

He's One of Us

The Incarnation means that God is one of us. He is made of our flesh and blood; he laughs, sings, and loves people. Though we believe he is God, he is still one of us. We can choose him to be on our team, trusting that he will play to win.

When identifying ourselves, we normally tell others what we do. Societies like the one to which Jesus belonged usually identified themselves by tracing ancestry. As Isaiah tells us today, Jesus belonged to the house of David. Paul says that he was of David "according to the flesh" (Romans 1:3). The Gospel identifies Joseph as a "son of David" (Matthew 1:20). Since Jesus was considered Joseph's legal son, he also was a "son of David." Joseph is told that the child will be called Emmanuel, which means "God is with us" (Matthew 1:23). Thus, Incarnation means God is with us in a unique way in this man who is one of us. The Incarnation also gives extraordinary dignity to material creation, of which we are all a part and of which he is a part as well, for he is one of us. In other words, Emmanuel (God with us) is a child of earth.

Like Joseph, we cannot fully comprehend what has happened. We can only stand with him in awe as this wondrous mystery unfolds before us. As we await Christmas, we wait for him to appear. When he comes, we will be amazed to see that he is really one of us.

—Sr. Dianne Bergant, CSA



"Behold, the virgin shall be with child and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means "God is with us."
MATTHEW 1:23

FOR Reflection

- ★ How does knowing that Jesus is one of us make a difference in your life?
- ★ We are on the threshold of Christmas. What religious sentiments fill your mind and heart?

Assumption of Our Lady



www.ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com

December 22, 2019

4th Sunday of Advent—Year A

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5:00 pm

Sunday 10:30 am

Weekday Masses

Mon. Tues. & Wed. 12:10 pm

Thurs. & Fri. 5:30 pm

Reconciliation time: Saturday from 4:15 to 4:45pm; Sunday, 9:45-10:15am or by appointment. Please contact Fr. Innocent for any other sacraments or funerals



Fr. Innocent Ukaegbu: 867-875-2545

father@ourladyofassumptionhayriver.com

& St. Anne, Katloodeche

Sunday Mass 1:30 PM

Date	Readers	Collection	Gift Bearers	Eucharistic Ministers	Coffee & Snacks
Dec. 01	Grace Engen Marie Kopp-van E.	Darm Crook Tony Whittle	Liz Buckley & Family	Susan Bouchard Andrew Cassidy Doris Caudron	Debbie, Lennie Kelly Jaigene
Dec. 08	Doris Caudron Sheila Ryan-Hachey	Doug Swallow Andrew Cassidy	Gagnon Family	Marie Kopp-van E. Bea Lepine Theresa Swallow	Brigitte Stephens Jenn Touesnard
Dec. 15	Gerry Engen Andrew Cassidy	Dee dee Lepine Darm Crook	Stephens Family	Doug Swallow Susan Bouchard Shirley Gutierrez	TBP
Dec. 22	Youth-Led Participation Mass	Youth-Led Participation Mass	Youth-Led Participation Mass	Doris Coudron Andrew Cassidy Dee dee Lepine	Christmas Potluck

The Announcement for the 4th Sunday of Advent: December 22nd, 2019.

----- We are always delighted to welcome each and everyone who has come to worship with us here at Assumption parish. If you're a new member, please take time to introduce yourself to the pastor and fill out a registration form found at the bulletin board at the entrance of the church..

----- This Tuesday, we begin the celebration of Christmas, the birthday of our Savior Jesus Christ, with the "Christmas Eve family mass" at 5:00pm. So on behalf of myself, Pastor, Sister Maggie and the members of the parish council headed by Eddie Smith, I extend my warmest wishes of a joyful Christmas filled with love and peace; and a new year filled with grace, to all our beloved parishioners.

----- Fr. Innocent Ukaegbu begins his one month vacation on the 3rd of January 2020. Please put Father Innocent in your prayers for a safe trip to Africa and free from every harm. The vacation ends on the 4th February, 2020

----- Children are invited to take part in the Christmas story of the Nativity. We need shepherd, wise men and angels. We have costumes available that will be distributed on Monday, the 23rd of December, at the Church. All children are to wear costumes. For more information, please contact Sister Maggie @ 867- 876-0672.

----- The children who will like to be part of the children's choir for 5:00pm 24th pageant mass, should please meet with Sheila Domingo immediately after mass this Sunday or even contact her this Sunday at 867-875-2678.

