



*The Nativity*  
**OF THE LORD**

LA NATIVIDAD DEL SEÑOR

“For today in the city of David a savior has been born for you  
who is Christ and Lord.” - Lk 2:11

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“Hoy les ha nacido, en la ciudad de David, un salvador,  
que es el Mesías, el Señor”. - Lc 2, 11

**SCHEDULE OF MASSES AND INTENTIONS**

**Monday, December 27**  
 8:00 am Mass, In Memory of Tye & Rita Schulte  
**Tuesday, December 28**  
 8:00 am Mass, In Memory of Don & Esther Battani  
**Wednesday, December 29**  
 8:00 am Mass, In Memory of Mary Ladurini  
**Thursday, December 30**  
 8:00 am Mass, In Memory of Bernice Pleva  
**Friday, December 31**  
 5:00 pm Mass, In Memory of Fr. Eugene Koch  
**Saturday, January 1**  
 9:00 am Mass In Memory of Bob Bobowski  
 5:00 pm Mass, In Memory of Terri Fuson Rilea  
**Sunday, January 2**  
 10:00 am Mass, In Memory of Dolores Geneser  
 5:00 pm Mass, For the People of Assumption Parish



**Readings for the week of December 26, 2021**

Sunday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 [cf. 1]/Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17/Lk 2:41-52 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28/Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10 [cf. 5a]/1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24/Lk 2:41-52  
 Monday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 11-12 [12]/Jn 20:1a, 2-8  
 Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:5—2:2/Ps 124:2-3, 4-5, 7b-8 [7]/Mt 2:13-18  
 Wednesday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Ps 96:1-2a, 2b-3, 5b-6 [11a]/Lk 2:22-35  
 Thursday: 1 Jn 2:12-17/Ps 96:7-8a, 8b-9, 10 [11a]/Lk 2:36-40  
 Friday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Ps 96:1-2, 11-12, 13 [11a]/Jn 1:1-18  
 Saturday: Nm 6:22-27/Ps 67:2-3, 5, 6, 8 [2a]/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21  
 Next Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 10-11, 12-13 [cf. 11]/ Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12

*“As we prepare for year end, please be mindful that donations must be received (or postmarked if mailed) by December 31 in order to be deductible in 2021. If postmarked or received after December 31, 2021, (this includes anything dropped in the metal box) the donation will be deductible in 2022. To comply with federal law, we cannot accept donations in 2022 for 2021.*”

**END OF YEAR DONATIONS**

While planning your year-end donations for tax purposes you might consider the following areas: your Tithing Commitment, Annual Diocesan Appeal (ADA), Assumption Building Fund, a Tamanique or Ghana Scholarship, Beaver Catholic Cemetery, Angel Fund (rent, heat & gas assistance), Connection Café meals, Food Pantry.

**Why make a gift of grain?**

You receive an income tax reduction, not a charitable deduction.

Your grain is pulled from the current production year or subsequent year.

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This option is available to cash farmers only.

**You can give the gift of grain to support your parish or school!**



Contact the Catholic Foundation of Southwest Iowa with any questions you may have.  
 515-237-5044 | www.catholicfoundationiowa.org

**CONNECTION CAFÉ-HELP**

Connection Cafe has finally run out of meat, which has been generously provide over the past year by various parishioners. That means, however, that we need more. Beef, pork or venison will be appreciated by the Social Justice Committee and by the homeless and hungry people at Connection Cafe. Thanks in advance!



**UNITED WAY DONATIONS- DID YOU KNOW?**

United Way allows all or a portion of your donation to be designated to any 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Assumption Church is a qualified nonprofit organization. If you would like your United Way donation to be designated towards Assumption parish, please note the following when pledging your donation:

- Designations need to be made and submitted at the time of the pledge
- Be sure to provide complete information, including Assumption's name, street address, city and state to ensure that your designated gift is correctly processed, as many organizations have similar names. Employers may match your donation, doubling your gift. If your employer provides payroll deduction for United Way, you can designate it to Assumption. For more information talk to your employer or call our office.

**COUNSELING AVAILABLE**

Catholic Charities has licensed, professional therapists working with clients of all faiths and backgrounds who are addressing depression, anxiety, stress, marital issues, relationship problems, child behavior problems, trauma, abuse and more. Therapy is available in Council Bluffs, Des Moines, and Ankeny. Set up an appointment by emailing sfister@catholiccharitiesdm.org or calling 515-237-5045 or call 712-328-3086.

**WELCOME TO ASSUMPTION**

Newcomers are asked to register by going to [www.assumptiongranger.com](http://www.assumptiongranger.com) print a registration form fill it out in it's entirety and return to the Parish Office.

If you would also do us a favor and contact the parish office when you leave or have a change of address, phone number or email so that we can update our system.

**FORMED.ORG**

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Assumption Church is now a registered member of Formed.org. Click the button Sign up, I belong to a Parish or Organization. You can put 50109 and it will populate Assumption Church-Granger, press next. Here is where you create your account. Call Brenda at the Parish office if you have questions.

