Epistle -Gal 1:11-19; Gospel - Mk 2:13-23; TONE 4

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK

Sunday After Christmas, December 28, 2025

9:00 AM - Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners 11:30 AM - Lit. + Steve Galetta r/by Joan & Bob

Tuesday, December 30, 2025

8:00 AM - Lit. + Maria, Eva, Hanna, Valentyn, Maria, Ivan, Lyudmyla, Paraskevia, Olga, Mychailo, Kateryna Wednesday, December 31, 2025

8:00 AM - Lit. Health of Maria, Tadei, Igor, Chrystyna, Halyna, Andriy, Valeriy, Lyubov, Volodymyr

<u>Thursday, January 1, 2026</u>

Circumcision of Our Lord

9:00 AM - Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners Friday, January 2, 2026

8:00 AM - Lit. + Natalia, Mychailo, Olga, Anastasia, Ivasyk, Petro, Anna

Saturday, January 3, 2026

8:00 AM - Lit. Special Intention

5:00 PM - Lit. + Stelle Gadek r/by Miller and Jeff

Sunday Before Theophany, January 4, 2026

Epistle - 2 Tim 4:5-8; Gospel - Mk 1:1-8

9:00 AM - Lit. + Anna Kozak r/by Maria Derevenska 11:30 AM - Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

The Ukrainian Vertep - Nativity Performance.

Our Sisters and parish youth this Sunday present the VERTEP (Nativity Play) to the entire parish following the 9:00 am Liturgy. Sincere thanks to all participants for their dedication and many rehearsals.

In addition to the church performance, the VERTEP can also visit your home. If you would like to invite our carolers to your home, please schedule a date and time for a Vertep visit by:

Calling Sister Veronica at 908-956-2434, or registering on the yellow sign-up form located in the church vestibule.

- This year, our Vertep group will share the joy of the Christmas Good News of Christ's birth with the following parishes:
- Sunday, January 4 St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, Newark, NJ (after the 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy)
- Sunday, January 11 St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, Passaic, NJ (after the 10:30 AM Divine Liturgy)
- Sunday, January 11 Christmas Concert (3:00 PM)
- Sunday, January 18 St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, Whippany, NJ (after the 11:00 AM Divine Liturgy)

Memorial Donations

\$2,500.00 - Cindy Redus, in memory of parents,

+ JOHN & ANN REDUS

\$1,000.00 - Roman Kernitsky, in loving memory of +TARAS KERNITSKY

\$300.00 - Randy Siluk for Aid to Ukraine, in memory of + MICHAEL & HELEN DUDA

Christmas Ornament Sale Donation

\$300.00 - Yuliya Martiak

2026 CHURCH ENVELOPES

Please pick up your new Church envelopes from downstairs in the church hall. If you don't have a number and would like to be put on our membership list, please call our parish office 732 826 0767 or talk to Fr. Ivan and a number will be issued to you.

For those parishioners who did not receive envelopes due to problems with our Printing Company, we expect the replacement envelopes to be delivered for Sunday, January 18. In the meantime, please use the envelopes located in the vestibule, being sure to write your name and the amount of the donation on the envelope.

Your donations and generosity are very much appreciated. By using your envelopes, you are considered a practicing parishioner. What you place inside the envelope is between you and God.

WELCOME!

We are delighted that you have chosen to worship with us at Assumption Church. We hope it is a place where you feel God's presence. Generations of people have sat in these pews, felt the presence of the Holy Spirit, learned about the love of Jesus, and seen how the power of God has made a difference in their lives. Whatever is most important in your life right now, whether it is trials or joys, these things matter to God, and they matter to us. All of what you bring to the table is welcome here.

PASTOR'S CORNER

May the blessings and joy of this Holy Season continue to be with all of you! I hope that everyone has enjoyed a wonderful Christmas and that we will have many graces to look forward to in 2026!

This year's celebration of the Lord's Nativity was very joyous, in part due to a very good attendance, as faithful parishioners and friends gathered for worship in our church.

We had great services with the following attendance: Christmas Eve, December 24, 2025

- 4:00 PM Children's Lit. 169 people
- 11:30 PM Lit. 51 people

Christmas Day, Birth of Our Lord, December 25, 2025

- 9:00 AM Lit. 800 people 11:30 AM Lit. 43 people

Thanks to your generosity, we collected \$13,500.00 from all services listed above. We have been blessed beyond measure. Through the generosity of all of you, my dear parishioners and friends, we will not only be able to meet our day-to-day expenses, but also will support our parish school, Sisters' ministry and the Archdiocesan ministries through your donations.

I sincerely appreciate all your financial sacrifices and wish you a blessed and happy New Year! Fr. Ivan

This year, our parish was able to support the children of St. Nicholas Mercy Town in Krykhivtsi, Ukraine - a place of daily warmth and care provided by the Sisters of the Incarnate Word, and a source of hope for children in need of a home and love. These funds were collected through donations for the orphanage. We sincerely thank everyone for their generosity and support.

Christmas bread and prosphoras.

A special word of thanks goes to Mrs. Colette Baginsky and her helpers John, Irene, Mary, and Lisa, who baked for our parishioners Christmas bread (strutslia) and prosphora. We are deeply grateful for their time, dedication, and loving hearts.

2025 School Christmas Concert

This year's concert featured a festive and memorable selection of Christmas songs from around the world. Enthusiastic applause throughout the evening showed the audience's appreciation for every performance.

All ACS students were excited to be on stage, singing joyfully for their families. In his final words, Fr. Ivan reminded the audience that, like any other gift, the gift of Christ must be received. Jesus will not force Himself upon anyone; He is too much of a gentleman to do so. He simply invites us to choose Him.

Thank you to all who attended, and a heartfelt thank you to our program planner and music teacher, Miss Anna Lawrence. The Christmas spirit was truly felt by all, and everyone enjoyed the spirited music sung by our beautiful students.

WHAT IS A VOCATION? Vocation means call. It is an invitation to love and to be loved by the God who created you. We do not create our own vocation, rather it is given to us by God. He reveals it to us in the depth of our heart and we are free to respond. He does not force it on us. If God is calling YOU or someone you know to be a priest or a religious sister, talk to Fr. Ivan.