

Our Lady of the Assumption Parish

545 Stratfield Road
Fairfield, CT 06825-1872

Tel. (203) 333-9065

Fax: (203) 333-2562

Email: info@olaffld.org

Website: <https://www.olaffld.org>

*“Ad Jesum per Mariam”
To Jesus through Mary.*

Clergy/Lay Leadership

Rev. Peter A. Cipriani, Pastor

Rev. Michael Flynn, Parochial Vicar

Rev. Marcel Saint Jean, In Residence

Deacon Raymond John Chervenak

Deacon Robert McLaughlin

Michael Cooney, Director of Music

Masses

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4 PM

*Sunday Masses: 7:30 AM, 9 AM 10:30 AM
and 12:00 PM (Subject to change)*

Morning Daily Mass: (Mon.-Sat.) 7:30 AM

Evening Daily Mass: (Mon.-Fri.) 5:30 PM

Holy Days: See Bulletin for schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday: 3:00-3:45 PM or by appointment.

Every Thursday: 7-8:00 PM

Rosary/Divine Mercy Chaplet

7 AM Monday-Saturday, Rosary

8 AM First Saturday of each month, Rosary

3 PM Monday-Friday, Divine Mercy

Chaplet and Rosary

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

First Friday of each month from 8 AM

Friday to 7:15 AM Saturday. To volunteer

contact Grand Knight, Michael Lauzon at
(203) 817-7528 or email mplauzon1@aol.com.

