

OLA MISSION STATEMENT

Through our devotion to Mary, Our Lady of the Assumption, we strive to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ to:

- ◇ Know God through Scripture and Prayer
- ◇ Encounter God through the Liturgy and the Eucharist
- ◇ Love God through Service

MASS SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil: 5 PM
Sunday: 7 AM, 8:30 AM and 10 AM
Weekdays: 8 AM
Saturday: 9 AM
Holy Days: 7 PM Vigil, 8 AM and 12:05 PM

SACRAMENTS

Reconciliation: Sat. 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM,
or by appointment.

Eucharistic Adoration: Tues. 7 PM – 8 PM

Baptism: 1st & 3rd Sunday each Month.

Pre-Jordan class is required and held on the 3rd Monday of every month. Please call the Parish Office to schedule.

Marriage: Engaged couples must meet with the Pastor at least six months prior to the Wedding.

Anointing of the Sick: Holy Communion for the homebound or Sacrament of the Sick upon request. Anointing in preparation for surgery after Masses.

PASTOR:

Rev. Gerald P. Carey

IN RESIDENCE:

Fr. Augustin Kassa, SMA

PERMANENT DEACON:

Deacon Paul Fisher

PARISH SECRETARY:

RoseAnn Westerfer

BUSINESS MANAGER:

Vince Buggy

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY:

Anne Sprissler

PARISH OFFICE PHONE: 610-688-1178

WEBSITE: olastrafford.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Fri.: 8:30AM - 4PM

Emergencies

Call the Parish Office and press 1.

PREP OFFICE

Sr. Rita Marian Angelilli, IHM

ASSUMPTION ACADEMY

Patricia Welsh 610-688-5277

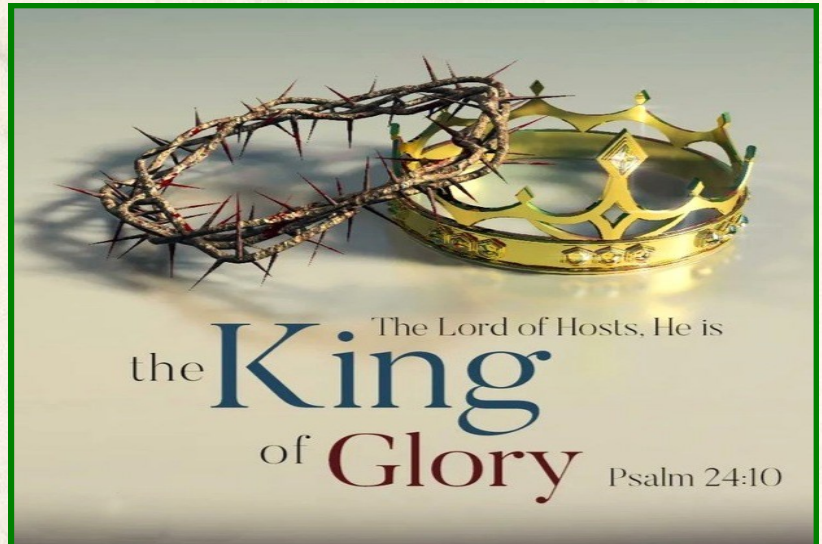


Our Lady of the Assumption *Roman Catholic Church* 35 Old Eagle School Road, Strafford, PA

February 2, 2025

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

MY OLA † MY FAMILY OF FAITH



EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Holy Hour from 7 PM - 8 PM Tuesday

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday – February 1, 2025

First Saturday

- 9 AM Michael Verguldi
by Uncle Vince Calvarese & Family
- 5 PM Virginia Gaeto
by Tom & Anne-Claire Dolley

Sunday, February 2, 2025

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

- 7:00 Special Intentions of Amanda Hill
by Mom, Heather Hill
- 8:30 Lucia Pelusi
by Sister-in-law, Yolanda & Dino Calvarese
- 10 AM Diane Ellis by Husband, Joe

Monday - February 3, 2025

St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr
St. Ansgar, Bishop

- 8:00 Patrick J. White by The White Family

Tuesday - February 4, 2025

- 8:00 Patricia Dorsey by Becky Moscia

Wednesday - February 5, 2025

St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

- 8:00 For the People of the Parish

Thursday - February 6, 2025

St. Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

- 8:00 Jack Marciano by David Rider

Friday - February 7, 2025

First Friday

- 8:00 John Baur by Gloria Toroni

Saturday – February 8, 2025

St. Jerome Emiliani

St. Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

- 9 AM Parents, Joe & Jean Nudy
by The Nudy Family
- 5 PM Anthony Focarino by Fran & Joe Schuda

Sunday, February 9, 2025

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:00 Virginia Gaeto by Celia Paolantonio
- 8:30 Carmela Calvarese, Birthday
by Son, Dino & Yolanda Calvarese
- 10 AM Nicholas Moscia, 1st Anniv.
by Wife, Becky & Family