**Catholic Faith on demand!**

**Know Your Catholic Faith**

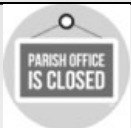
**Holy Family**

The Holy Family consists of the Child Jesus, the Virgin Mary, and Saint Joseph. Veneration of the Holy Family was formally begun in the 17th century. The Feast Day of the Holy Family is the first Sunday after Christmas, or if that Sunday falls on the 1st, then it is celebrated on December 30th, which would be Friday is such years. The Holy Family is the perfect example of family life for all Christians. Jesus, Mary, and Joseph should be the model in all things for our family life. (11:5)

Next week: Epiphany of the Lord.

If you would like a specific topic about the Catholic faith addressed, submit your question via email to [parish@assumptiongranger.org](mailto:parish@assumptiongranger.org) with “Catholic Faith” in the subject line.

**CHURCH CALENDAR**



- ◆ Fri. 4pm Christmas Eve Mass (overflow in the gym)  
12/24 6pm Christmas Eve Mass (overflow in the gym)
- ◆ Sat. 9am Christmas Day Mass  
12/25 5pm Weekend Mass obligation  
10am Lyddon Christmas Gathering (Private party-gym)
- ◆ Sun. 7:30am Weekend Mass obligation  
12/26 10am Weekend Mass obligation  
NO Religious Education Classes today  
NO RCIA class today  
NO 5pm Mass today
- ◆ Mon. NO AFF-Gospel of Mark  
12/27 6-8:30pm Jacobs Martial Arts (Gym)
- ◆ Tues 5-6:30pm Scott Basketball practice (gym)  
12/28 NO Finance Meeting
- ◆ Wed. 9am-12 noon Pickle ball (gym)  
12/29 NO AFF-Gospel of Mark  
NO Religious Education Classes tonight
- ◆ Thurs. 6-8:30pm Jacobs Martial Arts (Gym)  
12/30
- ◆ Fri. 5pm New Year's Eve Mass  
12/31
- Sat. 9am New Year's Day Mass  
1/1 5pm Weekend Mass
- ◆ Sun. 10am Weekend Mass obligation  
1/2 5pm Weekend Mass obligation  
NO Religious Education Classes today  
NO RCIA class today
- ◆ Mon. 8:30am Adult Faith Gospel of Mark (Conf. room 2)  
1/3 6-8:30pm Jacobs Martial Arts (Gym)
- ◆ Tues 5-6:30pm Scott Basketball practice (gym)  
1/4
- ◆ Wed. 9am-12 noon Pickle ball (gym)  
1/5
- ◆ Thurs. 6-8:30pm Jacobs Martial Arts (Gym)  
1/6

**ASSUMPTION BOOK CLUB**

The January meeting will be on Saturday, January 15th. The book to be discussed in January is *The Shadow of His Wings: The True Story of Fr. Gereon Goldman*.

We will meet in Conference room #2 down the hallway in the school. If you have any questions about the book club please contact Cindy VanDeWalle by phone 986-1371 or email her: [vandewalle1979@gmail.com](mailto:vandewalle1979@gmail.com)



New Members are always welcome!

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

**Sunday RE Classes (K-4th grade)**

**11:15am-12:15am**

12/19,  
1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30

**2nd Year Confirmation (10th grade)**

**Sunday 6pm-8pm**

1/9 start w/Mass @ 5pm  
Confirmation is scheduled for April 27th @ 7pm

**1st Year Confirmation (9th grade)**

**Sunday 6-8pm**

1/16

**Youth Group (All High Schoolers)**

**Wednesday 7-8:15pm**

1/12, 1/26

**Wednesday RE Classes (5-8 grades)**

**7-8:15pm**

1/5, 1/12, 1/19, 1/26

**Family Catechesis: 11-12:30PM 2/27**

**THE GIVING TREE**

The Social Justice Committee would like to thank everyone who participated this year in making someone's Christmas a little brighter by buying them a gift this Year. They were over-joyed and the smiles on their faces were priceless!



**TAMANIQUE, OUR SISTER PARISH**

"Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." This proverb applies directly to our parish's Tamanique project, which is in its tenth year. It provides scholarships to students in Tamanique, El Salvador, many of whom would not be able to attend, or finish, high school. Our scholarships pay only about 75 percent of the cost. The students and their families pay the rest. However, it's enough to help graduates assist their families and communities, and find work in El Salvador instead of emigrating to the U.S. and other countries. It helps us fulfill our Christian obligation of building a more just world. Over the years, we have received innumerable letters of gratitude from the students and many of our parishioners have received the thanks personally in our annual visits there. The annual cost of a scholarship for one student is \$330, but we'll take donations of any amount. To donate, or for information on our next trip to Tamanique please contact Tom Carney, 515 556-5068 or [carney133@msn.com](mailto:carney133@msn.com), or contact the parish office.

**DONATIONS FROM AMAZONSMILE**

When doing your online shopping on Amazon use the Assumption code. Amazon donates 5% to Assumption Church when you use [smile.amazon.com/ch/42-0707111](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/42-0707111).