Novenas

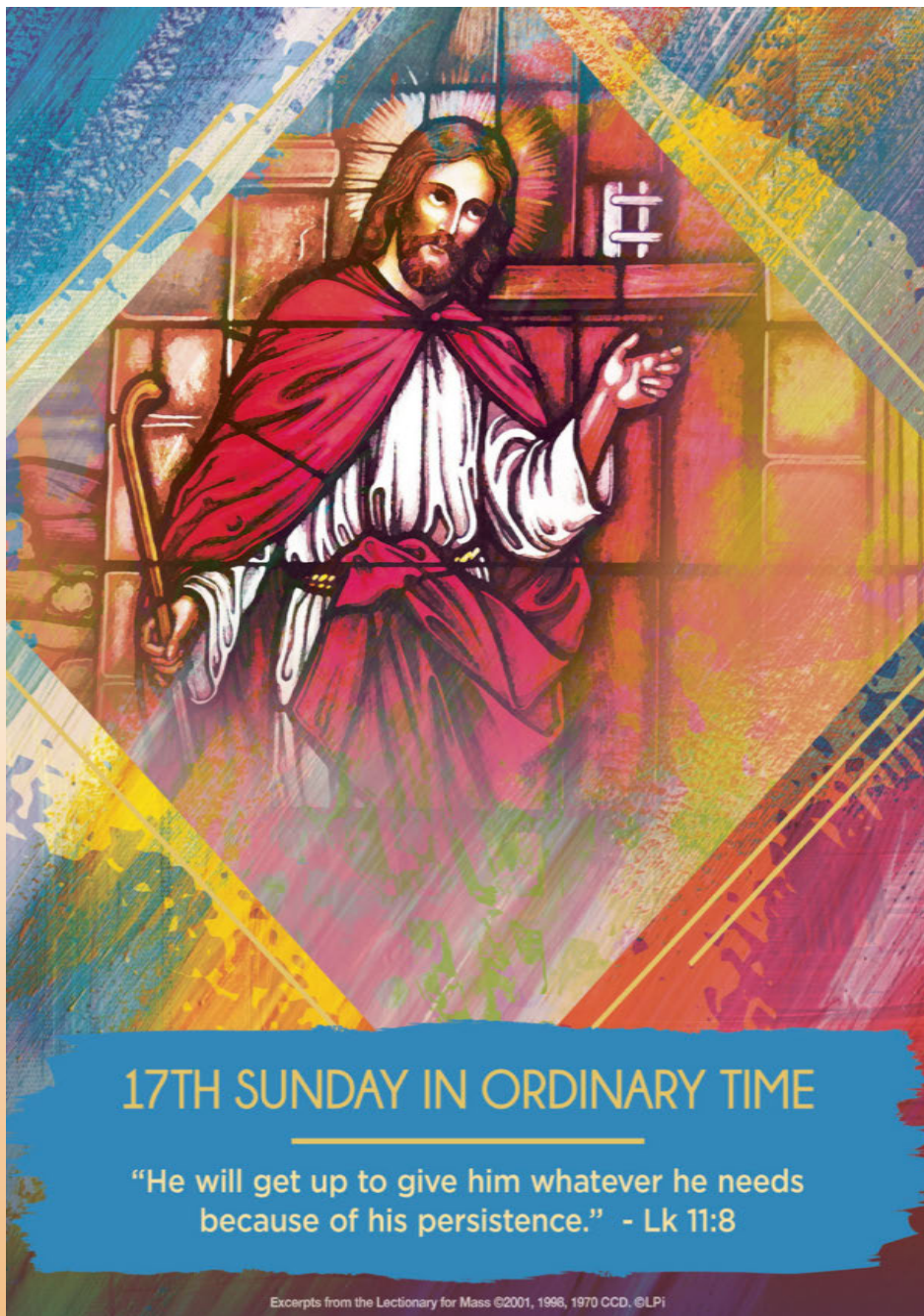
Miraculous Medal-8 AM. Monday

Saint Joseph-8 AM. Wednesday

Divine Mercy-8 AM. Friday

Parish Membership

Our parish family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. Every family moving into the parish is requested to register at the Rectory or go to our website for a registration form. If you move to another parish, or change your address, notify the Rectory.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Anyone interested in becoming a Roman Catholic becomes a part of this process, as can any adult Catholic who has not received all the Sacraments of initiation. For further information contact the Faith Formation office.

Sacrament of Baptism

This Sacrament is celebrated on Sundays at 1:00 PM. It is required that parents participate in a Pre-Baptismal class. Classes are held on the third Saturday of the month. Registration is required by calling the parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please contact the parish office as soon as possible so as to ensure a proper time and adequate preparation for this Sacrament. Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounters are required.

Anointing of the Sick Ministry to the Sick and Elderly

This Sacrament of healing expresses the love of God and our Church for our sick, our shut-ins and the elderly, unable to come to Church. For the dying, please contact the Rectory immediately. For the confined, the elderly and our shut-ins, whether at home, or in the hospital, please inform the Rectory.

From The Pastor's Desk

- Prayer is Love -

Having never once in her religious life set foot outside her Carmelite Convent, how is it that the Church celebrates Saint Therese the Little Flower as the patroness of Missionaries?

She engaged in the most demanding of all "work", that of intercessory prayer, and it was this tireless activity that won for her this title of patroness of Missionaries. To more deeply understand this powerful aspect of Therese's life, it is necessary to examine one of Salvation History's most beautiful examples of spiritual companionship: the correspondence that Therese shared with a young man desperate to be a Missionary Priest in Africa: Maurice Bellier.

The two had never once in their lives met. Their correspondence was limited to letters exchanged over the span of two years: two hearts ablaze with the apostolic passion to make Christ's name known in all parts of the world. It must be remembered that Therese and Maurice lived during a time when the monster of modernism was forming the decadent culture through such influential thinkers as Sigmund Freud, Karl Marx, Friedrich Nietzsche and Charles Darwin. In this new emerging age of scientific advancement, supernatural realities were shelved along-side the great fairy tales of childhood.

The God of Jesus Christ was fast being replaced by the idols of egoism, machines, and lust. The light of the World, the Catholic Church was being plunged into the darkness of militant atheism and agnosticism which saw God existing as not at all, or existing but having no relevance in the life of man. It is from these terrifying shadows which would cover the world in two horrific world wars, that two courageous hearts were brought together by the bonds of God's Providential graces.

Recognizing the impending difficulties of becoming a Missionary in Africa, Maurice sought the support of the great champions of intercessory prayer: The Carmelites. Maurice wrote: "I am going to write to a Carmelite Community and I'll ask that a Nun devote herself particularly to the salvation of my soul, and obtain for me the grace to be faithful to the vocation God has given me, that of a priest and missionary."

The Mother Prioress of the order immediately enlisted the assistance of Saint Therese whom she recognized as having perhaps the sharpest understanding of the power of prayer: "...may I labor for God and not come back with empty hands without bringing some souls back to the true Light. May the things of the world not enter into my heart, and may I return to Mary as pure as the angels of Heaven, full of zeal for God's love and for souls." This is the true heart on fire of a missionary spirit given to all the baptized: Especially at our Confirmation when the graces of baptism reach an adult maturity, we

are commissioned with the apostolic endeavor to bring the world to Christ. Our task is simple: to get to Heaven and once before the judgment seat, to have with us an army of persons who through our missionary efforts of prayer and heroic testimony to the faith have been brought to a real love of Christ and His Church.

