



25th SUNDAY *in Ordinary Time*

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

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

September 20, 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 / 8:30 a.m.—noon

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



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, home-bound or hospitalized.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: MONDAY at noon



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 spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him: the spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the spirit of counsel, and of fortitude, the spirit of knowledge, and of godliness. And he shall be filled with the spirit of the fear of the Lord." Isaiah 11:2-3

Beginning on Pentecost Sunday back in May, the Diocese of Saginaw has been celebrating a Year of the Holy Spirit. We have begun to participate in this initiative in various ways over the summer. The bulletin columns have focused on heeding how the Holy Spirit is speaking to the Church in our modern times through the 16 documents of Vatican II, taking our lead from Pope Leo's weekly teachings this year. We also offered a summer-long series of small-group discussions on the topic of Catholic Discipleship.

We were honored to host Bishop Gruss on our patronal feast day, when he conferred the Sacrament of Confirmation upon four of our young disciples. In his remarks before our parish patronal feast day potluck picnic, **Bishop Gruss spoke to us about the importance of fostering a deep, personal relationship with the Holy Spirit in our lives.** We often hear of the centrality of having a personal relationship with Jesus (and it is of vital importance!), but we rarely hear of the importance of having a *personal* relationship with the Holy Spirit.

Sometimes, our artistic expressions of God may get in the way of developing this relationship. God is pure spirit and thus has no body. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 370) The mystery of the Incarnation changed this at a particular moment in human history—the "fullness of time"—when the Second Person of the Trinity, the eternal Son of God became human. (John 1:14) Therefore, the eyewitnesses of Jesus truly saw God's Body. By extension, we therefore truly worship and receive the Body of Christ when we participate in the Eucharist. The Father and the Holy Spirit did not become incarnate in the same way, taking on human flesh as the Son did. All of this is to highlight that our artistic representations of the Holy Spirit can obscure who the Holy Spirit is as a *Divine Person*. He is not "God the Bird" or "God the Flame" or "God the Wind" even though we use these images in our artistic representations of the Holy Spirit because a dove, tongues of fire, or the sound of a mighty wind are associated with the presence of the Holy Spirit in the Bible. (Luke 3:21, Acts 2:2-4) However, The Holy Spirit is a Divine Person with whom we can have an intimate, personal relationship. As Bishop Joseph McKinney, an auxiliary bishop of Grand Rapids for many years known far and wide for his devotion to the Holy Spirit, wrote in his book *Living in the Power of Pentecost*, "A key discovery was when I realized that the Holy Spirit is a real person of the Blessed Trinity. It is difficult

for some people to realize this . . . the Holy Spirit is someone we can call upon as a person and respond to as a person."

"But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him." Romans 8:9

At our baptism, the presence of the Holy Spirit was poured into us, thus we become living temples of the Holy Spirit. (Romans 5:5, Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1265) God the Holy Spirit is not somewhere "out there" in space, but dwells within us deep in own hearts. The Person of the Spirit intercedes within us, and it is the voice of the Holy Spirit that we discern speaking to us personally in the still, small voice of our consciences. (Romans 8:16, 26-27; John 16:8; Catechism of the Catholic Church, nos. 1777, 1785) Through the Sacrament of Confirmation, the baptismal presence of the Holy Spirit is strengthened "through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit as once granted to the apostles on the day of Pentecost." (Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1302) This sacramental anointing unleashes the gifts of the Holy Spirit in us that we first received on the day of our baptism.

But what good is a gift if it is not received with a grateful heart and put to its intended use? Just like an old birthday or holiday gift sitting in an attic or the back of the closet, the gifts of the Holy Spirit do us little good "collecting dust" in a remote memory of a sacramental ritual in which we participated when we were a teenager.

On the first Friday of every month, Bishop Gruss hosts a Mass at the Cathedral in Saginaw, followed by a luncheon presentation. At the September First Friday presentation, Bishop Gruss compared the Gifts of the Holy Spirit to a treasure chest, "the Lord wants you to dig it up, open the treasure chest and see what he's given you . . . it needs something to wake them up, a new awakening. In the spiritual life, we call that asking the Holy Spirit to bring us a new springtime to our hearts . . . we should be asking for that. 'Holy Spirit, come alive in me. I want this relationship with you in a way I've never had it before.'"

