

# 14<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY *in Ordinary Time*



## Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

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

July 5, 2026

### 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.

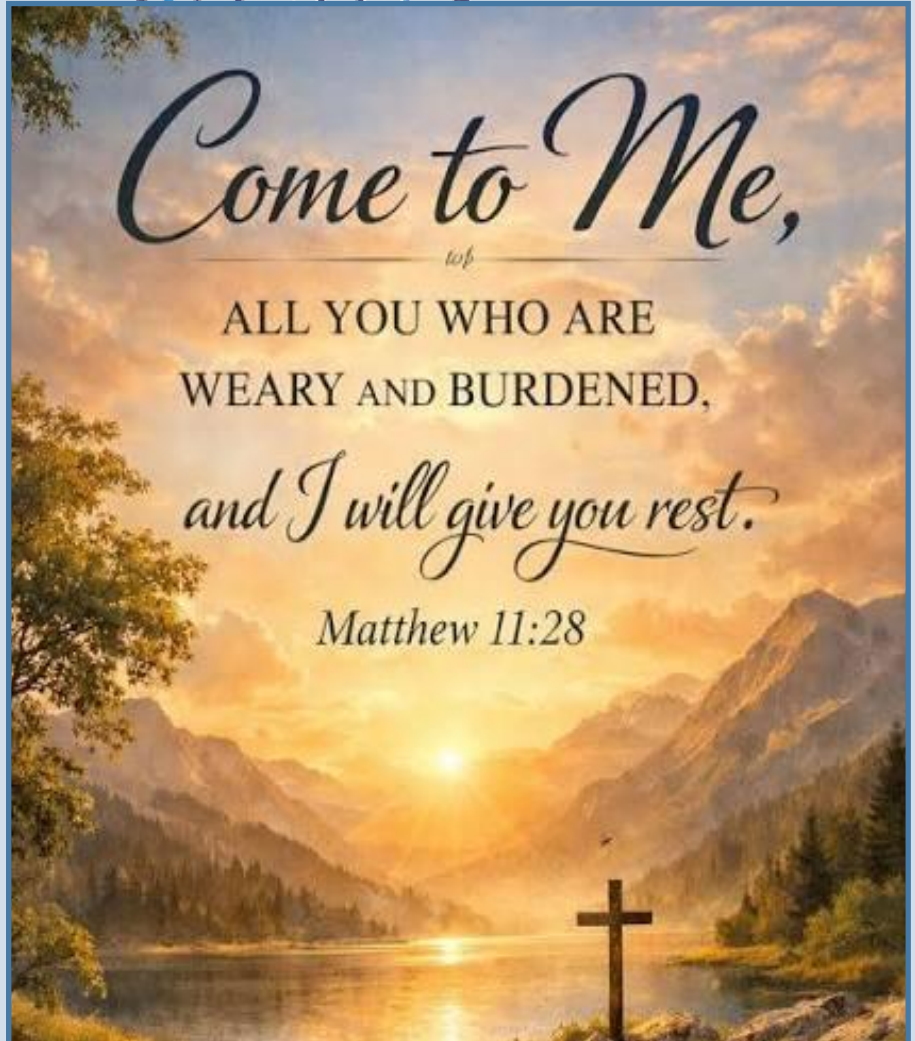
See inside the bulletin for the weekday schedule of worship service.

### How To Contact Us

**Office Hours:** Mon - Thurs / 8:30 a.m.—4 p.m.,  
Fridays / closed until after Labor Day  
**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:**  
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**Music & Liturgy:** Jim Renfer,  
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**Evangelization Liaison:** Anna Martin,  
Email: [anna@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:anna@assumptionmidland.org)  
**Maintenance Specialist:** Brad Hill,  
Email: [bradh@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:bradh@assumptionmidland.org)



#### **OFFICE HOURS—UPDATE**

The office will be closed on Fridays through Labor Day.