Think of any truly in love relationship you and I may have. How is the fire of that love kindled and nurtured? Love requires time spent with the beloved. A mother loves her child from the moment of that child's conception and all her energies and time are devoted to being with that child loving that child to maturity.

Love communicates and expresses itself. The letters exchanged between Maurice and Therese do not convey so much their love for one another as they do the unity of their love for Jesus Christ and that united desire to spread His Gospel. And this gets done not so much through great projects and massive amounts of money but through fidelity to Christ and prayer.

If this were not the case why then would Jesus choose a group of men who had little education and very little money to spread Christianity to all known points in the world? We must spend time with our beloved, for our own benefit to be sure but for the salvation of those we love. Can we imagine any greater desire on our part for those we love than an eternity of joy in Heaven? Maurice knew this, writing to Therese shortly before her death: "Depart then dear little Sister of God, and my little Sister too. Tell Jesus that I would like to love Him very much – with all my heart. Teach me to love Him the way you do. Tell Mary that I love her with my whole soul."

It makes no sense that if we live our lives with little if any desire to spend time with our Lord, let alone only once a week each Sunday, that we would have the desire to do so for all eternity. Prayer speaks the language of love... is Christ not the Word made Flesh? Did God not speak Creation into existence...God said this, God said that and there was life and light and you and me. Creation is a spoken prayer of Love by the Father who speaks the Word of His Son upon the breath of the Holy Spirit. We need to plug ourselves into this infinite power source of love but we can only do so through daily prayer.

As for Maurice...the day that Saint Therese died was the day he at last arrived in Africa to begin his missionary efforts. Therese was never far from Maurice. Prayer speaks the language of love...it is love...it is knowledge...it is strength and it is what redeems and saves the world.



Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 24, 2022

Parish Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday, 9 AM to 4 PM
Friday, 9 AM to 12 PM

Assumption Catholic School

Mrs. Stacy Clements, Principal - (203) 334-6271
Grades: Pre-K 3 through 8 Hours: 8:40 AM - 3 PM
Before and After School Programs Available
(Before School program begins at 7:00 AM and After School program ends 5:30 PM)

Faith Formation

Mr. Frank Macari, Director - (203) 367-1108
Email address: Our.lady.assumption@snet.net
Tuesday Classes For Grades 1-5 from 4:15-5 PM
For Grades 6-8 from 7-7:45 PM
Office of Faith Formation Hours: Weekdays 10 AM - 3 PM
and Tuesdays 10 AM-5:30 PM (during school year)

Parish Finance Council

Our parish Finance Council is a consultative body of lay persons established to advise the pastor in matters pertaining to the financial affairs of the church. The chairman is Ron Fiske, (203) 330-0375.

Parish Activities

American Heritage Girls Troop #4862: Monthly (except summer), 3rd Saturdays, 2:30 PM, parish center. For girls ages 5-18. Jillian Plomin at jplomin@gmail.com.

Altar Society of St. Joseph the Worker: Monthly, 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month following 7:30 AM Mass. Cleans and beautifies the Sanctuary and chapels in the church.

Alcoholics Anonymous Friday, 8:00 PM, parish hall.
Narcotics Anonymous Wednesday 7:30 PM, parish hall.

Bible Study: Thursdays, 9:15 AM and 7 PM, parish center. Study sessions will be posted in our bulletin. Currently suspended.

Choir: Adults: Wednesday, 7 PM in the church.
Resurrection Choir: Sings at funeral Masses.
Contact Michael Cooney, Director of Music, at (203) 572-2213 or email music@olaffld.org for details.
Currently suspended

Knights of Columbus: Monthly, 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7 PM parish hall. Grand Knight Michael Lauzon at (203) 817-7528 or email mplauzon1@aol.com.

Parish Nurses: Monthly, 2nd Wednesday, Sept. to June, at 7 PM St. Vincent Medical Center

Blood pressure screening: Currently suspended

Sisters in Faith: Monthly, 2nd Monday, 7 - 9 PM, parish hall, except July & August. Ministry for women of Assumption Church. Mary Garbe at marygarbe@gmail.com.

