

MASSES	
Saturday	5:30PM
Sunday	9:00, 11:00 AM, 5:30 PM
Weekdays & Holydays	Consult bulletin
Adoration	Thursday 7:00 AM-Friday 7:00 AM
Baptism	First Sunday of the month; contact RCIA/RCIC Coordinator.
Reconciliation	Wednesday 6:00—7:00 PM Saturday 4:00—5:00 PM
Matrimony	Six months preparation necessary; call Father for an appointment.
Anointing	Call Father.

RECTORY OFFICE 361-5126
6369 Belmont Avenue, Belmont, MI 49306
PASTOR—Fr. Peter Vu ext 201
DEACON—Peter Conigliaro
deaconpeterabvm@gmail.com
SECRETARY—Ranel Piatek ext 200
officesecretary@assumptionbvm.com
OFFICE MANAGER—Linda Kozlowicz ext 206
MAINTENANCE—Bill Fix
CUSTODIAN—Dianne Harmon

ASSUMPTION SCHOOL 361-5483
6393 Belmont Avenue
Principal—Michael Micele ext 251
Secretary—Colleen Kleeves ext 250
schoolsecretary@assumptionbvm.com

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION 361-5126
6391 Belmont Avenue
Director—Cheryl Sokolowski ext 257
Secretary—Renee Smith ext 256
religiousesecretary@assumptionbvm.com

YOUTH MINISTRY 361-5126
Sr. & Jr. High—Beth Baltruczak ext 258
youthminister@assumptionbvm.com

RCIA/RCIC COORDINATOR 361-5126
Sr. Felicia Bertaina, MC ext 255

MUSIC 361-5126
Director—Lori VanderStel ext 230
Contemporary Ensemble—Julie Staudacher 874-5508

STEPHEN MINISTRY 361-5126
Sr. Andreina Stufara, MC ext 203

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
Parish Life—Dianne Harmon 365-2099
Education—Robert O'Brien 884-0317
Worship—Mary Ann Hurst 863-0834
Social Concerns—Carrie Powers 364-1338
Finance Council—Bill Dani 887-4208
Pastoral Council—John Klooster 647-2945

CONSOLATA MISSIONARY SISTERS 361-2072

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS
Grand Knight—Mike Staskiewicz 334-9854
Deputy Grand Knight—Joe McDaniels 887-0207

When considering the future or your legacy:
ABVM Education Endowment Fund—contact Rectory Office

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

Enlightened by the Holy Spirit, we the parish of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, commit to know, love and worship the Lord Jesus Christ. With Mary, our mother and model, we will proclaim the gospel, serve others and welcome all to the family of God.

Where new parishioners are welcome



www.assumptionbvm.com

and your helping hands are always needed"

Sometimes Love Means Letting Someone Go

Among the deeper mysteries in life perhaps the one we struggle with the most is the mystery of the Ascension. It's not so much that we misunderstand it, we simply don't understand it.

What is the Ascension?

Historically it was an event within the life of Jesus and the early church and is now a feast-day for Christians, one that links Easter to Pentecost. But it is more than an historical event, it is at the same time a theology, a spirituality, and an insight into life that we need to understand to better sort out the paradoxical interplay between life and death, presence and absence, love and loss.

The Ascension names and highlights a paradox that lies deep at the center of life, namely, that we all reach a point in life where we can only give our presence more deeply by going away so that others can receive the full blessing of our spirits.

What does that mean?

When Jesus was preparing to leave this earth he kept repeating the words: "It is better for you that I go away! You will be sad now, but your sadness will turn to joy. If I don't go away you will be unable to receive my spirit. Don't cling to me, I must ascend."

Why is it better sometimes that we go away?


Any parent with grown children has heard similar words from their children, unspoken perhaps but there nonetheless. When young people leave home to go to college or to begin life on their own, what they are really saying to their parents is: "Mum and dad, it is better that I go away. You will be sad now, but your sadness will turn to joy. If I don't go, I will always be your little boy or little girl but I will be unable to give you my life as an adult. So please don't cling to the child you once had or you will never be able to receive my adulthood. I need to go away now so that our love can come to full bloom."

The pain in this kind of letting go is often excruciating, as parents know, but to refuse to do that is to truncate life.

The same is true for the mystery of death. For example: I was 22 years old when in the space of four months both of my parents, still young, died. For my siblings and me the pain was searing. Initially we were nearly overwhelmed with a sense of being orphaned, abandoned, of losing a vital life-connection (that, ironically, we had mostly taken for granted until then). And our feelings were mainly cold, there's little that's warm in death.

But time is a great healer. After a while, and for me this took several years, the coldness disappeared and my parents' deaths were no longer a painful thing. I felt again their presence, and now as a warm, nurturing spirit that was with me all time. The coldness of death turned into a warmth. They had gone away but now they could give me their love and blessing in a way that they never could fully while they were alive. Their going away eventually created a deeper and purer presence.