----- Flowers for the church are always welcome in memory of a loved one or in thanksgiving to God for favors or blessings received . Thank you!

-----Gifts for the family support centre are also welcome. Wrap the gifts and indicate on the tag woman, boy [age], girl [age]. There will be a box at the church; Thank you for your generosity.

----- Communion to the sick and home bound: Do you know of anyone who is sick and/or home bound and would like to be visited and given communion by the church, please let us know.

MASSES & CONFESSIONS SCHEDULES FOR CHRISTMAS AND THE FEAST OF MARY THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD:

Our Lady of Assumption Hay River:

Monday; 23/12/2019 ----- Confession: Time 6:00pm

Tuesday; 24/12/2019----- Mass at the correctional facility; Time 10:45am

Tuesday; 24/12/2019 ----- Family mass with pageant; Time 5:00pm

Tuesday; 24/12/2019 ----- Midnight Nativity mass; Time 12.00am

Wednesday; 25/12/2019 ----- Christmas Day mass; Time 10:30am

Saturday; 28/12/2019 ----- Saturday evening mass; Time 5:00pm

Sunday; 29/12/2019 ----- Sunday mass,

Time; 10:30am

Tuesday;31/12/2018-----New Year's

Eve,Time;10:00pm

Wednesday; 01/01/2020 ----- Feast of Mary

the Holy Mother of God mass, Time: 10:30am.

: Weekly Revenue	
\$1,891.70	Collection
\$1,891.70	Revenue Total
\$1,831.00	Expenses Total
\$60.70	
Expenses are based on 2018 Q1	

Dear Padre,

Why did early Christians begin celebrating Christmas on December 25th?

Placing Christmas near the winter solstice can be traced to pagan celebrations in Christianity's early years. The celebration of Christmas in December began in Rome as a Christian response to a civil festival honoring the sun god Sol.

The Romans celebrated the sun climbing into the northern skies, signaling the lengthening days after the cold winter nights. On December 25, 274, Aurelian proclaimed the sun god principal patron of the empire. Christmas originated when this sun cult was strongest. Christians wouldn't go to the temple to pay homage to a sun god. They believed in the one true God, and God's only son made human, Jesus Christ.

It's almost as if Christians substituted "son" for "sun" and celebrated the birth of the son of justice into this world. The parallels are uncanny. As the extending sunlight broke night's grip and softened the cold sting on the world, so Jesus' coming broke the long reign of sin and darkness. Jesus was the true son, the light and life of the world, the reason for renewed hope.



Narrow fundamentalists fail to understand that Christmas is more than a birthday celebration of the day Christ was born. It's wider in scope, celebrating the reality that Jesus was born human. It's not the *when* but the *what* that we celebrate. So, Jesus' precise birthdate doesn't matter. What matters is that Jesus was truly born human—like us in all things but sin. For this we celebrate.

—Fr. Joseph Morin, CSSR
Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org



A WORD FROM *Pope Francis*

We need, then, to open our hearts to the true light, Jesus Christ. He is the light that can illumine life and turn our darkness into light; the light of goodness that conquers evil; the light of the love that overcomes hatred; the light of the life that triumphs over death.

—ADDRESS TO VATICAN CURIA, DECEMBER 21, 2018

© 2019 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 63057-9999. Printed in USA. *Inprimatur*: "In accordance with CIC 827, permission to publish was granted on June 27, 2019, by the Most Reverend Mark S. Rivituso, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication; nor is any liability assumed by this permission." No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible*, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. To order Liguori Sunday Bulletins, call 800-525-9521, or visit Liguori.org.

Calendar

Monday
DECEMBER 23
Advent Weekday
Mal 3:1-4, 23-24
Lk 1:57-66

Tuesday
DECEMBER 24
Advent Weekday
Sir 35:1-12
Mk 10:28-31

Wednesday
DECEMBER 25
Christmas
Is 52:7-10
Heb 1:1-6
Jn 1:1-18 or
Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Thursday
DECEMBER 26
St. Stephen,
First Martyr
Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59
Mt 10:17-22

Friday
DECEMBER 27
St. John,
Apostle and Evangelist
1 Jn 1:1-4
Jn 20:1a and 2-8

Saturday
DECEMBER 28
The Holy Innocents,
Martyrs
1 Jn 1:5-2:2
Mt 2:13-18

Sunday
DECEMBER 29
The Holy Family of
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph
Sir 3:2-6, 12-14
Col 3:12-21 or
Col 3:12-17
Mt 2:13-15, 19-23

