year this week, our prayers are

for their safety and well-being, their growth in wisdom and knowledge. We also pray for teachers and school administration personnel in their uniquely important roles. This new school year, may they all seek the truth with wonder, grow in their appreciation of the beauty and connectedness of all things, and be formed in goodness and integrity!

John



CELEBRATING DEACON BOB ZONDLAK NEXT WEEKEND

Next weekend, we are overjoyed and proud to welcome long-time Assumption parishioner Deacon Bob Zondlak to preach at the weekend Masses. Deacon Bob was ordained as a Permanent Deacon for the Diocese of Saginaw on June 27th at the Cathedral of Mary of the Assumption in Saginaw. Over the years, Bob, our former Director of Music Ministries and Parish Liturgy, and his wife Sandy have contributed so many of their gifts at the service of God's people both here at Assumption parish and through their work at the diocesan level. Bob is currently overseeing the diocesan Office of Liturgy. At the diaconal ordination Mass, Bishop Gruss assigned Deacon Bob to serve at St. Brigid Parish. We will have a reception after both Masses next weekend to recognize and celebrate one of our own answering God's call to put this life at the service of the People of God in the ordained ministry.

Please plan to join in the celebration and congratulate Deacon Bob on his ordination!

	
Worship Schedule	
	ASSUMPTION
MON, August 18 Jgs 2:11-19 Mt 19:16-22	
TUES, August 19 Jgs 6:11-24a Mt 19:23-30	8:00a Mass 8:30a Rosary
WED, August 20 Jgs 9:6-15 Mt 20:1-16	6:30p Mass Followed by Exposition and Reconciliation
THUR, August 21 Jgs 11:29-39a Mt 22:1-14	8:00a Mass 8:30a Rosary
FRI, August 22 Ru 1:1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22 Mt 22:34-40	8:00a Mass 8:30a Rosary
SAT, August 23 Ru 2:1-3, 8-11, 4:13-17 Mt 23:1-12	4:30p Mass People of the Parish
SUN, August 24 Is 66:18-21 Heb 12: 5-7, 11-13 Lk 13:22-30	9:30a Mass Ignace & Mary Zondlak

CHOSEN FANS get ready!

Season 5 is now available and will be shown starting
Monday, September 8th from 6:30-8:00 pm
in Holy Grounds.

The same episode will be shown again on
Wednesday, September 10th from 1:00-2:30 pm
in Holy Grounds.

There will be a sign-up sheet at the welcome circle next weekend. Looking forward to seeing everyone. Call Donna Semanco at 989-631-0872 or email semanco1@aol.com if you have any questions.



PRODUCE FOR THOSE IN NEED!

Hidden Harvest and The Bridge store collect food from organizations, churches, and individuals and then distributes it to various food pantries, organizations, and soup kitchens that reach out to those in need.

Once again, we invite you to participate in this worthwhile project of providing food for people in need. We invite you to bring in vegetables and/or fruit from your garden on:

Tuesday or Thursday morning before 9:30 am
(please do not leave outside the night before).

Produce can be dropped off by the office door.

Thanks for your support.

For more information on
Hidden Harvest, check out their website at
www.hiddenharvest.com,
and for The Bridge go to
www.thebridgemidland.com.



FOOD PANTRY

**Our next collection for
Food Pantry will be
August 23/24.**

Be sure to pick up a blue bag from the gathering space to collect your food donations and bring it back next weekend.

*Thank you for
your generosity!*

V is for Vocation: Fr. Steven M. Gavit



We give thanks for Fr. Steven Gavit who serves as Regional Vicar for Vicariate 3. We pray for Fr. Steve for his ministry as pastor of St. Thomas Aquinas Parish in Saginaw, a position he has held since July 2023. Ordained in August 1997, Fr. Steve furthers serves as the Diocesan Representative on the Nouvel Catholic Central Board of Trustees. His uncle, the late Fr. James Gavit, was also ordained a priest in the diocese.

Learn more about vocations at www.saginaw.org/vocations.