To facilitate that reawakening in each of us personally and in our parish as a whole, our Faith Formation Commission will be offering the series "The Wild Goose" this fall. This video and discussion series is designed to help facilitate an encounter or a renewed personal encounter with the Person of the Holy Spirit that was gifted to us in Baptism and strengthened in us through Confirmation. "The Wild Goose" is an ancient Celtic term

referring to the Holy Spirit's untamable power in our lives and in our world. We are offering it twice each week, one session on Monday evenings and one on Wednesday afternoons, beginning next week, September 28. If you desire a deep, personal relationship with the Holy Spirit and a new springtime in your spiritual life, I highly recommend participating in this series.

Another way to deepen our relationship with the Holy Spirit is through praying and studying the Spirit-inspired Word of God. Our Thursday morning Bible study meets every Thursday morning from 9:15-10:30. On the 2nd and 4th Saturday mornings of the month, the Knights of Columbus host a men's faith study. Both offerings prepare participants to listen better to the Scripture readings at the weekend liturgies. I can personally attest to the insights that are shared in these small groups. Our fellow parishioners have so much wisdom that has enriched my spiritual life immensely. Also, we will be beginning an ecumenical Thursday evening Bible study on Handel's oratorio *Messiah* this November in conjunction with our December community concert. More information will be forthcoming soon.

Also, over the next seven weeks, this bulletin column will feature an exploration of each of the seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Hopefully, we can unpack these treasures together so that we can put them to greater use in our lives.

May each of us find some way to answer the Holy Spirit's invitation this year to grow in an intimate and life-giving personal relationship: transforming our hearts and minds, our parish, our diocese, and our world.

John

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more, but each of them also got the usual wage. And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner. He said to them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you.

Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Am I not free to do what I wish with my own money?'

Matthew 20:10-15

As servants of God, what we receive from Him is not a result of the work that we do, but rather is a result of God's generosity. Stewards give without questioning what they will receive in return.

 Worship Schēdulē	
ASSUMPTION	
MON, September 21 Eph 4:1-7, 11-13 Mt 9:9-13	
TUES, September 22 Prv 21:1-6, 10-13 Lk 8:19-21	8:00a Word & Communion 8:30a Rosary <i>Followed by Meditation</i>
WED, September 23 Prv 30:5-9 Lk 9:1-6	6:30p Word & Communion <i>Followed by Exposition, no Reconciliation</i>
THUR, September 24 Eccl 1:2-11 Lk 9:7-9	8:00a Word & Communion 8:30a Rosary <i>Followed by Scripture</i>
FRI, September 25 Eccl 3:1-11 Lk 9:18-22	8:00a Mass 8:30a Rosary
SAT, September 26 Eccl 11:9-12:8 Lk 9:43b-45	8:30a Rosary 4:30p Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>
SUN, September 27 Ez 18:25-28 Phil 2:1-11 Mt 21:28-32	9:30a Mass <i>People of the Parish</i>

V is for Vocation: Lay Ecclesial Ministry



We give thanks for all those who serve as lay ministers throughout the diocese. We pray for these men and women commissioned to "actively

live and demonstrate their faith, courageously and without shame, among their family, friends, peers, and co-workers." Theirs is the responsibility to spread the Good News through developing a spiritual life by living in a holy way.

Lay Ecclesial Ministry: Those wanting to deepen their faith may be interested in the Lay Ecclesial Ministry Formation Program. Applications are accepted from February 1 to May 15. Seminars run each month from September to May.

For more information, contact Kellie Deming: call 989-797-6609 or online <https://saginaw.org/user/45/contact>
Gracious God, You have called me to life and gifted me in many ways. Through Baptism, You have sent me to continue the mission of Jesus by sharing my love with others. Fill all with Your Holy Spirit that we may have listening hearts and the courage to respond to You. Enkindle in my heart and the hearts of others the desire to make the world a better place by serving as Lay Minister, Sister, Priest, Brother or Deacon. Amen. (adapted from USCCB)



Next Weekend Food Pantry Collection September 26/27

If you have a blue bag from the parish please use it to bring in your donations. Please pick up a blue bag from the gathering space this weekend if one is needed.
 Thank you...