Mass Intentions

Saturday, July 23rd

4:00 p.m. Louise Gardella

Sunday, July 24th

7:30 a.m. Special Intention of Greg Kinker

9:00 a.m. Pedro Checo

10:30 a.m. Roberta Garbarini

12:00 p.m. Seamus Finnerty

Weekday Masses

Mon. 7/25 7:30 a.m. Lachance & Grondin families
5:30 p.m. Tady Finucane

Tues. 7/26 7:30 a.m. Peter Lang
5:30 p.m. Anthony Morison

Wed. 7/27 7:30 a.m. Ronald P. Fiske, Sr.
5:30 p.m. Warner Jones

Thurs. 7/28 7:30 a.m. Gina Wright
5:30 p.m. Special Intention of Armel & Antonio Valenzuela

Fri. 7/29 7:30 a.m. Lachance & Grondin families
5:30 p.m. Joanna Huddy

Sat. 7/30 7:30 a.m. Paul Sharpshair

Saturday, July 30th

4:00 p.m. Anthony Campos

Sunday, July 31st

7:30 a.m. Mary Danilowicz

9:00 a.m. Mary Iassogna

10:30 a.m. Emily Kulak

12:00 p.m. Brian Dunn



*Our Sanctuary Light
will burn this week
In Loving Memory of
Roberta Garbarini*



*Our Devotional Light
will burn this week
For those who passed away
during the month of July*

PRAY FOR OUR SICK

| | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Fr. Ronald Amiot | Michael Devaney | Leroy Moyer |
| Ellie Art | Sandy Erickson | Sue Neri |
| Rita Bellavance | Diane & Anthony | Louis Pisani |
| Michael Black | Gilbertie | Barbara Reilly |
| Eleanor Bruckmann | Vincent Gordon | Gerry Ressigie |
| Ken Burns | Holly Graham | Ruby Saldanha |
| Bella Burns | Amy Hanson | John Salgado |
| Francisca Campos | Harold Liskov | Ann Samperi |
| Marissa Capponetti | Fr. George Mansour | Dana M. Shocker |
| Joan Carpenter | Karen Mayer | David Van Vlack |
| Letitia Ciccio | Robyn McDaniel | Tim Terry |
| Lucille Costello | Allison McGrath | Patty Vitola |
| Marilyn Croce | Rita Meyers | K.J. Webb |
| Phil DeFelice | Christian Morales | Peter Zaleski |

July 16/17

2022

Weekend Offertory: \$3,871.22
 Online Giving: \$2,248.00
 2nd Collection: \$2,355.00
 (Co-Op Mission Sunday)

There is no second collection next weekend.

Thank You



DONATE Online

We realize many of our parishioners are still not be able to attend Mass regularly, please consider making your offertory through Online Giving. Please visit our website and click on the Tab "Donate" and create an account.

Parishioner's Corner

Looking for some further outstanding reflections on the Sunday Mass Reading? Please visit Assumption's own Dr. Frank DeStefano's wonderful "Sunday Sunday" blogs at <https://doctorfrank.blogspot.com/>.



As the 2022 Bishop's Appeal continues, we are grateful to the parish families who have already made their gift or pledge. For us to achieve our overall goal, it will require the active involvement and personal sacrifice of all members of our faith community. If you have not yet responded to the 2022 Bishop's Appeal, please set aside a moment to prayerfully consider a gift amount that reflect your blessings. Your gift will help tremendously and, together with your fellow parishioners, will enable the dioceses to provide essential pastoral, educational, and human needs throughout Fairfield County. Thank you for your support.

| Our Lady of the Assumption Parish | |
|---|--------------|
| <i>2022 Bishop's Appeal as of July 15, 2022</i> | |
| ABA Goal: | \$123,900 |
| Total Pledged: | 91,036 (73%) |
| Donors to Date: | 210 Donors |



To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2022BishopsAppeal.org, call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.

Special Family Mass

Fr. Peter invites families with young children to attend a special celebration on **Sunday, July 31 at our 9:00 AM Mass**. What better way for your children to celebrate Mass by participating in the Homily. Being involved at Mass, your children will be reminded of the **REAL** meaning of Jesus' life and teachings!



Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Will take place on Friday, August 5, following the 7:30 AM Mass and will conclude on First Saturday, August 6, prior to the 7:30 AM. Mass. Due to our 5:30 PM Mass on Friday the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed from 5:30 to 6:15 PM. All are welcome to come and spend an hour with Jesus.

Blessing of College Students

There will be a special blessing of college students on **Sunday, August 7 at our 12:00 PM Mass with Fr. Peter**. All college students are welcome to join us as we ask God's blessings on you and your studies during the coming year. Please come wearing something indicating the College you will be attending.



