

**YOUR STEWARDSHIP  
IS THE SOURCE OF OUR GROWTH**

**May 4-5, 2019: \$13,309.00**

Thank you for your support and generosity. The statement printed above expresses the gratitude felt in response to the generosity of the people of Assumption parish. For it is your weekly contributions that make much of what is done here possible. Thanks are extended to those who use envelopes and those who contribute through our Online Giving.

**PARISH CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday, May 13, 2019**

12:00 p.m. Sewing Sisters—Finnegan Room  
7:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Group—Fritz Room

**Tuesday, May 14, 2019**

9:00 a.m. Women's Bible Study—Jubilee Center  
6:30 p.m. Grief Support Group—Finnegan Rm.

**Wednesday, May 15, 2019**

6:30 p.m. RCIA—Finnegan Room  
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal—Church

**Thursday, May 16, 2019**

7:30 p.m. Contm Ensbl practice—Church  
7:30 p.m. CoDa—Fritz Room  
8:00 p.m. Adult Volleyball—Hanlon Center

**Friday, May 17, 2019**

6:00 a.m. Top Gun—Finnegan Room  
10:15 a.m. Tiny Tots—Church Basement

**Saturday, May 18, 2019**

**Sunday, May 19, 2019**

***Mother's Day Mass Intentions:***

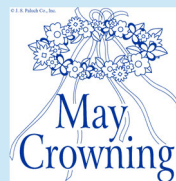
Mass Intentions are offered for your *Mother's Day Spiritual Bouquet* envelopes at all Masses this weekend. Masses will also be offered at the 11:30 a.m. Mass on May 19, the 5:00 p.m. Mass on May 25, the 11:30 a.m. Mass on May 26 and the 5:00 p.m. Mass on June 1.



**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY**

... to all Moms, Grandmothers, Godmothers and future Moms from Monsignor Klinger, Fr. Benoy and our parish deacons.

The Parish **May Crowning** will be held this Sunday, after the 10:00 a.m. Mass. Representing our parish and crowning the Blessed Mother in "Our Lady's Garden" is Mrs. Evelyn Carfagno, a long-time dedicated parishioner, assisted by the First Eucharist Class.



*Knights of Columbus* members will be giving flowers to all moms after all Masses this weekend!

**This weekend, we kickoff the 2019  
Bishop's Annual Appeal (BAA).**

I am so grateful for your continued generosity to this important diocesan fundraising initiative. The **Bishop's Annual Appeal** funds the annual budget that offers vital services like Catholic Charities, care for our retired and infirmed priests, education of Seminarians and Deacons, Catholic schools and support for our centers for special learning. I encourage you to join me in making your gift to the BAA and support these important ministries. Together we will make a difference in the lives of many people. Remember, every gift counts, no matter how small. To make your gift, please return the pledge from that you will receive in the mail or visit the Appeal's website at [FaithHopeCharityGives.org](http://FaithHopeCharityGives.org) or call the Appeal Office at 800-831-4443.



With gratitude,  
Monsignor Klinger

**Mission Statement**

The Church of the Assumption B.V.M. is dedicated to becoming a community of disciples of Jesus Christ. As disciples we make Jesus Christ a living reality in the lives of the members of our parish family. By guiding and encouraging our people to discipleship through a heightened awareness of our Lord's presence in their lives, the parish community becomes a visible and active expression of the living Christ in our world today.

## Assumption Parish Staff

Parish Office: 610-867-7424 - ext. 10

Rev. Msgr. Nevin Klinger J.C.L., M.A., Pastor

Deacon Don Elliott - ext 18, Deacon Stu Herman - ext. 19

Saint Michael the Archangel School: 610-867-8422

Mrs. Colleen Weiss, Principal; Mrs. Erin Faust, Vice Principal

Assumption Preschool, Mrs. Andrea Powell, Director: powellandrea725@gmail.com

Christina Durback, DRE: Parish & St. Michael Middle School: 610-814-0712

Dr. Dennis Varley: Director of Music: dennis.varley@desales.edu

Mary Williams/Parish Office – x10, Email: abvmrect@ptd.net

Kate Varley –Room Scheduling/Bulletin – x11, Email: abvmkate@ptd.net



### Eucharist Ministers, Lectors, Hospitality Ministers and Altar Servers:

The new liturgical schedule for May through August is now complete and is on our website. Please go to our website at: [www.assumptionbethlehem.com](http://www.assumptionbethlehem.com) and click on **Ministry** heading and then go to the “**Liturgical Schedule Link**” to view the new schedule.

**Quilt Raffle:** Buy a chance to win a quilt, made by our parish Sewing Sisters after any Mass the weekend of May 18-19. There will be quilts to purchase too! Proceeds from the raffle and sale will help buy more materials.