THANK YOU to all who gave
to the Visiting Mission
Co-op Priest in August!
Assumption Collected
\$2,436



You're Invited!!

Join your fellow parishioners in the Knights of Columbus and support our Assumption community of faith!

K of C Exemplification Ceremony

Wednesday, October 21st at 7:30pm in DuRussel Hall

For more info, contact Membership Director Matt Glaccum
 989-430-8622 | md2141@mikofc.org
 Fr. Henry P. DuRussel Knights of Columbus Council 2141
 Charity | Unity | Fraternity

IT'S THAT TIME! RAFFLE TICKETS AVAILABLE

55th Annual Bazaar November 14, 2026

1st Prize—Handmade Quilt
 2nd Prize—\$100.00 cash
 3rd Prize—\$50.00 cash, donated
 merchandise and craft items

Tickets are \$1.00 each

Make checks payable to Assumption.
The winning tickets will be drawn
November 14th at the Bazaar.
(need not to be present to win)
Purchase tickets in the office
or after Mass.



~ This Week ~

Sunday, September 20 CATECHETICAL SUNDAY

9:30 am Mass
 CFF, C.L.O.W.
 11:00 am Catholic Inquiry



Monday, September 21

6:30 pm The Chosen Review

Tuesday, September 22

8:00 am Word & Communion
 8:30 am Rosary followed by Meditation
 3:00 pm Monicas meet

Wednesday, September 23

1:00 pm The Chosen Review
 6:30 pm Word & Comm followed by
 Exposition, no Reconciliation

Thursday, September 24

8:00 am Word & Communion
 8:30 am Rosary followed by Scripture
 7:00 pm Choir practice

Friday, September 25

8:00 am Mass
 8:30 am Rosary

Saturday, September 26

8:30 am Rosary
 Men's Faith Study after Rosary
 4:30 pm Mass

FOOD PANTRY WEEKEND

Sunday, September 27

9:30 am Mass
 CFF, C.L.O.W.
 YM Begins
 11:00 am Catholic Inquiry
FOOD PANTRY WEEKEND

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION BEGINS TODAY!! IT'S NOT TOO LATE!!!



**2026/27
Children's Faith
Formation (CFF)
and
Youth Ministry
(YM) Programs**

It's time to register your child(ren)...
Online family registration is open for both Children's Faith Formation and Youth Ministry!

The formation of the faith of our youngest disciples is guided through **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)**. Rooted in sacred scripture & the liturgical life, CGS aims to foster a personal relationship between the child and God in a prepared environment, the atrium, a peaceful, sacred space where children can encounter the mystery of God in a way that is tailored to their age and spiritual capacity.

Middle School YM

We will be learning about Catholic Social Teaching and the Corporal Works of Mercy. These topics will be explored in fun and hands on ways with objective lessons, games, food and social fun!

High School YM

Welcome to "Game Day"! These dynamic sessions are designed to introduce teens to a variety of catechetical topics and inspire them through the examples of different saints as we move toward our common goal — a deeper relationship with God and one another. Friends are welcome at all Youth Ministry levels... *ALL are welcome!*

Please scan the QR code to register today!

*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
(6th-12th grade) or Confirmation (age 12+)**
Contact: Kathy Russell @
Kathyr@assumptionmidland.org

Children's Faith Formation & Youth Ministry

CHILDREN

Sept. 20, 27 CFF and CLOW
Oct. 4, 11, 18, 25 CFF and CLOW
11, 25 Sacramental Prep, 3-4:30

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

It's time to register for YM! This year's theme... "SHINE"!
Watch your email and the bulletin for 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, year 2, will meet on Tuesday evenings
at Assumption from 6-8 pm starting in October.**

Sept. 20 Catechetical Sunday
27 YM Kickoff w/parents!!!
28 Y2Y team meets

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



Catechetical Sunday

Catechetical Sunday was inspired by the Vatican document *Provido sane consilio (On the Better Care and Promotion of Catechetical Education)* published in 1935. This document asked every country to acknowledge the importance of the Church's teaching ministry and to honor those who serve the Christian community as catechists.

Those whom the Community has designated to serve as catechists will be called forth to be commissioned for their ministry. **Catechetical Sunday is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the role that each person plays, by**



virtue of Baptism, in handing on the faith and being a witness to the Gospel. Catechetical Sunday is an opportunity for all to rededicate themselves to this mission as a community of faith.