Once again this year, we are pleased our parish family can come together for **Fellowship, Food, Fun**. Please join us for our Parish Family picnic on **Sunday, August 14th at 1:30 PM in the Parish Hall** as we celebrate Our Lady of the Assumption's Feast Day. The church will provide a catered barbeque lunch (from Mission BBQ in Orange) that includes smoked meats, rolls, cornbread, homemade sides, salad and dessert. A variety of drinks will also be available. We hope you can be join us in our celebration!

RSVP is REQUIRED

Please RSVP by Sunday, August 7th, a final count must be provided to the caterer. Please fill out the information below and return it in the collection basket, or email Lisa at Ireed@olaffld.org with this information. Please no walk-ins!

Name (s): _____

Adults Attending _____ # Children Attending _____

Phone # _____

Annual Parish Raffle

Tickets have been mailed to your home. Please sell or purchase tickets yourself for chances to win these great prizes. Tickets can be returned in any offertory basket or the parish office with cash or check made payable to Assumption Church, kindly note on check, "Raffle 2022". **Please return unsold tickets to the parish office, as well.** If you would like additional tickets to sell, please contact the parish office. Good Luck! Drawing will take place on Sunday, September 18 at 6:00 PM. Winner need not be present to win.

Three Cash Prizes to be Awarded!

- **Grand Prize: \$10,000 Cash Prize**
- **1st Prize: \$3,500 Cash Prize**
- **2nd Prize: \$1,500 Cash Prize**

Faith Formation Registration

The registration process has begun for the up coming school year. Registration forms and the 2022-2023 Class Schedule are posted on the website at: olaffid.org, under **Faith Formation** tab. Please fill out and mail the registration form with your tuition payment **no later than September 6th directly to the Faith Formation office** as noted on the form. **Classes begin on Tuesday, October 18th.** Please contact the Office of Faith Formation at **(203) 367-1108** or **email our.lady.assumption@snet.net**, if you have any questions. Thank you and we are looking forward to another great year with you and your child.

2nd Annual Car Wash

The annual car Wash will be held on Sunday, **August 7th**, (rain date Sunday, August 14) **from 12:00-4:00 PM at the Notre Dame Fairfield High School Parking lot** (220 Jefferson Street). All money raised will be donated to the Habitat for Humanity, Youth CFC. Call Pedro Espada for advanced tickets: 203-572-9193. Tickets will be available the day of the car wash. Tickets: \$10.00 Per car. Food Truck and Music – weather permitted will be on the premises.



Newly Baptized:

Last week we welcomed

Colin Damon Sullivan
Lillian Nancy Sullivan

into the Roman Catholic Faith, through the saving waters of Baptism.



Readings for the Week

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Sunday: | Genesis 18:20-32/Psalm 138:1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 [3a]/Colossians 2:12-14/Luke 11:1-13 |
| Monday: | 2 Corinthians 4:7-15/Psalm 126:1bc-2ab, 2cd-3, 4-5, 6/Matthew 20:20-28 |
| Tuesday: | Jeremiah 14:17-22/Psalm 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Matthew 13:36-43 |
| Wednesday: | Jeremiah 15:10, 16-21/Psalm 59:2-3, 4, 10-11, 17-18/Matthew 13:44-46 |
| Thursday: | Jeremiah 18:1-6/Psalm 146:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6ab/Matthew 13:47-53 |
| Friday: | Jeremiah 26:1-9/Psalm 69:5, 8-10, 14/John 11:19-27 or Luke 10:38-42 |
| Saturday: | Jeremiah 26:11-16, 24/Psalm 69:15-16, 30-31, 33-34/Matthew 14:1-12 |
| Next Sunday: | Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23/Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 [1]/Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11/Luke 12:13-21 |

Communion Antiphon

"Ask, you shall receive, seek, you shall find, knock, it shall be opened, alleluia." - Psalm 31:2

Weekly Flower Offerings

What better way to celebrate someone's birthday, an anniversary, honor someone or something special, or remember loved ones who are no longer with us than by placing fresh flower arrangements on the altar or by the tabernacle. An announcement will appear in the bulletin to acknowledge your request. Please contact the parish office at least two weeks in advance to reserve an available week during this year, **except during Advent.** The cost of the flowers are **\$50.00 for the Altar and \$30.00 for the tabernacle.**

Free Estate Planning Resource

As Catholics, we are called to steward our families, finances, and entire lives in a God-honoring manor. To help you be a steward of everything God has entrusted to your care, the Diocese of Bridgeport is sharing a free, online will writing tool. It is cost-free and takes 20 minutes or less to protect your loved ones and your assets, and create a legacy gift that passes your Catholic faith on to future generations. Please visit FreeWill.com/BridgeportDiocese to get started. Contact **Bob O'Brien (robrien@diobpt.org or 203-339-1148)** with any question or if you'd like a tutorial of the FreeWill website.