## Assumption Church Vacation Bible School

June 24-27, 2019

9 a.m. - noon

*“Holy Hikers – Power Up to the Peaks!”*

Climb with us on a fun, faith-filled adventure as we journey with Jesus up hills and mountains to grow in friendship with Him! Registration and Volunteer Applications are available at: [durback@ptd.net](mailto:durback@ptd.net), in the Religious Education Office, and in the Parish Office.



Register early for a discount; space is limited!

- Participant registration deadline: May 31



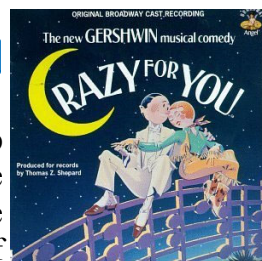
### PARISH NIGHT AT THE IRON PIGS

The annual Assumption parish night to see an Iron Pigs game will be on **Friday June 14**. Tickets are \$11 with a \$2 food voucher.

- ♦ All Altar servers will receive a free ticket, but it must be ordered.

Anyone interested can make a reservation by calling Dennis Eddinger 610-791-1758 or emailing: [df60@msn.com](mailto:df60@msn.com). **The deadline for ordering tickets is this Sunday, May 12.**

## Crazy For You



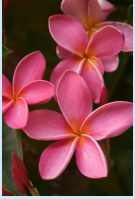
Assumption Parish has group tickets to attend The Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival's production of George Gershwin's musical, *Crazy For You*. Our parish night at the theatre will be **Wednesday, June 19 at 8:00 p.m.**

We will enjoy wine and cheese on The Green prior to the show—all for \$44.00 each. To reserve your ticket, please leave a message at 610-867-7424 x11. Drop a check payable to ABVM in an envelope marked “Theatre Trip” in the collection basket. Please include your email address and phone number. Limited tickets are available and must be reserved by June 1st.



www.st-mikes.com

Mrs. Colleen Weiss, Principal  
Mrs. Erin Faust,  
Assistant Principal



**Happy Mother's Day**

St. Michael the Archangel School wishes all mothers, and grandmothers and those that fill the role of "Mom" a very blessed Mother's Day!

We want to offer our sincerest Congratulations to all of our middle school students that participated in "The Wizard of Oz." It was outstanding! Special thanks to Mr. D'Annibale. Mrs. Foley, and Mrs. Wakely, and all the volunteers that made the event a great success. Thank you to all those that attended the musical and supported our student's efforts!

**Fall 2019 Registration**

St. Michael the Archangel School welcomes each child into our school family and stresses a love of learning, rooted in our Catholic faith. Make the best investment in your child's life by enrolling today! Limited spaces remain open in all grades. Contact our Advancement Office at 610-867-8422 for information or to arrange a tour.

**St. Michael School Annual Fund**

Our appeal will be ending on June 30, 2019. If you have given in support of our efforts, thank you! If you have not donated to date, we ask you to prayerfully consider helping us toward our lofty goal this year!



2018 - 2019 school theme:

**Called to be Holy  
Called to be Saints**

**Parish Religious Education Program  
PREP**

*Congratulations* to our 2019 First Communion class who celebrated this Sacrament on May 11. May these dear children and all of us continue to deepen our understanding and appreciation of the Eucharist throughout life! Many thanks to their catechists: Mrs. Terri Seifert, Mrs. Kathleen Paul, Mrs. Lindsay Albert, Mrs. Kelly Spradlin, and the PREP teen aides Grace and Sean who helped prepare the children to come to the Lord's table.

Closing Sessions for **Assumption** PREP were April 24 and 28. As we complete another blessed season, we offer prayers in thanksgiving to God for the dedicated, loving service our catechists and aides give in sharing the Good News with our children. We thank the children and parents for their generous contributions to our outreach efforts: food bank donations, October Dime Lines collections for the Missionary Childhood Association and the Sassy Massey Miles of Smiles Foundation, and the Lenten Water for a Quarter MCA collection. Special congratulations to our 3 PREP children who maintained **perfect attendance** this season: **Vanessa T., Natalie F.**(2 yrs. in a row!) , and Ava J.!



Thanks to our *Children's Liturgy of the Word* leaders: Nancy Saks, Lisa Temple, Kelly Tiboldo, Lauren Biegley and youth helpers: Tori, Louis and Faith. We are grateful for your efforts to help our littlest parishioners open their minds and hearts to God's Word! Our last *Children's Liturgy of the Word* until September will be May 27.

Parents of children who will attend kindergarten or first grade in a public or private non-Catholic school in September: Assumption **PREP** offers religious formation to all children in grades 1 – 8 who do not attend a Catholic school. Registrations for new children are now being accepted. Note that a child must consistently attend sessions for one year before being eligible for a sacramental preparation group. There are registration forms on our website under the PREP link. To register for PREP, families must be registered as members of Assumption parish.