This year's theme for Catechetical Sunday is: *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me... to bring good news to the poor" (Lk 4:18; cf. Is 61:1)* reveals Jesus' mission and identity. Anointed by the Holy Spirit, he is sent to bring hope, healing, and freedom—especially to the poor, the broken-hearted, and the forgotten. This passage shows that the Messiah comes not with power or status, but with compassion, restoring dignity and proclaiming God's mercy. It also becomes a model for the Church, us, which is called to continue Christ's work by sharing the Good News and caring for those most in need.

*Thank you to our volunteers leaders from ABVM, who help with the youth:
Scott Ross, HSYM; Alan Bloch, MSYM; Veronica & Trevor Staby, Y2Y.*



POLISH FEST

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish

Saturday, October 10, 2026
6:30PM-10:00PM | Doors open 5:45PM
3516 E. Monroe Rd, Midland, MI 48642



Authentic Polish Food
 Kielbasa, gołąbki (cabbage rolls), pierogi (potato & cheese dumplings), zupa z dyni (pumpkin soup), plus sauerkraut & much more!
Beer & wine available.



Live Entertainment
 Polka music by the **Steve Drzewicki Polka Band** from Bay City



Fun for All Ages
 Includes dancing, family games, and kids zone!



Buy Tickets Now!
 \$20.00 Adults
 \$7.00 Kids ages 5-12
 FREE Kids ages 0-4
\$50 FAMILY DEAL*
 (2 adults & 2+ kids ages 5-12)
**Please purchase at the Parish Office*






Online/credit card fees apply



All are welcome to the Men's Saturday Morning Faith gatherings sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Fr. Henry P. DuRussel Council 2141.

We will focus our discussion on the readings for the upcoming Sunday's Mass.

The schedule is below:

26 September 8:30 AM Rosary and Faith Group discussions to follow
10 October 8:00 AM Mass, 8:30 AM Rosary and Faith Group discussions to follow
24 October 8:30 AM Rosary and Faith Group discussions to follow
7 November 8:00 AM Mass, 8:30 AM Rosary and Faith Group discussions to follow
21 November 8:30 AM Rosary and Faith Group discussions to follow
28 November First Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM Rosary and Faith Group discussions to follow
5 December Second Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM Rosary and Faith Group discussions to follow
12 December Third Sunday of Advent 8:00 AM Mass, 8:30 AM Rosary and Faith Group discussions to follow
19 December Fourth Sunday of Advent 8:30 AM Rosary and Faith Group discussions to follow

To sign-up please email:
greggzank@mac.com

THE WILD GOOSE

DISCOVERING A DEEPER RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Wild Goose is Loose at Assumption!

"Wild Goose" was a term that the ancient Celts had for the Holy Spirit. This 14-part video series features Fr. Dave Pivonka and various interviews, exploring how the Spirit moves freely, powerfully, and sometimes unexpectedly in our lives. Shot in various locations from Niagara Falls to the California desert, The Wild Goose invites viewers to an encounter, or a renewed encounter, with the Holy Spirit.



We will cover Episodes 1-7 this fall. Episodes 8-14 will be presented next year during the Easter season, ending the week of Pentecost:

Mondays, March 29 - May 10
 Wednesdays, March 31 - May 12

Questions? Please contact Kathy Russell at kathyr@assumptionmidland.org

Mondays
Sept. 28 – Nov. 9
6:30-8:00pm
 OR
Wednesdays
Sept. 30 – Nov. 11
1:00-2:30pm

Please sign up at the
Welcome Circle

Youth Ministry
LET YOUR LIGHT "SHINE"!

Are you a parent or grandparent or a person who loves God and wants to help build a courageous community and make a positive impact on youth? Do you want to laugh and have fun? Do you want to learn more about your faith? You may be a great fit to be a youth leader! Your age does not matter. Your experience does not matter. Come be part of something awesome and let your light "SHINE" upon the youth!!

Youth co-leaders are needed for middle school and Y2Y team!!

Call Kathy Russell at
 (989) 631-4447 or email to
kathyr@assumptionmidland.org



One hour.
One purpose.
Our children.