#### **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.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE:** MONDAY at noon

## From our Director of Parish Life



*"For freedom Christ set us free; so stand firm and do not submit again to the yoke of slavery . . . for you were called to freedom. But do not use this freedom as an opportunity for the flesh; rather, serve one another through love. For the whole law is fulfilled in one statement, namely, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' But if you go on biting and devouring one another, beware that you are not consumed by one another." Galatians 5:1,13-15*

As we continue to reflect upon the documents of Vatican II at the beginning of the Year of the Holy Spirit, this week we begin to consider the question "Now that we have a clear understanding of who we are as Church, how are we as Catholic Christians related to political authorities and non-Catholics?" by exploring Vatican II's *Declaration on Religious Liberty* (also known by its Latin title *Dignitatis Humanae*). This is most appropriate as we also reflect upon the meaning of our human rights and freedom as we celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the *Declaration of Independence* this weekend.

The relationship between the Church and political authority has been fraught over the first two Christian millennium, especially as it concerns religious liberty. The early Church had no political power, especially under the Roman Empire which martyred many Christians. The Church's only power was the power of the Holy Spirit, through the Word that was preached and the witness of the life of the Christian community. After the Empire's collapse, societal chaos was often curbed by the ordered life of monasteries. Abbots and Abbesses by necessity often shepherded not only those inside the walls of the monastery, but also the surrounding area. This planted the seeds of what has been called Christendom, where Church and state power were often interwoven— with benefits and perils for both. The era surrounding the Protestant Reformation saw this unravel as theological separations were also political separations; England became Anglican, Germany became Lutheran, the Netherlands became Calvinist, France, Italy, and Spain remained Roman Catholic, etc. This led to persecutions and wars between Christians and their nations. The roots of our American constitutional system have roots in this situation. The Mayflower Pilgrims were Calvinists fleeing persecution in Anglican England. The United States Constitution, which guaranteed religious freedom in its First Amendment, was a watershed moment in the history of Church/state relations.

The Catholic Church at first was very suspicious of the concept of religious freedom. In Catholic Italy, Jewish citizens were gathered in their own walled section of the city—ghettos—at nightfall. Colonialist practices sometimes imposed Catholicism in missionary fields. It was an oft-stated truism that "(theological and religious) error has no rights." Also, Catholic churches were destroyed, worship was suppressed, and clergy and religious were tortured and killed during the French Revolution in the name of "Liberté, Égalité,

Fraternité"—liberty, equality, and fraternity. With the dissolution of the Papal States in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> Century, it was clear that the age of Christendom was over.

The first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century saw the rise of new kinds of political/ideological genocides aimed at religious believers. The most glaring example was the Nazi Holocaust, which aimed to wipe out the Jewish people and killed almost 6 million Jews. Communism, both in Europe and in Asia, was explicitly founded as an atheistic political system. It has been responsible for tens of millions of deaths of religious believers as well as millions of unjust imprisonments. This still continues in our day, most notably the persecution of Muslim Uyghurs in China.

Within this backdrop, we can appreciate what can truly be called a development of Catholic doctrine in Vatican II's *Declaration on Religious Liberty* which unambiguously stated, "the human person has a right to religious freedom . . . this right of the human person to religious freedom must be given such recognition in the constitutional order of society as will make it a civil right." (Declaration on Religious Liberty, no. 2) There can be no mistaking the contribution to this Catholic doctrinal development made by the American *Declaration of Independence and Constitution*. Let's note how **Vatican II both affirms the rights and freedoms enunciated in America's founding documents, while at the same time giving them a firm foundation in the truth of God's Revelation.**

As concerns the concept of human rights, the Declaration of Independence states, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." While affirming this as true, the Catholic Church deepens this understanding by rooting human rights in who we are and what we are called to do. For example, "because they are persons, that is, beings endowed with reason and free will and therefore bearing personal responsibility, they are both impelled by their nature and bound by moral obligation to seek the truth, especially religious truth." (Declaration on Religious Liberty, no. 2) **We have the right to religious liberty because we have the duty to seek the truth about God and creation and we are obligated to live that truth in integrity of conscience to the best of our understanding and ability.**