(Continued inside)

The Mass Intentions  and The Week Ahead	
Monday, July 19, Weekday	
7:00 AM	Mass, † Edith Cordeiro
Tuesday, July 20, Saint Apollinaris, bishop and martyr	
Wednesday, July 21, Saint Lawrence of Brindisi, priest and doctor of the Church	
5:30 PM	Mass, † Romana Kuehn
6:00 PM	Reconciliation
Thursday, July 22, Saint Mary Magdalene	
7:00 AM	Mass, † Edith Martins Cordeiro
7:30 AM	24-hour Eucharistic Adoration
9:15 AM	Rosary
6:00 PM	St. Dorothy's Garden Group
Friday July 23, Saint Bridget of Sweden, religious	
9:00 AM	Mass in Chapel, † Edith Cordeiro
Saturday, July 24, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
2:00 PM	The Wedding of Kyle Hulett & Janet Parker
4:00 PM	Reconciliation until 5:00
5:30 PM	Mass, † Vernon May
Sunday, July 25, 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time	
8:30 AM	The Holy Rosary
9:00 AM	Mass, † The members of the Parish
11:00 AM	Mass † Stephen May
5:30 PM	Mass, † Don Host
8:00 PM	Gr 8—Young Adult Basketball

Liturgical Ministers & Volunteers for July 24 & 25		
Greeters	5:30 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM 5:30 PM	Theresa TenEyck Mike Tomich Maribeth McFall Mitch Phillips
Lectors	5:30 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM 5:30 PM	Connie Kowalski & Gerry Oppenneer Steve Friar & Theresa Gonder Neil Hikade & Dave Mish Janet Cornell & Jenny Young
Eucharistic Ministers	5:30 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM 5:30 PM	G. Doerr, B. Quick, B. & B. Rogers & B. Sack M. White & J. Young C. Bolek, B. Grondsma, K. Hillary, M. Moore, E. Schmuker & M. Stein B. Coleman, R. DePuydt, E. Egan, P. Ek, T. Kuzma, B. O'Brien & A. O'Rourke F. & J. Arends, L., S. & J. Broussard, L. McClellan & A. Urbane
Altar Servers	5:30 PM 9:00 AM 11:00 AM 5:30 PM	M. Burns, J. Doman & J. Harmon N. Solarewicz, P. & Z. Truskowski N. Bush, J. & M. Westman A. Bolin, T. Fase & T. Hoving
Ushers	All Masses	Team B
Nursery	11:00 AM	Chad Balahoski, Jamie Phillips & Samantha Roberts
Housekeepers for the Lord (Fri or Sat)		Kim Jones, Mary Ann Lauka & Mary Momber
Collection Counters		Alice Morrissey & Jenny Lastfogel

Readings for the Week of July 18, 2010


Monday: Mi 6: 1-4, 6-8; Mt 12: 38-42
 Tuesday: Mi 7: 14-15, 18-20; Mt 12: 46-50
 Wednesday: Jer 1: 1, 4-10; Mt 13: 1-9
 Thursday: Jer 2: 1-3, 7-8, 12-13; Jn 20: 1-2, 11-18
 Friday: Jer 3: 14-17; Mt 13: 18-23
 Saturday: Jer 7: 1-10; Mt 13: 24-30
 Sunday: Gn 18: 20-32; Col 2: 12-14; Lk 11: 1-13

	Raise the Roof Fund	Total Funds Needed:	\$398,000.00
		Total Funds Collected:	\$327,872.00
Please use your lavender "Raise the Roof Fund" envelopes for your contributions.			

Born to a new life in Christ on July 11, 2010:

Joseph Tyler Link
son of Guy & Elizebeth Link

Melody Grace Merovich
daughter of George & Catherine Merovich




The flower arrangement by Mary were donated this weekend in memory of Gertrude Galdis.

Stewardship is what I do after I say "I Believe"

July 11—week 2

Weekly Goal.....	\$18,327.00
Envelopes & EFT—\$48.94 Average	\$14,354.00
Loose & Children.....	\$1,708.50
Envelopes Issued.....	1125
Envelopes & EFT Returned (27%)	297
Annual Goal To Date.....	\$36,654.00
Actual	\$29,913.34

Prayer Circle

Dedicated parishioners are willing to pray for your needs. If you have any type of prayer request please call Elsie Fix at 784-6994 or Ceil Pyard at 365-1916.

*Please remember in your prayers the following parishioners who are **homebound, in nursing homes, ill or in the military:** Lorena Bustraan, Bruce Clarke, Donna Couturier, James Gelderbloom, Josephine Hikade, Mary Hikade, Emma Kennedy, Dave Lehman, John Luccase, Harland Peacock, Sandy Reale, Diane Tava, Betty Turner, Clayton Cruickshank, Kyle Lamb, Matt Remelts, John L. Simmons.*

Hospitals do not tell us when a parishioner has been admitted and/or released. We rely on family and friends to let us know.