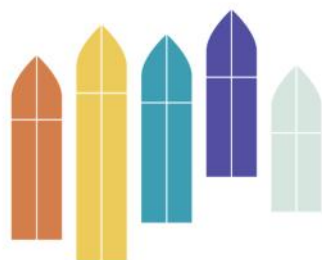
BECOME ONE OF THE

MILLIONS OF MONICAS

Are you a **mother, grandmother, godmother, confirmation sponsor, or aunt** with a loved one who has strayed from the Catholic Faith?

Join a growing group of women who meet weekly at Assumption Parish to pray for their loved ones' return to the full practice of the Catholic Faith.

Tuesdays at 3:00 PM
(starting September 15)
in the Classroom Wing



*This is not a sharing or discussion group, but an organized way to support each other in prayer. **Women from all parishes are welcome.***

Guatemalan Stove Team Mission 2027



A team is formed for our 13th Mission Trip to the NW mountain villages in Guatemala in February 2027 in partnership with HELPS International. Past generosity of Midland area parishioners has made it possible to purchase materials for vented stoves and water filters; while our volunteers pay their room & board and airline costs. As a result, we've helped 1450+ families and are targeting to help another 175+ families.

We are seeking your financial support again; hoping to raise ~\$55,000 for materials. These water filters and vented stoves provided to the rural poor are life changing. The stoves replace a smoky fire pit on the floor in the homes.

To contribute to this effort, please make your check out to:

Midland Area Community Foundation

Memo: Midland-Based HELPS Fund

Mail to: Kevin Shaughnessy, 809 Honeysuckle Cir, Midland, MI 48642

VENDORS WANTED!

13TH ANNUAL SAINT BRIGID OF KILDARE CHRISTMAS CRAFT SALE

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2026
9 AM - 3 PM
(SAME DAY AS SANTA PARADE!)

DOWNTOWN MIDLAND
CARDINAL HICKEY PARISH HALL
130 W. LARKIN, MIDLAND

For an application, contact us at:
StBrigidHolidayGiftShop@gmail.com or
stbrigid@stbrigid-midland.org

Apply by October 26, 2026 to reserve your spot!

PRODUCE FOR THOSE IN NEED! *Update from our Parish Garden*



"And some seeds fell on rich soil and produced fruit", namely beans, tomatoes, carrots, acorn squash, red cabbage and cauliflower.

A harvest of peace is produced from a seed of contentment.





BIG RAFFLE

**BIG
Impact
BIG
Prizes**

Enter Today!

1st Prize | **\$10,000**
2nd Prize | **\$2,500**
3rd-6th Prizes | **\$500**

Your participation will help Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish continue to thrive for years to come! Proceeds from the raffle will provide funding for parish ministries and ensure future growth.

\$50/Ticket Only 1,000 tickets available!



DON'T WAIT TO ENTER!

- Scan the QR code or visit www.AssumptionMary.org
- Purchase at the parish office
- Call the parish office at 989-631-4447
- Place an order using the form below



EARLY BIRD PRIZES

10 Drawings - Aug 15 (award 2 prizes), Sept 17, Oct 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29, Nov 5 & 12 | 10:30am (except Aug 15, drawing at 7:30pm)

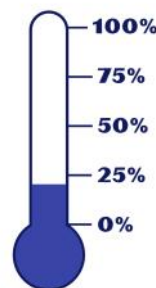
\$50 Prize (Winner remains eligible for all subsequent drawings!)

BIG RAFFLE DRAWING

Prize Drawing & Reception
Saturday, November 21, 2026
6:00 PM at Assumption Parish

Big Raffle Progress Update

Our big goal is to sell **1,000 tickets** by November 21, and as of the printing of this bulletin, we're already **20% of the way there!** Here's the top two ways we are inviting each parish household to help keep the momentum going:



1) Start small: Sell one ticket each month between now and November to a person outside the parish. *You can...*

- Sell a ticket in person
- Send someone the link below to purchase online
- Give away a handout with a QR code from the gathering space
- Share the information in this weekend's bulletin

2) Ready to go a step further?

Pick up paper tickets from the parish office to sell to friends, neighbors, coworkers, or family. *Return the money, ticket stubs, and any unsold tickets to the office.*

Help the thermometer reach the top by sharing this link:
abvmbigraffle.auctria.events

Thank you for helping to make the Big Raffle a big success!