As concerns the First Amendment guarantee that no law shall be enacted that curtails freedom of religion both in worship

and in practice, the Catholic Church reminds us that **this precious liberty is not just freedom from religious coercion (which it is) but also freedom to fulfill our deepest orientation**, to live in a communion of love with God and neighbor, and the essential prerequisite for love is freedom. When we lose sight of the link between freedom with God's truth and love, freedom becomes misguided and closed in on oneself as expressed in the disastrous 1992 Supreme Court decision *Planned Parenthood v. Casey*, "At the heart of liberty is the right to define one's own concept of existence, of meaning, of the universe, and of the mystery of human life." Human dignity comes not from defining our own concept of existence, but "to embrace the truth [as a gift of God] and hold onto it as we have come to know it." (Declaration on Religious Liberty, no. 1)

As a parish, let us commit ourselves on this 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our nation's founding upon the rights and liberty given us by God to seek the truth about God and God's creation, sharing this truth—always proposing and never imposing the Gospel message, and putting our freedom at the service of the love of God and neighbor, thus transforming our nation through social love into a beloved community, becoming an icon of the love found within the Trinity.

This upcoming week, we will continue our reflections on the question "How are we as Catholic Christians related to political authorities and non-Catholics?" by reading the Vatican II document *The Decree on Ecumenism* (also known by its Latin title *Unitatis redintegratio*). It can be found on the Vatican website by doing an internet search for either title. There is also a link to this document in this past Friday's parish Flocknote email.

John

### 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time

***"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves. For my yoke is easy and my burden light." Matthew 11:28-30***

Being generous with our talents, time and resources could seem to be burdensome and tiring, but sharing our gifts from God should bring joy. After all, in our sharing of our gifts, even during challenging times, we are walking with Jesus and living the way God intends for us.

Worship Schedule	
ASSUMPTION	
<b>MON, July 6</b> Hos 2:16, 17c-18, 21-22 Mt 9:18-26	_____
<b>TUES, July 7</b> Hos 8:4-7, 11-13 Mt 9:32-38	<b>8:00a Mass</b> 8:30a Rosary
<b>WED, July 8</b> Hos 10:1-3, 7-8, 12 Mt 10:1-7	<b>6:30p Mass</b> <i>Followed by Exposition and Reconciliation 7:15-8:15</i>
<b>THUR, July 9</b> Hos 11:1-4, 8e-9 Mt 10:7-15	<b>8:00a Mass</b> 8:30a Rosary
<b>FRI, July 10</b> Hos 14:2-10 Mt 10:16-23	<b>8:00a Word &amp; Communion</b> 8:30a Rosary
<b>SAT, July 11</b> Is 6:1-8 Mt 10:24-33	<b>8:00a Mass</b> 8:30a Rosary <b>4:30p Mass</b> <i>People of the Parish</i>
<b>SUN, July 12</b> Is 55:10-11; Rom 8:18-23 Mt 13:1-23	<b>9:30a Mass—Mary Hunter</b> <b>2:00p Memorial Mass for Mary Hunter</b>

### V is for Vocation: Fr. David J. Jenuwine



We give thanks for Fr. David Jenuwine, Parochial Administrator of Ss. Francis & Clare Parish in Birch Run. We pray for Fr. David in his service to the faithful of the parish. Ordained in 2009, he is a Detroit native who earned degrees in electrical engineering from General Motors Institute [Kettering University] and Purdue University and worked in the automotive industry. Hearing God's call to the priesthood at a discernment retreat in 2001, Fr. David attended Sacred Heart Major Seminary in Detroit and University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minn. He also earned a master's degree at Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio. He spent four years serving the Diocese of Santa Rosa and earned a law degree from Cooley Law School in 2021. A U.S. Navy veteran, Fr. David is a chaplain with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary.

*O God, in the past You called men and women to dedicate their lives to You through priesthood and religious life. Today stir up the grace of a religious vocation in the hearts of many within our parish community. Grant them the willingness and generosity to place their lives completely in Your hands as priests, brothers and sisters. Help me to support them by my own fidelity to Your call to holiness through prayer & Christian service. If You desire that one of my family or friends follow You in this way, grant me the wisdom and insight to support and encourage that person to listen to Your voice and follow You without delay. Amen. (USCCB)*

### MOBILE FOOD DISTRIBUTION TRUCK UPDATE!



#### Wednesday, July 22nd

**WE STILL NEED A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS!**

Distribution of food will take place on Wednesday, July 22nd; volunteers are needed from 8 am

til 12 noon; lunch will be provided. Please call the office at 989-631-4447 for any questions or to sign-up.