O Lord, help me know your will for me. Let your light shine in the depths of my heart that I may know what you want me to do with my life. Help me believe that you have a special plan for me. Lord, I know I pass through this life only once; help me decide how you want me to make a difference. Like our Blessed Mother, give me the wisdom to hear your voice and the courage to answer your call. Above all, give me peace of mind and heart. I offer this prayer in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (USCCB)

- This Week -

Sunday, August 17

9:30 am Mass

Monday, August 18

6:30 pm Catholicism Clarified

Tuesday, August 19

8:00 am Mass

8:30 am Rosary

5:30 pm Faith Form Comm Mtg

Wednesday, August 20

6:30 pm Mass

followed by Exposition
and Reconciliation

Thursday, August 21

8:00 am Mass

8:30 am Rosary

Friday, August 22

8:00 am Mass

8:30 am Rosary

Parish Office Closed

Saturday, August 23

4:30 pm Mass

FOOD PANTRY WEEKEND

Sunday, August 24

9:30 am Mass

FOOD PANTRY WEEKEND



**Visiting Deacon
Bob Zondlak
and appreciation
after both Masses
August 23 & 24**

2025/26 Children's Faith Formation & Youth Ministry Programs

THE TIME TO REGISTER IS NOW!!

If you have not yet registered your child(ren)... online family registration is now open for both Children's Faith Formation and Youth Ministry! This year's theme will be "Treasured" Children's FF will again be using Catechesis of the Good Shepherd. Middle School YM will be learning about the treasures found within the Catholic faith and all things Catholic. High School YM will be taking a "Road Trip" finding treasures along the way and within themselves. Friends are welcome at all Youth Ministry levels... *ALL are welcome!*

Please scan the QR code to register today! Watch your emails for more information.



Cost for CFF and YM will remain the same as last year: 1 child/\$45; 2 children/\$90; 3+ children/\$120

If you have questions concerning Children's Faith Formation, contact: Wendy Graveline @ CFF@assumptionmidland.org

Questions about Youth Ministry (6-12th grade) or Confirmation (ages 12+), contact: Kathy Russell @ Kathyr@assumptionmidland.org



October 4th: Emmaus Retreat for Grieving Parents

Are you a parent who has lost a child and would appreciate support? Whether it happens through miscarriage, stillbirth, or later in life, the death of a child is a deep and tragic loss for parents – and for their hopes and dreams for the future. No matter what the age, cause of death, or how much time has passed, the grief over the loss of a child weighs heavily on the hearts of parents. On Saturday October 4th, 2025, a one-day Emmaus Retreat for Grieving Parents will be offered at Holy Spirit Parish in Saginaw. There is no cost to attend (a free will offering will be optional to help cover catering and the cost of materials). The day begins at 9:30 a.m. and ends by 7:00 p.m. During this spiritual retreat, everyone is free to participate at their comfort level.

For information or to register, call Deacon Gary Patelski at 989.295.5849 or email us at gapatelski@aol.com.

The deadline for registration is Sept 29th.

Children's Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

CHILDREN

CFF has ended for the year, but please watch the bulletin for other events!

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



YOUTH MINISTRY

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

Sept. 21 Youth Ministry Kickoff

Nov. 20-23 NCYC (HS—Save the Date)

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



"Faith Formation is more than a subject to be taught —it is an invitation to a way of life." - Joe Paprocki



**November 20-23, 2025
Indianapolis, IN**

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.

NCYC 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 Emmanuel—God with us.

What teens can expect at NCYC:

INSPIRING SPEAKERS...Some of the best speakers in the Catholic space.

MASS & ADORATION...Celebrate liturgy and the Eucharist with tens of thousands, led by our American bishops.

MUSIC & WORSHIP...Praise and entertainment led by award-winning artists.

INTERACTIVE EXHIBITS...Countless games, crafts, obstacle courses, live radio shows, challenges, and so much more.

COST \$700...Family pays \$350/parish pays \$350 (Includes: bus transportation, registration fee, hotel, backpack, and dinner on Friday & Saturday evening.)

Limited spots available.

