



# CHURCH OF THE ASSUMPTION

Bellingham, Washington

Christmas Visitors' Bulletin

# Pastor's Note / Nota del Pastor

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## English

Welcome to the Church of the Assumption! Whether you are here every Sunday, or this is your first time through our doors, or it is your first time in a while, we are so happy to have you here.

The entire reason we exist is to preach the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ and to carry out his saving mission. In his incarnation at Christmas, God definitely showed us that he desired to *be with us and near us*, and he continues to seek us out today. Have you felt him calling, the light of the human race that shines in the darkness? Has he drawn near to you, the one who came to save his people from their sins?

Jesus is the only guaranteed path to salvation, and he offers that salvation to all who ask it of him. If you need salvation – from your burdens, from your sins, from your doubts, from your sorrows, from your sufferings – then look to the manger. That small infant child, who shares our humanity in everything but sin, is God's pledge that he will always be with us in all of our struggles, and that he has a plan to bring us to eternal, blessed life with him. Jesus is the answer to every question of our hearts, and we at Assumption are so happy to share this Good News with all the world.

Thank you for joining us for this celebration of the nearness of God-with-us.

## Español

¡Bienvenidos a la Iglesia de la Asunción! Ya sea que esté aquí todos los domingos, sea la primera vez que cruza nuestras puertas o sea la primera vez en mucho tiempo, estamos muy felices de tenerlo aquí.

La única razón por la que existimos es para predicar el Evangelio de nuestro Señor Jesucristo y llevar a cabo su misión salvadora. En su encarnación en Navidad, Dios definitivamente nos mostró que deseaba estar con nosotros y cerca de nosotros, y hoy continúa buscándonos. ¿Has sentido su llamado, la luz de la raza humana que brilla en la oscuridad? ¿Se ha acercado a ti aquel que vino a salvar a su pueblo de sus pecados?

Jesús es el único camino garantizado hacia la salvación, y ofrece esa salvación a todos los que se la piden. Si necesitas salvación – de tus cargas, de tus pecados, de tus dudas, de tus penas, de tus sufrimientos – entonces mira al pesebre. Ese pequeño niño, que comparte nuestra humanidad en todo menos en el pecado, es la promesa de Dios de que siempre estará con nosotros en todas nuestras luchas y de que tiene un plan para llevarnos a la vida eterna y bendita con él. Jesús es la respuesta a cada pregunta de nuestro corazón, y nosotros en Asunción estamos muy felices de compartir esta Buena Nueva con todo el mundo.

Gracias por acompañarnos en esta celebración de la cercanía de Dios-con-nosotros.

May the Lord bless you and your families / Que el Señor los bendiga a ustedes y a sus familias,

*F. Moore*

# Whom to Contact

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Our parish staff is here to help with whatever you need to grow closer to Jesus.

The office is open Tue.-Fri., 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. (360) 733-1380

- Fr. Moore ([frmoore@assumption.org](mailto:frmoore@assumption.org)) – confession, spiritual advice, sick and dying calls
- Deacon Larry Kheriaty ([larryk@assumption.org](mailto:larryk@assumption.org)) – spiritual care, pastoral care of families
- Dr. Kathy Ernst ([kathye@assumption.org](mailto:kathye@assumption.org)) – weddings, funerals, pastoral care
- Dr. Frederick Mabalot ([drmabalot@assumption.org](mailto:drmabalot@assumption.org)) – music, liturgical ministries
- Claudia Maeda ([claudia@assumption.org](mailto:claudia@assumption.org)) – registration for: baptism, first communion, confirmation, faith formation
- Gina DePalma ([ginad@assumption.org](mailto:ginad@assumption.org)) – becoming Catholic, faith formation
- Daniel Prenosil ([daniel@assumption.org](mailto:daniel@assumption.org)) – youth ministry (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades)
- Michael Rombaoa ([michaelr@assumption.org](mailto:michaelr@assumption.org)) – financial and business-related questions
- Parish Office / Maria Tapia ([parishoffice@assumption.org](mailto:parishoffice@assumption.org)) – everything else

## Liturgical Offerings

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### Daily Masses

Tuesday: 5:30 p.m.

Wednesday: 7:15 a.m.

Thursday: 7:15 a.m.

Friday: 8:15 a.m.

### Weekend Masses

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m.\*

Sunday (Español): 12:30 p.m.

\*(Coffee Hour offered after the  
8:00 and 10:00 a.m. Masses)

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday 8:00 a.m.

– Thursday, 7:00 a.m. (every week)

### Confessions

Saturday, 3:00 – 4:45 p.m.

First Fridays, 4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

## Assumption Catholic School

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Assumption Catholic School (360-733-6133) is a ministry of the parish in service to the Gospel, serving grades pre-K to 8<sup>th</sup>. We form our students in the Catholic faith, helping Catholics and non-Catholics alike understand the message of Jesus and how to live a virtuous life. More information can be found at our website <http://assumption.school> or by e-mailing [theoffice@assumption.school](mailto:theoffice@assumption.school).