### PERSONAL CARE SUPPLIES

Those coming for the assistance that our Mobile Food Truck offers are often also in need of personal care products, something that the Food Truck does not provide.

*We will be collecting the following items: shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes, body and hand soap, hand sanitizer.*

**The big bin in the gathering space will be available to accept your donations July 4/5 and July 11/12 (please do not bring earlier as we will be collecting for our monthly food pantry June 27/28).**

**There will also be an opportunity to offer a monetary donation as well.**



### BeFriender Ministry

BeFriender Ministers are specially trained to provide companionship, prayer, and a confidential listening presence to parish members that are unable to attend Mass due to life circumstances.

If you or someone you know is homebound, temporarily or permanently, please contact the parish office at 989-631-4447 for more information and request a visit. *There are also printed request forms at the welcome circle.*

### ~ This Week ~

#### Sunday, July 5

9:30 am Mass  
*Personal Care Items Collection*

#### Monday, July 6

2-6 pm Blood Drive  
6:30 pm Catholic Discipleship  
Small Groups

#### Tuesday, July 7

8:00 am Mass  
8:30 am Rosary

#### Wednesday, July 8

6:30 pm Mass  
*followed by Exposition and Reconciliation/7:15-8:15*

#### Thursday, July 9

8:00 am Mass  
8:30 am Rosary

#### Friday, July 10

*Parish Office Closed*  
8:00 am Word & Communion  
8:30 am Rosary

#### Saturday, July 11

8:00 am Mass  
8:30 am Rosary  
*Men's Faith Study after Rosary*  
**4:30 pm Mass**  
*Personal Care Items Collection*

#### Sunday, July 12

9:30 am Mass  
*Personal Care Items Collection*  
**1:05 pm MACC Loon's Outing**  
2:00 pm Memorial Service for Mary Hunter  
*(Kathy Russell's Sister)*



# Children's Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

## Canoe with Bishop Gruss

Youth in 6 - 12 grade (and chaperones) are invited to join Bishop Gruss for canoeing, food, fun, a Eucharistic Procession and Mass!



**Date:** Saturday, August 8, 2026

**Time:** 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

**Location:** Cedar River Outfitters and Sacred Heart Church, Gladwin

**Details:** Meet at 1097 Chappel Dam Road, Gladwin (near Chappel Dam Grocery & Sport) to canoe to the Gladwin City Park for lunch, followed by the Eucharistic Procession to Sacred Heart Church for Mass at 5:00 p.m.

**Cost:** \$35 per person for canoe (\$5 livery fee if you bring your own canoe or kayak)

**Supervised by:** Taylor Piotrkowski and adult volunteers

**Transportation:** Provide own

**Deadline to Register:**

Friday, July 31, 2026

Scan the QR code to register



**Questions:**

Contact KathyR@assumptionmidland.org

## CHILDREN

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

YM has wrapped up for the year. Watch your email and the bulletin for spring/summer YM news & events!

Middle School and High School YM meet on Sunday evenings at Blessed Sacrament from 6-8 pm starting 9/27/26

Confirmation Prep will meet on Tuesday evenings at Assumption from 6-8 pm starting in October.

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| July 22 | Mobile Food Truck ( <i>volunteers needed!</i> )     |
| Aug. 8  | Canoe Trip w/Bishop Gruss—Gladwin                   |
| Aug. 20 | Save the Date—MS Back to School Bash @ Valley Lanes |

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



You're Invited!

# NEIGHBORING Night

**Tuesday, July 28**

5:30 pm - 8:00 pm

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

3516 E. Monroe Rd  
Midland, MI

Hot Dogs & Treats  
Games & Activities  
Bonfire & S'mores

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

*You don't need to be a member of Assumption Parish (or even a church-goer) to attend*



Bring a chair and come join neighbors around the bonfire for an evening celebrating community!