For more information or registration forms, contact Kathy Russell at (989) 631-4447 or Kathyr@assumptionmidland.org

**RIGHT TO LIFE
Focus on Life Dinner**

*Join us for our Annual Focus on Life Dinner!
It will be at The Great Hall*

Tuesday, September 16th

Doors will open at 5:30 pm, dinner/program at 6pm. There will be a cash bar and a silent auction! \$40/person or \$300 for table of 8

Contact RTL Midland County at 989-835-2222 or email us at mary@midlandrtl.org.

**ANNOUNCING A SPECIAL PILGRIMAGE
TO CROATIA, MEDJUGORJE
and NORTHERN ITALY**

Which will take place **October 5-15, 2026**, with Fr. Bill Rutkowski and Fr. Francis George through Corporate Travel Livonia, MI. Three countries, one pilgrimage: Dubrovnik (Pearl of the Adriatic), Croatia; Medjugorje-world known Marian Apparition site, Bosnia & Herzegovina; and Italy: Venice with St. Mark's Basilica, canals, etc.; Padua, Basilica of St. Anthony; Verona, Basilica of San Zeno; & Milan, awe-inspiring Duomo and Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper.

*Cost: \$4,799/double occupancy
(includes an early booking \$200 discount
by September 30, 2025, and \$150 discount
by paying by check after the initial deposit).*

The Pilgrimage includes: round trip transportation from Saginaw and Hartland to DTW airport, land tour, 4-star hotel accommodations, city & lodging taxes and portage, gratuities to the tour manager, local guides, & motor coach driver, daily continental breakfast, 7 dinners with wine, flight from Croatia to Venice, and daily Mass. Group air transportation through Corporate Travel will be available for purchase separately as it becomes available in November 2025.

If you have any questions regarding this pilgrimage, call Fr. Bill, (517) 881-1132.

You are invited to a

Pilgrimage Information Meeting
to be held on **Tuesday, August 26, 6:30 p.m.**
at St. John Paul II Office Meeting Room, 469
Shattuck Road, Saginaw OR Thursday,
August 28, 7:00 p.m. at St. John Church,
2099 Hacker Road, Howell.

Mobile Food Drive

St. Brigid Catholic Church will be hosting a Mobile Food Drive on:

**Saturday, August 23, 2025
from 9:30am-12:00pm**

Preregistration for food is required
by calling (989) 486-9393 and press 1.



AN EVENING WITH

ELVIS

Elvis has NOT left the building!

On **September 27th, from 6:30-8:00 p.m.**, Assumption Parish will be hosting Elvis Tribute Artist Jake Slater in the Fr. Henry DuRussel Hall!

**Doors will open at 5:45 p.m. with
a social hour preceding the event.**

Tickets will be \$20.00 per person!

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be served,
with alcohol available for purchase!

All proceeds will benefit our youth
ministry program for the parish!

**Tickets can be purchased online by
scanning the QR code or by stopping
by the parish office!**



BACK TO SCHOOL

Blessing



The Saginaw Diocesan Council of Catholic Women

Will hold their Annual Meeting on
Wednesday, September 10th
at the Center for Ministry in Saginaw
All women of the diocese are invited to attend.

Registration will be from 9 to 9:30 a.m. The morning program will be about Medjugorje, and the afternoon presentation will be one of Bishop Barron's videos on *12 Pivotal Players*. Mass will be celebrated.

The cost is \$12 for members; \$14 for nonmembers, which includes a box lunch. The conference will end at approximately 3:30 p.m.

*Please RSVP to Rita Maher (989-635-7072)
by Sunday, September 7th.*

Pictorial Directory **UPDATE!**

Our pictorial directory should of shipped last week. So hoping to get them very shortly. Thank you so much for your patience!

WELCOMING
New Members

Assumption would like to welcome our new members who have joined our parish community:

Virginia Reno
Mary Morrissey

We welcome you as we grow in faith together!

If you are interested in becoming a member of our parish community, please call the parish office at (989) 631-4447.



**Cancer Services
of Midland
Volunteers Needed**

Cancer Services provides unique services that help patients, caregivers, and families cope with their cancer emotionally and physically. We count on 150+ generous and friendly volunteers to support more than 600 clients a year.