Today's readings speak of hospitality. Abraham, who cheerfully did for his guests all that desert hospitality required, was rewarded with his heart's desire — a son. Martha also busied herself with all the details of hospitality, but grudgingly and with complaint. Am I a cheerful or a grudging giver?

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(Continued from front)

The mystery of love and intimacy contains that paradox: To remain present to someone we love we have to sometimes be absent, in ways big and small. In the paradox of love, we can only fully bless each other when we go away. That is why most of us only "get" the blessing our loved ones were for us after they die. Mystically, "blood and water" (cleansing and the deep permission to live without guilt) flow from their dead bodies, just as these flowed from Jesus' dead body.

And this is even true, perhaps particularly so, in cases where our loved ones were difficult characters who struggled for peace or to bless anyone in this life. Death washes clean and releases the spirit and, even in the case of people who struggled to love, we can after their deaths receive their blessing in way we never could while they were alive. Like Jesus, they could only give us their real presence by going away.

"It is better for you that I go away!" These are painful words most of the time, from a young child leaving her mother for a day to go to school, to the man leaving his family for a week to go on a business trip, to the young man moving out of his family's house to begin life on his own, to a loved one saying goodbye in death. Separation hurts, goodbyes bring painful tears, and death of every kind wrenches the heart.

But that is part of the mystery of love. Eventually we all reach a point where what is best for everyone is that we go away so that we can give our spirit. The gift that our lives are can only be fully received after we ascend.

Fr. Ronald Kolheiser, OFM (The Catholic Weekly & Times, May 2007)



Vacation Bible School will be held at Assumption School July 26-30. Our theme this year is Superheroes, and we have lots of fun stuff planned for kids going into 1st through 5th grade. Admission will be \$15 dollars per child. To sign up please call Cheryl Sokolowski at 361-5126 x257.

Catechist Needed for earlier grades on Wednesdays at 4:30 PM or 6:30 PM and Sunday mornings during the 11:00 AM Mass for Preschool. Lesson plans, support and training are provided.



Catechists Qualifications:

- Relate well with children
- Willingness and ability to speak with conviction about his/her own faith experiences and the teachings of the Catholic Church
- A basic understanding of the content of the course
- Clear criminal record (we do a criminal background check)

Benefits include:

- Feel the joy of sharing your faith with children
- To guide others to grow in their faith
- To be challenged to grow yourself as a adult Catholic Christian

Pray about your role in the religious education of the young and then call Cheryl Sokolowski 361-5126 x 257 to set up a time to find out more details.

"Our Faith, Our Future: A Plan for the Diocese of Grand Rapids"

The overall "Our Faith, Our future" listening sessions and consultations for the Grand Rapids North, South, East and West deaneries occurred during May and June. These sessions included representatives from the 38 parishes and 15 schools located in the four deaneries. Over 200 lay leaders participated in June.

The planning process involves parish and school visits followed by several rounds of listening sessions and consultations with pastors, priests, principals and parish leaders. The visits in May by the leadership teams offered an opportunity for leaders to share their experiences and vision for their respective communities.

In June, representation from the four Grand Rapids deaneries met together. Participants included pastors and priests, Catholic school principals, key parish staff and parish lay leaders. This session provided opportunities for participants to:

- Review the findings from the parish listening sessions and data analysis.
- Identify common challenges facing the parishes in their area.
- Discuss pastoral priorities and the characteristics expected in vibrant parishes.

Leaders in the four deaneries are scheduled to meet again in October, November and December to develop a draft plan followed by a process of review and refinement.

"Our Faith, Our Future" is an initiative looking to the future of the Church in the diocese by building upon the strengths of the parishes and addressing fundamental issues that have a long-term impact on their vitality and vibrancy.

Annual Barbecue Chicken Dinner & Festival Sunday, August 8 from noon to 4:00 PM St. Joseph Church in Wright Township

Dinners are \$7 for adults and \$4 for children ages 5-12, children under five can eat free.

A Polka Mass outside under a tent at 10:00 AM.

Entertainment will include raffles, games for children & teens, musical entertainment throughout the afternoon.

Take Int. 96 to the 8th Ave. exit #5 and proceed north 5 miles.

Catholic Scout Retreat- at the Franciscan Life Center in Lowell August 6-8. Programs include: Rosary Patch series, Footsteps of the Saints, other Catholic scouting emblems, and training for adult leaders on Catholic Awards. Scouts/ Adults- \$25.00 for the weekend. Cub Scouts-\$5.00, Saturday only, unless accompanied by a parent. Meals included. Registration deadline- August 1. For more info or registration, call Scott Harvey at 364-9086, or email scottharvey@prodigy.net.



The Knights of Columbus is planning their annual yard sale for Saturday, August 14. If you have donations or questions regarding the sale, please contact Bill Powers at 364-1338.