## New Here?

**Welcome!** We're so happy to meet you.

If you're new or returning to your faith and want to go deeper, or you're looking for connection and a community to call home, there's a place for you at Assumption.

To learn more & get connected, scan the QR code or visit

[www.AssumptionMary.org/welcome](http://www.AssumptionMary.org/welcome)



## Stay Connected This Summer!

Are you receiving your weekly Flocknote email from Assumption?

With summer fast approaching, it's a great time to make sure you're on the list, so you can stay up to date on parish happenings no matter where vacation takes you!

Scan the QR code or text **MIDLANDABVM** to 84576 to join our Friday email list.

**Need to update your contact information?**

Contact our e-vangelist, Anna Martin, at [anna@assumptionmidland.org](mailto:anna@assumptionmidland.org), and she'll be happy to help!





# Year of the Holy Spirit

One Heart - One Mind

2026 - PENTECOST - 2027

## Upcoming Opportunities

### CATHOLIC DISCIPLESHIP

*Small Group Series at Assumption*

**Mondays at 6:30 PM through August 31**

Grow in discipleship during the Year of the Holy Spirit through a summer small group! Each session will offer time for fellowship, prayer, Scripture reflection, and discussion of a weekly theme, from personal encounter to missionary discipleship.

*Preregistration is not required. All are welcome!*



**THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES**  
ONLINE Bible Study with Fr. Jose Cabrera  
Tuesdays at 7:00 AM through Dec. 2026

Scan the QR Code or go to  
[www.saginaw.org/bible-study-acts-apostles](http://www.saginaw.org/bible-study-acts-apostles)

This is a 30-Week Virtual Bible Study—chapter by chapter—of the entire Book of the Acts of the Apostles with Fr. Jose Cabrera S.T.L. Bib. These classes are part of the + YEAR OF THE HOLY SPIRIT + ONE HEART - ONE MIND + 2026 - PENTECOST - 2027 + declared by Bishop Robert Gruss for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Saginaw, Michigan.

### MONTHLY SPEAKER SERIES

*to Explore the Holy Spirit*

As part of the Diocese of Saginaw's Year of the Holy Spirit, Bishop Robert Gruss invites the faithful to deepen their understanding of the Third Person of the Holy Trinity through a monthly speaker series beginning in June 2026 and continuing through May 2027.

**All talks are from 6:30-8 pm at the Center for Ministry,  
5802 Weiss St, Saginaw**

A livestream link will be available for each presentation for those who cannot attend.

**JULY 8—The Holy Spirit in Sacred Scripture**  
*(Fr. Jose Maria Cabrera)*

**AUGUST 12—The Holy Spirit in the Early Church**



## RUMMAGE SALE 2026

### Final Update

700+ manhours! That's how many hours it took to set up, organize, price, organize again, greet our neighbors and then pack up all the remaining items at our recent rummage sale. It was a tremendous effort from many people within our parish and surrounding community. Thank you so very much to all the people that helped make this happen. Many hands make light work and we could not have been as successful as we were without the teamwork involved. A special thanks to our younger parishioners who came to help – Kaylee, Brooke, Addison, Elizabeth, Ben and Matthew. And a huge thank you to all the "cooks" that helped feed us while we were working. I was afraid if we let people leave to go eat, they might not come back!!

### **\$15,000 was donated to the following charities:**

Bernadine Franciscan Sisters, Bridge Food Center, Camp Fish Tales, Capuchin Soup Kitchen (Detroit), Care Giving Network, Emmaus House, Global Compassion, Toni & Trish, Guatemalan Stove Team, Guest House for Priest Recovery, Humane Society of Midland County, Knights of Columbus #2141, Life Clinic, Midland Area Special Olympics, Mustard Seed, Open Door, Rescue Ministry of Mid-Michigan, Michigan Doodle Rescue Connect, Community Shed of Mid-Michigan, River Jordan, Inc. and Priest Retirement fund.