**2021 ANNUAL DIOCESAN APPEAL**

A Big Thank You to those who have given a gift to the Annual Diocesan Appeal! The ADA parish goal is \$101,589. We are currently at \$71,466. Thank you to the 141 families that have participated out of the 509 Active Families.

Remember that the money our parish raises above our goal stays right here at Assumption. Please experience the joy of giving and join us as we work to continue God's work of spirituality, charity and education.

Please consider making a gift online by credit card by visiting <https://www.dmdiocese.org/giving>

**KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS**  
<http://assumptionknights.org>

January 20 – 6pm Rosary followed with Mass, @ 6:15pm Meeting & Dinner



**Pickle Ball**

**The Assumption Church is now sponsoring Pickle Ball as an event on Wednesday's from 10am-12noon in the Assumption Gym.**

**This is open to everyone wanting to learn the game and play. For more information, please contact Diane Erickson at 515-979-9236**



### **PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY**

Spots are still open to join Father Ken Halbur from St. Luke's on this once-in-a-lifetime Pilgrimage to Italy opportunity.

From April 25 - May 5, 2022, we will visit many of the most significant landmarks of the Catholic Church including the relics of St. Luke the Evangelist as well as the Tombs of St. Paul and St. Francis of Assisi. Included on the trip are visits to many popular tourist attractions including Venice, Tuscany, and the Colosseum. The trip culminates with a guided tour of the incredible Vatican Museum and Sistine Chapel as well as a potential Papal Audience at St. Peter's.

To learn more about this remarkable opportunity, visit:  
<https://bit.ly/3CyPgPf>



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"My son was full of joy when I picked him up. He learned so much while he was there about faith. He brings it up all the time, even months later."

-Kellie Soper, mom of Ted

**LIMITLESS UNPLUGGED ADVENTURE AWAITS AT OUR ACTIVITIES ZONE!**



### **SCHOOL HELP WANTED**

Pius Pals, the before and after school program for St. Pius X Catholic School, is looking for individuals age 16 on up to work part-time. Hours are Monday - Friday: 3:00 - 5:30 pm with the opportunity for additional hours on no school days. Additional information can be found on the school website.

<https://stpiusxurbandale.org/our-school/employment-opportunities-->

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### **MAGNIFIKID**

We would like to draw your attention to the booklets that we provide each week on the bulletin tables. These booklets are wonderful tools for your kids to follow along thru Mass. They come in a plastic wrapping 1 for each week of the month. Please take the whole packet home with you and have them bring them to Mass. Do not return these booklets they are yours to keep and enjoy!



From the Pastor  
Rev. Dominic Assim



## CHRISTMAS – THE INCARNATION OF OUR GOD

Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ, the Savior of the world. Jesus Christ, the Son of God and the Word of God, became flesh (cf. John 1:14), was born of the Blessed Virgin Mary (cf. Matt. 1:22-25). It is a time to recall God's ineffable love and to renew our resolve to love as He has loved us. The incarnation is a mystery with deep spiritual significance. In other words, Christmas is profoundly a spiritual or religious celebration. Unfortunately, however, commercial activities and the over-emphasis on the social dimension of the feast have increasingly overshadowed the spiritual significance of Christmas.


Christians have every reason to celebrate Christmas because there is an excellent exchange between God and us. God becomes a man to share in our poverty so that we will have a share in his riches. God shares in our humanity so that we have a share in his divine nature. St. Augustine beautifully captures this when he says, ***"You would have suffered death, had he not been born in time. Never would you have been freed from sinful flesh had he not taken on himself the likeness of sinful flesh. You would have suffered everlasting unhappiness had it not been for this mercy. You would never have returned to life had he not shared your death. You would have been lost if he had not hastened to your aid. You would have perished had he not come."***

In his Apostolic Letter entitled, "Admirabile Signum" (An enchanting image), Pope Francis writes that, ***"By being born in a manger, God himself launches the only true revolution that can give hope and dignity to the disinherited and the outcast: the revolution of love and tenderness. From the manger, Jesus proclaims, in a meek yet powerful way, the need for sharing with the poor as the path to a more human and fraternal world in which no one is excluded or marginalized."***

As we celebrate Christmas, let us not lose the essence of the feast. It is a season of Love and Gift: God loves us so much that he gave us his Son as a Gift. In this season, in particular, we express love by sharing our resources as the angel told the shepherds, ***"I bring you news of great joy, a joy to be shared by the whole people."*** It is about reaching out to others, especially the poor. We are, therefore, encouraged in this season to reach out to the less privileged who find life burdensome.

***I WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS!***


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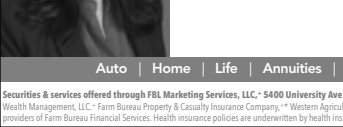
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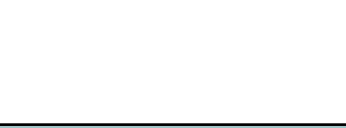
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