The CHOSEN Review and Flashback

MON, SEPT 21

6:30-8:00

or

WED, SEPT 23

1:00-2:30



Since Season 6 of The Chosen will not be available until Lent 2027, I want to do an evening/day to remind us why we love The Chosen. I have put together video clips of The Chosen and some other videos I think will have great meaning to you. If you have seen any of the seasons of The Chosen, please plan to join us. It will be a time of worship and praise, prayer and fellowship.

If you have any questions, please contact Donna Semanco at 989-631-0872.

PLEASE SIGN-UP AT THE WELCOME CIRCLE

Happy 98th Birthday



Betty Morrison
September 18th

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.



The National Collection for The Catholic University of America

Catholic University, the "bishops' university," is the national university of the Catholic Church in the United States. Gifts to the national collection help the University conduct critical research and develop innovative programming.

Such initiatives include: the formation of seminarians, priests, and religious, the preparation of lay ministers for service and leadership in the Church, and much more. **Checks can be made payable to Assumption with the memo line "The Catholic University of America."**

**Joint Meeting of
ABVM Pastoral and Finance Councils**
Minutes of Meeting / September 2, 2026

Present: John Graveline, Dave Vickery – Finance Council Chairperson, Paul Brown, Brenda Gordert, Barbara Junga, Sandy Martinski, Sean Richards, Ann Gach, Noreen Warrick, Lucy Daykin, Heather Fisher

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

John Graveline led the group in prayer.

Review Proposed FY 2025-2026 Annual Report

Dave Vickery presented a draft of the Annual Financial Report. Discussion was held on Sunday Collections, Fund Raising, and the one-time rebate of \$97,731 received from the Diocesan Loss Prevention Fund. Dave will make presentation of the report to the Parish in late September.

Establishing Parish Capital/Endowment Fund

Items around the parish were discussed for future improvements:

- Remodel of Classroom Wing Restrooms
- Church and Rectory Roofs
- Pew Refurbishment (including installation of kneelers required by Diocese)
- HVAC System replacement/upgrades
- Landscaping upgrades

These items would be completed gradually once the fund is established. A timeline has not been set.

Diocese Head Counts

Mass attendance numbers for the month of October will be recorded and turned into the Diocese. Attendance is one of the metrics the Diocese uses for all the parishes.

John discussed applying for renewal of alcohol license for activities such as Polish Fest and Elvis Night.

It was a unanimous decision by all council members present in favor of applying for alcohol license. Motion by Dave Vickery and second by Brenda Gordert to apply for license.

Motion Carried.

John led the group in a closing prayer and meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

*Respectfully submitted by
Brenda Gordert*

QUESTIONS ABOUT CATHOLICISM?

ARE YOU SOMEONE WHO
(OR DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO) ...

- Has wondered "What is my purpose?" or "Why am I here?"
- Has wondered if "being spiritual" and "being religious" are really compatible?
- Has expressed an interest in becoming Catholic or learning more about Catholicism?
- Is related to or in a relationship with a Catholic, and wants to understand them more?
- A Catholic who has been away from church for a while or are looking to update your understanding of the Catholic faith?

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish is offering a weekly opportunity for **Inquiry into Catholicism**. All you need to bring is your questions or a friend with questions of their own. Sessions focus on the teachings and experience of Catholicism. **Fall Inquiry sessions will meet each Sunday morning at the church from 11:00 - 11:55 a.m.**

For more information, please contact John Graveline,
john@assumptionmidland.org.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE FUNDING

Blessed Sacrament Parish of Midland provides grants through its Christian Service Funding process to groups and organizations which offer service/charity and advocacy/social change opportunities.

For more information or to obtain a Grant application please contact Pat Lautner at PATL@blessed-midland.org.



Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.

Weekend Offerings

September 12/13, 2026

Weekly Envelopes	\$4,699
Online Giving (9/7-9/13)	\$3,557
Donations	\$0
Weekend Total	\$8,256
Weekly Goal	\$9,404
Overage/(Shortfall)	(\$1,148)

September 1-13, 2026

Weekly Envelopes	\$8,613
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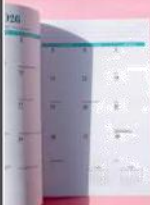


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