*Respectfully submitted,  
Aimee Matthews*



# DONATE BLOOD

Monday  
July  
**6**

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM



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

For eligibility questions please call  
866-642-5663

## Assumption Knights of Columbus Council 2141 Community Blood Drive

Multi-Purpose Room  
3516 Monroe Rd.  
Midland, MI 48642

### APPOINTMENTS PREFERRED

- Call 866-642-5663
- Visit [versiti.org/mi](http://versiti.org/mi)
- Or scan the QR code below

\*Walk-ins welcome, as schedule allows!

As a thank you, all attempting donors with a valid email will receive a \$25 e-gift card.



Congratulations to  
**Kristina Martinski**  
and  
**Ryan Poitras**  
who were married  
here at Assumption  
on Saturday, July 4th

### A THANK YOU TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

The following businesses have been very kind over the years and have graciously agreed to display our flyers for various church activities. Please keep them in mind as you shop in the future.

- Family Fare
- Goodwill
- Totally Clean Laundry
- Chef Sergey's
- Live Oak
- Pizza Sams
- Coffee Chaos
- Jet's Pizza
- 7-11 (Jefferson Rd)
- LaLonde's
- Shelterhouse
- Boomerage Coffee Shop
- Forwards Shell Gas
- Jack's Fruit Market



## MIDLAND AREA CATHOLIC COMMUNITY

*DIVE IN* and make your way out to Dow Diamond on Sunday, July 12th to watch the Great Lakes Loons battle the Dayton Dragons. Enjoy the ball game and listen to our very own MACC Choir sing the National Anthem.

**Sunday, July 12th**  
TIME @ 1:05 PM

### TICKET PRICES

Group Reserved  
Box Tickets in  
Section 103  
Discounted to  
\$12.50 each

You can buy your tickets online this year at  
<https://www.gofevo.com/event/maccchoir>  
or scan the QR code.

You may also order tickets from Travis Webb at the Loons ticket office at 989-837-6173 or email [twebb@loons.com](mailto:twebb@loons.com).

For any questions, please contact your parish office.  
Assumption 989-631-4447    Blessed Sacrament 989-835-6777  
St. Brigid 989-835-7121    Our Lady of Grace 989-687-5657



### Knights of Columbus

If you need information or want to join the Knights of Columbus, please contact the parish office at 989-631-4447.

Check out the website at:  
[www.KofC2141.org](http://www.KofC2141.org).

## ABVM Parish Garden

Our ABVM community garden is thriving thanks to the efforts of our dedicated volunteers (and the intercession of St. Isidore). Broccoli, beans, tomatoes, carrots, cauliflower, winter squash, cabbage and cucumber plants should, God willing, provide nutritious food for our neighbors who are struggling. As always, any volunteer help is appreciated! *Work days are:*



**Tuesdays and Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.**  
(as long as you can stay)

All produce goes to assist those in need. *Any questions? Please call Bernie Link at 989-689-5228.*

Hidden Harvest and The Bridge Store collect food from organizations, churches, and individuals and then distribute 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](http://www.hiddenharvest.com), and for The Bridge Store go to [www.thebridgemitland.com](http://www.thebridgemitland.com).

If you are not receiving your weekly Flocknote, go to [midlandabvm.flocknote.com](http://midlandabvm.flocknote.com) to sign up online and keep in touch with what is going on at Assumption or text **MIDLANDABVM to 84576** to get it on your mobile device.

### Weekend Offerings

#### June 27/28, 2026

Weekly Envelopes .....	\$2,991
Online Giving (6/22-6/28) .....	\$1,558
Donations .....	\$1,000
Weekend Total .....	\$5,549
Weekly Goal .....	\$9,231
Overage/(Shortfall) .....	(\$3,682)

#### June 1-28, 2026

Weekly Envelopes .....	\$14,207
Online Giving .....	\$9,720
Donations .....	\$6,350
Total .....	\$30,277
Goal .....	\$36,924
Overage/(Shortfall) .....	(\$6,647)

**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 scan the QR code or go to our website at: **AssumptionMary.org** and click donate.

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

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- Joe Paprocki

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Alexander A. Horbal, D.O., P.L.C.  
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