Pilgrimage to India

Hosted by Holy Family and St. Emery Parish, it is 14 days to India including two days in Dubai that departs on January 5, 2023. They will visit the International Shrine of Saint Thomas Cathedral Basilica Chennai, Shrine of Saint Francis Xavier and the Basilica of Bom Jesus in Goa, first and second century Eastern Churches, tomb of Saint Alphonsa, cities of Kochi, Goa, Munnar, Kumarakom and Dubai (City Tour, Creek Dhow Cruise, Desert Safari with BBQ dinner). The cost is \$5,600 person and the space is limited. **Please call the Holy Family and St. Emery Parish office for more details at 203-336-1835.**



SeptemberFest 2022

Our 28th annual SeptemberFest will be held on Friday, 9/16, Saturday, 9/17 and Sunday, 9/18. There will be many opportunities over the summer for ways to help this vital fundraiser, including volunteering, sponsorships, patrons, raffle ticket sales, and food list donations. Thank you for your continued support!

SeptemberFest 2022 Shopping List

Please help to support our 28th annual SeptemberFest Carnival by donating items on the shopping list. This will help to keep costs down and it is a way that everyone can participate in the success of this weekend. Monetary donations can be made payable to Assumption Church and placed in the offertory basket marked on the envelope accordingly. Donations of purchased items can be placed in **the bins marked located in the Church vestibule. Thank you!**

Please donate only store packaged items only.

| |
|--|
| Monetary Donation |
| Aluminum Steam trays (full & half size) |
| Heavy duty aluminum foil |
| Bottled water (case of 12-oz bottles) |
| Boxed ziti or penne |
| Parmesan Cheese |
| Oreo Cookies (single stuffed, no mini's) |
| 9 oz. Chinet clear plastic cups |
| 16 oz. Solo beer cups |
| 9"/10"/10-3/8" paper plates |
| 6"/8" paper plates |
| 12 oz. paper bowls |
| Roll paper towels |
| Napkins |
| Plastic Heavy Duty Cutlery (F/S/K) |
| Ketchup |
| Mustard |
| Pickles (dill chips only) |
| Salt & pepper |
| Diet soda |
| Clorox wipes |
| Antibacterial hand soap |



Calling All SeptemberFest Volunteers

SeptemberFest is quickly approaching and we are looking for parishioners to volunteer a few hours at one of the many booths, as well as set up, clean up and break down at the festival. This is also a great opportunity for high school students who need to fulfill their service hours. For your convenience we will have online volunteer sign-ups, please visit SignUp.com at <https://signup.com/go/FXhkcSH>. Flyers are also available in the church vestibule with a QR code to the sign-up. If you have any questions or volunteer requests, contact Jennifer Cullinan at jamarrin@aol.com. or Deirdre Sikora at deirdre.sikora@gmail.com.

Family and Company Sponsorship

SeptemberFest attracts thousands of people to a three-day weekend celebration with great food, fun games, and exciting rides. Our vibrant fairgrounds welcome more than 1,500 people each day. Please consider being an important part of our community by being a sponsor. We will proudly recognize your generous support by displaying your company name or personal name on signs around the fairgrounds, in our parish bulletin, and our website. There is no better way to display your support for Assumption parish. Family and company sponsorship forms are available in the Church vestibule, on our website or at the parish office. Please send your completed form and check no later than **August 21st to the parish office.**



Be a PATRON of SeptemberFest!

With a *small* donation of \$25 to this year's SeptemberFest, you can make a *big* difference and show your support. All patron names will be listed in our bulletin following SeptemberFest with our gratitude. Just fill in the form below and return with your check made payable to Our Lady of the Assumption Church. Indicate "Patron" in the memo section of your check. Thank you for your support.

2022 SeptemberFest Patron

FIRST NAME _____

LAST NAME _____

Phone Number _____

If you prefer to be a sponsor, **Family and Company Sponsorship forms** are available in the vestibule, on our website or at the parish office.

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