One of the biggest needs we have right now is to find compassionate and loving individuals who can volunteer for the Maria Mencia Cancer Caregiver Support Network (MMCCSN).

No experience is needed to volunteer with us. We take our volunteers seriously, we train them and make sure they are comfortable before they can start working with us.

If you have a few hours each week and are looking to make a difference in people's lives, please give us a call at these numbers and ask to talk with Anila:

Office: 989-839-6254 Cell: 989-750-1004

Loving God, watch over our children as they begin their new school year. Bless them with joy at seeing friends, excitement at new experiences, and a love of learning.

Guide and protect all who learn, replacing fear with joy, anxiety with peace, and tiredness with energy. Give wisdom, patience, and joy to teachers as they serve their students.

In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.



A BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER



Diocesan Marriage Prep Class

Preparing for a Covenant marriage between God, and an engaged couple provides a solid foundation for moving forward as you journey together as husband and wife with Christ at the center of your relationship & marriage. Engaged couples in need of marriage preparation are invited to attend this one day event which will offer you time to hear presentations by other couples and a Priest on:

*Marriage as a Sacrament and the Catholic Wedding ceremony,
Family of Origin, the 5 Love Languages & 4 Temperaments,
Conflict, problem solving, finances,
Intimacy and Natural Family Planning.*

When: **Saturday, Oct. 11 from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM**

Where: **Center for Ministry**

Cost: **\$90**

A Simple Way to Invite Others

Imagine that you're new to the neighborhood and searching for a faith community nearby...where would you look, and how would you decide where to go? For many people, this search begins online. If your life has been enriched by sharing in our worship, fellowship, celebration, and ministry, consider inviting others to become part of the Assumption Parish family by leaving an online review! Scan the QR code, visit:

<https://g.page/r/CcDmvtKCq0-FEBM/review>, or look up our parish on Google Maps and click "Write a Review."



**Celebrating the
Sacrament of Matrimony**

Bishop Gruss invites couples to receive a special blessing on their marriage at Mass on

Sunday, September 14, 2025

at 2 p.m.

**at St. Thomas Aquinas Parish
in Saginaw**

A small reception will follow at the Diocesan Center for Ministry, 5802 Weiss in Saginaw.

Those married in the **Church within the past five years and any couples who have celebrated or will celebrate milestone anniversaries (10, 15, 20, 25, 30 years, etc.)** in 2025 are welcome to join this free event.

To register, please contact Tammy Heinlein at 989-797-6693 or email development@diosag.org

Space is limited. Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-come basis.



Let's Go Golfing!

You're invited to

Blessed Sacrament's Annual Golf Outing on Sunday, August 24, 2025 at Currie Golf Course!

Enjoy a fun afternoon with a 1:00 PM shotgun start.

Team registration is \$320, and all proceeds benefit the Guatemala Stove Team.

Your participation helps provide tools and materials to install safe, efficient stoves and water filters in the homes of indigenous families in Guatemala.

Sign up your team today: <https://www.vancoevents.com/us/events/landing/55179?embed>



20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**"Do you think that I have come to
establish peace on earth? No, I tell you,
but rather division." Luke 12:51**

Do you avoid talking about certain issues or topics with particular people? Are religion, faith and teachings of the Church among those things that you avoid? Is that because you don't want to cause conflict or disagreement? But Jesus' words and actions show quite the opposite. We are called to proclaim the truth about Christ and spread His mission – even to those who do not share our faith or views.

Thank You!

We continue to collect cans and bottles for Youth Ministry, events and service projects. **Thank you all for your continued support of our Youth Ministry program!!** ~Kathy

Weekend Offerings

August 9/10, 2025

Weekly Envelopes	\$4,816
Online Giving (8/4–8/10)	\$2,313
Donations	\$2,500
Weekend Total	\$9,629
Weekly Goal	\$9,231
Overage/(Shortfall)	\$398

August 1-10, 2025

Weekly Envelopes	\$8,368
Online Giving	\$5,899
Donations	\$6,500
Weekend Total	\$20,767
Goal	\$18,462
Overage/(Shortfall)	\$2,305



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

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

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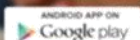
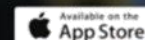
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