# Archdiocesan News

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## Partners in the Gospel

Partners in the Gospel is a strategic pastoral planning effort taking place across the Archdiocese of Seattle to re-invigorate and renew our local Catholic Church. Functionally, it is a process to join neighboring parishes together so that, with combined financial, physical, and human resources, our parishes can become stronger than ever. It is currently proposed that the four parishes and four missions of Whatcom County be combined under one pastor, with potentially three assistant priests. The final decision will be announced in February.

To learn more about Partners in the Gospel, please visit <https://archseattle.org/Partners>.

## Faith Formation Opportunities

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### Youth Ministry

**Contact:** Daniel Prenosil ([daniel@assumption.org](mailto:daniel@assumption.org))

**Middle School** (6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grades): Meets most Friday evenings from 6:30pm - 8:00pm in the Sacred Heart parish hall (1110 14th St).

**High School** (9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grades): Meets most Sunday afternoons from 4:00pm - 5:30pm in the Assumption school library (2116 Cornwall Ave).

### Whole Family Catechesis

Faith formation program for elementary-aged children, with regular parent involvement. Meets most Sundays after the 10:00am Mass. **Contact:** Gina DePalma ([ginad@assumption.org](mailto:ginad@assumption.org))

### Leaven Men's Group / Cistern Women's Group

**8:00 am – 10:00 am each Saturday** (Men in the Stafford Room, Women in Room One [office basement])

Faith sharing and faith accountability groups open to all adults. **Contact:** Tony Gallina ([tony.t.g@outlook.com](mailto:tony.t.g@outlook.com))

### Great Catholic Podcasts

Ascension Press and Fr. Mike Schmitz offer both “Bible in a Year” and “Catechism in a Year” podcasts for those who want to read the Bible and the Catechism but can never find time to sit down and read. Search for them in your favorite podcast apps or download the Ascension app.

<https://ascensionpress.com/pages/ascension-app>

# Volunteer Opportunities

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## Parish Life and Socials

Organizes and hosts parish events, like the annual picnic.

**Contacts:** Sue Rogers ([serogers47@gmail.com](mailto:serogers47@gmail.com)); Marie Gonzalez ([mariegonzalez@comcast.net](mailto:mariegonzalez@comcast.net))

## Coffee Hour

Worship happens in community, and one of our primary community building opportunities is Coffee and Donuts after certain Sunday Masses. We would love assistance in setting up and taking down.

**Contact:** Holly Zech ([hkzech@gmail.com](mailto:hkzech@gmail.com))

## Adoration Hour

In order to maintain 23-hour adoration each week, we need 2 volunteers to cover each hour, including overnight hours. If you are willing to commit to an hour in the church with the Eucharist each week, please consider signing up. **Contact:** Carolyn Huggett ([chuggett@jruggettco.com](mailto:chuggett@jruggettco.com))

## Hope House

Hope House is a program of Catholic Community Services that provides clothing and hygiene items to homeless and low-income families in Whatcom County. They are always looking for volunteers to help with sorting donations and greeting clients on a weekly basis. **Contact:** April Jordan-Hulsey ([apriljh@ccsww.org](mailto:apriljh@ccsww.org))

## Community Meal

The Bellingham Community Meal typically happens on the last Saturday of the month in the Assumption Gym (January-October) and is open to anyone in the community, but particularly serves the poor and marginalized.

**Contact:** [volunteerbcmp@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerbcmp@gmail.com) or <https://bellinghamcommunitymeal.square.site/>

# Interest & Service Groups

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## Knights of Columbus

The [Knights of Columbus](#) is a fraternal organization that provides support for the Church, the parish, our bishops and priests, families, youth, seminarians, and the community. Catholic gentlemen 18 and over are invited to join. **Contact:** Joe St. Hilaire ([joesthilaire@hotmail.com](mailto:joesthilaire@hotmail.com) or 360-671-4836)

## Catholic Daughters of the Americas

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas (CDA) works to help women develop their spirituality by providing opportunities to share their faith with other Catholic women (spirituality), then live that out by helping others through charitable acts in the spirit of Jesus Christ (service). CDA is open to Catholic women 18 and older.

**Contact:** Michele King ([michele@kingspace.us](mailto:michele@kingspace.us))

## Assumption Care for Creation Team

The Assumption Creation Care Ministry promotes the joyful stewardship of our earth for the benefit of all life now and for generations to come; encourages parishioners to explore the spiritual foundation of ecological actions through educational opportunities throughout the year; and works with parish leaders to encourage the development of a long-term environmental action plan for each ministry in the parish. **Contact:** Kathy Delbecq ([rkdelbecq@comcast.net](mailto:rkdelbecq@comcast.net))

## Pro-Life Prayer Vigil

Once a month an hour of silent and vocal prayer to end abortion is held on the third Sunday, 2 to 3 pm, in front of the Planned Parenthood Abortion Clinic.