The Sanctuary Lamp burns this week  
in honor of Caroline Hollshwandner.



**Monday, May 13: Our Lady of Fatima**

8:15 a.m. Anna and Andrew Zengion

**Tuesday, May 14: St. Matthias**

8:15 a.m. Edward Marshall

**Wednesday, May 15: St. Isidore the Farmer**

8:15 a.m. Helen & Mark Belletti

**Thursday, May 16: Weekday**

8:15 a.m. Special Intention: Jimmy Berry's  
40th Birthday

**Friday, May 17: Weekday**

8:15 a.m. Joanne Kostecky Petito

**Saturday, May 18: St. John I**

No Morning Mass

Vigil 5:00pm Jones and Schlotter Families

**Sunday, May 19: 5th Sunday of Easter**

7:30 a.m. Special Intention: Mike & Doris  
Formica's 45th Wedding Anniv.

10:00 a.m. Martin Hildenberger

11:30 a.m. Mother's Day Intentions

**READINGS FOR THE WEEK**

**Monday:** Acts 11:1-18; Ps 42:2-3; 43:3, 4;  
Jn 10:1-10

**Tuesday:** Acts 1:15-17, 20-26; Ps 113:1-8;  
Jn 15:9-17

**Wednesday:** Acts 12:24 — 13:5a; Ps 67:2-3, 5,  
6, 8; Jn 12:44-50

**Thursday:** Acts 13:13-25; Ps 89:2-3, 21-22,  
25, 27; Jn 13:16-20

**Friday:** Acts 13:26-33; Ps 2:6-11ab;  
Jn 14:1-6

**Saturday:** Acts 13:44-52; Ps 98:1-4;  
Jn 14:7-14

**Sunday:** Acts 14:21-27; Ps 145:8-13; Rv  
21:1-5a; Jn 13:31-33a, 34-35



**Parish Registration:** Are you a registered parishioner? We are often asked to provide affidavits for baptismal and confirmation sponsors. We can only do this if a person is a registered, active, and supporting member in our parish. Would you like to register? Give us a call so we can better serve you. Contact the parish office at 610-867-7424 x10.

**Grocery Gift Cards**

April 29-May 5: \$2,850.00

**ON SALE:** Gift cards are sold after the 10:00 and 11:30 a.m. Masses in the parish office. We also sell gift cards Mon-Fri. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. We accept cash, check or credit cards.

**Here's how it works:**

- The church purchases gift cards from local grocery stores at a 5% discount.
- Parishioners purchase the cards from the church, paying the amount stated on each card.
- The discount profit percentage helps to pay the maintenance and upkeep of the Hanlon Center.
- Parishioners redeem the card for full face value at the participating store.

**TRY IT... IT'S EASY AND  
IT COSTS YOU NOTHING!**

Gift cards also for sale:

**RESTAURANTS:**

Copperhead Grille, Red Robin and Bell Hall.



The parish playgroup for infants and toddlers meets every Friday from 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. in the church basement. Catherine Beck, Assumption Preschool Teacher, helps guide the playgroup. Moms, dads and grandparents can get to know each another and enjoy watching the kids play. For more information, call 610-867-7424.

- **The last Tiny Tot day of the year will be Friday, May 17.**



**Are you doing some Spring Cleaning?** Keep the *New Bethany Soup Kitchen* in mind. Donations of kitchen items are always accepted; dish cloths and towels, misc. utensils, coffee mugs, etc. Any donation is appreciated. Please leave the donations in the blue bins at the entrances of the church.

- ♦ The *New Bethany Soup Kitchen* appreciates your donations of spaghetti sauce, pasta, parmesan cheese, ground coffee and sugar. Please leave these items in the blue bins located at the entrances of the church.



## Fourth Sunday of Easter

Today's Readings: Acts 13:14, 43–52; Ps 100:1–2, 3, 5; Rev 7:9, 14b–17; Jn 10:27–30

Throughout Easter Time, the Church rejoices with Jesus, risen from the dead. Our readings on this Fourth Sunday of Easter celebrate our instinct to come together in joy, worshiping in church. While private prayer nourishes our individual relationship with the Lord, community prayer is a foretaste of paradise. The book of Revelation depicts a “great multitude” worshiping God “day and night in his temple.” Our churches on Easter Sunday often reflect this happy multitude, filling the pews to bursting. Four Sundays into the festive season, we are encouraged to keep praising God together. In the Acts of the Apostles, Paul and Barnabas demonstrate their instinct to worship with their faith community each Sabbath, dutifully taking their seats in the synagogue. In the Gospel, Jesus calls us his sheep and reminds us why coming together as a flock is so important: uniting in community, we imitate the unity of God.

### THE VOICE

Jesus says, “My sheep hear my voice; I know them, and they follow me.” Earlier in this Good Shepherd discourse, John the Evangelist explains that Jesus is using “figures of speech.” We cannot take Jesus’ words literally, since we are people, not sheep. We understand the Lord figuratively, then, discovering all the helpful ways that we are similar to sheep. A quick Internet search reveals a number of videos showing how sheep ignore every human voice except that of their shepherd. It is remarkable to see how single-minded sheep are, totally absorbed in grazing, disregarding everything around them. Even when impersonators imitate the shepherd and call the sheep in the same way the shepherd does, the sheep do not bother to look up. The instant the real shepherd calls out, however, the sheep snap to attention, call back in their own way, and come running.



### CATCHY!

It can be helpful to think of our connection to Jesus in terms of sheep. Our hearts long to hear the voice of Jesus and respond as readily as farm animals. In reality, however, not one of us living today was alive in first century Palestine. We never heard Jesus tell us, in his own accent, how he will never allow anyone to take us out of his hand. Here again we think figuratively, then, imagining those “voices” in daily life that help us snap to attention and draw close to Jesus. Today’s Gospel invites us to spend time thinking of all that brings us to the Lord. Conversations, scriptures, athletics, hospitality, service, music, laughter, struggle—any of these things might help our ears perk up as we look to the Lord. As we practice listening for “the voice,” we may be surprised to realize how often Jesus has been calling to us in the business of our days. Once we get his voice into our ears, we hope never to lose the sound.



We thank those parishioners who attended the *Healing Our Church* sessions. As a people of faith who “know that all things work together for the good for those who love God,” we need not fear or shut down any experience of our innermost being, but face it, name it, process it, and pray it.

Members of the *Healing Our Church* groups have been processing these emotions and will be taking action and making support ribbons for survivors and victims of clergy sexual abuse. Ribbons will be assembled on **Thursday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the Finnegan Room**. Donations will be collected for these support ribbons and monies collected will be sent to **The Hope of Survivors**. Contributions to this organization help victims, families and friends with vital quality educational counseling, help to expand the outreach of the ministry and fund awareness campaigns.

Join the effort to take action and help our church move forward from this dark time, because we (the laity) *are* the Church, “a people born to rise and rise again.”



**Need prayer?** Let the men and women in our Prayer Chain join you in offering prayers of petition for your requests.

- Email [prayer@ealvinc.com](mailto:prayer@ealvinc.com) or call Carol at 610-838-1048.

### *Quo Vadis: Where Are You Going?*

A vocations event for high school-aged young men (14-18 years of age, including newly-graduated seniors) will be held **Sunday, July 14– through Thursday, July 18** at DeSales University. Activities rooted in prayer, catechesis, evangelization and mentoring will be held during the week. Additional activities include: sports and daily games, outdoor rosary procession and Mary crowning and a candlelit *Stations of the Cross*. Early registration is \$60. before June 14. After June 14 = \$85. Contact the Office for Vocations Promotion in the Diocese of Allentown at 610-437-0755 or email [vocations@allentowndiocese.org](mailto:vocations@allentowndiocese.org).

### **NEW PARISHIONERS**

Welcome! Our parish family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. Please contact the parish office to register.

### **BAPTISMS**

Baptisms are scheduled in the parish office after receipt of sponsor certificates. Baptisms take place **immediately following the 11:30 a.m. Sunday Mass**. Contact the parish office at 610-867-7424 x10 at least six weeks in advance. Parents must attend a Baptismal Preparation Class.

### **WEDDINGS**

Couples must contact the pastor at least 6 months prior to the wedding.

### **BULLETIN**

All copy must be received in writing two Fridays prior to the intended Sunday publication. We reserve the right to edit all copy. All inserts must be received at least two weeks in advance.

### **PRAYER CHAIN**

Call Carol Herman at 610-838-1048 or email her at [prayer@ealvinc.com](mailto:prayer@ealvinc.com) and give her your name and intention. She will contact other parishioners participating in our Prayer Chain on your behalf.

### **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL**

The Council welcomes any comments or suggestions by parishioners. Please contact Jeanine Faust at [faust2@epix.net](mailto:faust2@epix.net) this month.

### **PARISH MEMORIALS**

Following the death of a relative or friend, offerings may be made to the Church in loving memory of the deceased. The offerings may specify a particular request or placed in the Parish Memorial Endowment, The Parish Education Endowment, or the Health Ministry Endowment.

**Our website:**

**[www.assumptionbethlehem.com](http://www.assumptionbethlehem.com)**