**Contact:** Kathy St. Hilaire ([kathysthilaire@hotmail.com](mailto:kathysthilaire@hotmail.com))

## Rosary Makers

A group that meets to share faith and make Rosaries together, every Saturday at 1:00 p.m. in the Stafford Room (NW corner of the gym). **Contact:** Marilee Wilcox ([marileewmail@yahoo.com](mailto:marileewmail@yahoo.com))

# Español

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## Movimiento Familiar Cristiano Católico (MFCC)

El Movimiento es una agrupación de familias Católicas que unen sus esfuerzos para promover los valores humanos y cristianos de la familia, para que esta sea en la comunidad: formadora de personas, educadora en la fe, consciente de su misión evangelizadora y comprometida en el desarrollo integral de la comunidad y de la iglesia doméstica.

**Contacto:** Rafael Vargas y Angelica Vazquez ([angelicavazquez48@gmail.com](mailto:angelicavazquez48@gmail.com) o 360-441-4756)

## Clases de Biblia

Cada domingo de la semana, uno de nuestros catequistas ofrece clases sobre la Biblia a cualquier persona interesada. Cualquiera es bienvenido a venir y aprender más acerca de la Palabra de Dios.

**Contacto:** Martha Mendoza ([mendozamarta419@gmail.com](mailto:mendozamarta419@gmail.com))

## Grupo de Jóvenes Adultos

Un grupo para jóvenes adultos que buscan crecer juntos en su fe.

**Contacto:** Martha Mendoza ([mendozamarta419@gmail.com](mailto:mendozamarta419@gmail.com))

## Grupos de intercambio de fe

Una reunión semanal para compartir sobre nuestra vida de fe, generalmente guiada por las escrituras dominicales. **Contactos:** Doris Torres ([hdmaria7@yahoo.com](mailto:hdmaria7@yahoo.com)) o Pablo Ordoñez ([pablochn@yahoo.com](mailto:pablochn@yahoo.com))

# Vietnamese

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## Prayer Group / nhóm cầu nguyện

A prayer group in Vietnamese that meets the first Saturday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Stafford Room. Vietnamese New Year will be celebrated on Feb. 03. / Nhóm cầu nguyện bằng tiếng Việt họp vào Thứ Bảy đầu tháng lúc 6 giờ 30 chiều. trong phòng Stafford. Tết Nguyên đán của người Việt sẽ được tổ chức vào ngày 03/02. **Contact:** Thanh Nguyen ([frankuv@yahoo.com](mailto:frankuv@yahoo.com))

## Vietnamese Mass / thánh lễ việt nam

On Feb. 11, March 10, and June 09, Fr. Khanh Nguyen will be hearing confessions at 2:00 pm and saying Mass in Vietnamese at 2:30 pm. / Vào ngày 11 tháng 2, ngày 10 tháng 3 và ngày 09 tháng 6, Fr. Khánh Nguyễn sẽ giải tội lúc 2 giờ chiều và cử hành Thánh lễ bằng tiếng Việt lúc 2 giờ 30 chiều.

# Consider Becoming Catholic

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The Catholic Church is the community of believers in Jesus Christ who seek to worship and follow the Lord in fidelity to the teachings of Jesus' Apostles and their successors. We believe that, despite our human failings which often obscure the truth, our Church is the Church that Jesus intentionally established before Ascending into Heaven. If you are considering becoming Catholic, please contact Gina DePalma ([ginad@assumption.org](mailto:ginad@assumption.org)) to join our Inquiry / RCIA classes. Anyone is welcome to attend classes for as long as they would like to learn and ask question, without having to make a commitment to the Catholic faith.

## Need Help?

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### For Those Considering Separation or Divorce

Retrouvaille (pronounced retro-vi) has brought healing to tens of thousands of troubled marriages worldwide. Your situation may seem hopeless, but there is always hope and you are not alone in your struggle. For confidential information about Retrouvaille, or to register for our upcoming program on April 14-16, 2023, call 206-706-2608 or go to [www.helpourmarriage.org](http://www.helpourmarriage.org).

### Pregnancy

The Christian-supported pregnancy clinic in the area is the Whatcom County Pregnancy Clinic. <https://www.whatcomclinic.com/>. Our Prepares Program is also ready to help expectant and new mothers with necessary items. **Contact:** Kathy Jenkis ([kjenkis@hotmail.com](mailto:kjenkis@hotmail.com))

### Healing After Abortion

Project Rachel ministers to those who have experienced the difficulty and trauma of abortion. <https://ccsww.org/get-help/specialized-services/project-rachel/> or (206) 920-6413

### Hope House

Hope House is a program of Catholic Community Services that provides clothing and hygiene items to homeless and low-income families in Whatcom County. **Contact:** [apriljh@ccsww.org](mailto:apriljh@ccsww.org)

### Housing

All housing needs in Bellingham are addressed through the Opportunity Council. <https://www.opcco.org/basic-needs/housing/> or (360) 734-5121