SANCTUARY LAMP IS BURNING



For: Giacomo & Genoeffa Trosini

Week of: February 2, 2025

By: Daughter, Tina Lopez & Family

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please pray for the sick and disabled members of our parish family: William Vallejo, Carole Pullo, Gloria Biondi, Taylor Boileau, Nick & Kelly Sciarratta, Barbara Pupek, Catherine Harmer, John Becker, Janet Fleming, Ed Rofi, Holly Weaver, Louise Fehn, Milena Trosini, Yolanda Price, Russell Demanczyk, Fran Neary, Gabe Yervelli, Meghan Pitts, Kaitlyn Dorris, Arthur Mattmiller, Msgr. Marino, Fr. Woodeshick, Msgr. Malone, Fr. Carbonaro, Fr. Carey, Maria DiGiacomo, Marcella Canfarotta, Jim Batalise, Lynette Donnelly, Rose Rogers, Philomena Mozanni, Bill & Theresa Sherwin, Bella Reid, John Catalanotto, Elizabeth Maratea, Mike Long, Kristen Boyer, Goldie Trowery, Mary Lewis, Jim Spang, Brian Hunsberger, Carla Santoleri, Helen Carver, Ronnie Kelly, Marian Quick, Ralph D’Ignazio, Martha Marcantonio, Mark Michaels, Dave Flinn, Joe Ellis, Jessica Recchi, Joseph Carver, John H. Shelsy, Carolyn DiDomizio Weber, Jay Fogarty, Cassie Hunt, Di McTiernan, Carol Barbera, Mike Howley, Tammy Kohal, Theresa Flanagan, Allison Rogge, Michael Kerns, Trish Lee, Freddie DeFlaviis, Mark Gregory & Nicholas Connolly.

Please remember in your prayers the deceased members of our parish family, especially for Barbara Ellerbeck, sister of Gail Marcil, Karen Noecker Thomas, sister-in-law of Bishop Daniel Thomas, Mario Palumbi, Phyllis D’Innocenzo Weidenhammer, Catherine Sullivan (BrightView) and Ellen Lloyd, mother-in-law of Carolyn Aspinall. May their souls & all the souls of the faithful departed rest in the peace of Christ.

Please pray for our parishioners serving in the Military: John Meixner, Rebecca Robbins, Luke Scilovati, Joseph Walton and Matthew Wilson.

OUTREACH HELP

DURING THE COLD WINTER MONTHS

Are you concerned for someone’s health & safety during these cold winter days? The OLA Outreach Team is offering to check in on people and help as possible. Please contact either Vince Caprio at 610-644-3482 or the Parish Office (610-688-1178) to provide the name, address & phone number of the members of our community in need of assistance.

ALTAR BREAD & WINE MEMORIAL



For: Sr. Marie Rudegear, 1st Anniv.

Week of: February 2, 2025

By: John & Anne Rogers

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

How do I see myself as Simeon or Anna, encountering Christ in my place of worship?

PREP

There will be a Family Catechetical session on Sun., 2/02/2025 at 9:45 AM in Assumption Hall. The topic will be “Prayer”. As we near the end of this year-long program, I ask that you make every effort to attend this Sunday!

There will be no classes for President’s Day weekend on Sunday, 2/16/2025 or Monday, 2/17/2025. Enjoy the holiday!

We will be sending home information for the yearly KidTalk Safety lesson to be present to all PREP students. These lessons are mandated by the Archdiocese in conjunction with the Parish Safe Environment Program.

Please take note of the limited seating available for the 10 AM Confirmation Mass on Sunday, March 2, 2025. Call the Parish Office with any questions.

The PREP Outreach for February will be a “Souper Bowl” collection of canned or boxed soups. These donations will be brought to the Parish Giving Room and distributed as needed. “Caring and Sharing” are the hallmarks of a Catholic tradition. Again, parents use this opportunity as a teachable moment.



OLA CHILDREN’S CHOIR

Our Children’s Choir will begin it Spring Season!

Thursday, Feb. 6th in the Church Choir Loft.

We meet most Thursdays

Rehearsal is 6 PM to 6:50 PM.

This is a Church activity for students ages 7 - 13.

If you are interested in joining, contact Anne Sprissler at asprissler@olastrafford.org

2024 CONTRIBUTIONS LETTER

To request your 2024 Contributions Letter for tax filing purposes, please email:

ParishOffice@olastrafford.org or call the Parish Office at 610-688-1178.

Parish Giving will automatically be sending an email summary of online 2024 Contributions.



ASSUMPTION ACADEMY 2025 News



Happy Catholic Schools Week !

This is a very special week for all of us at Assumption Academy. It is a time to focus on the blessings that we receive everyday within the walls of our school.

We are blessed to be able to pray daily, in good times and bad, in thanksgiving and in sorrow. We are blessed to learn about our Creator, His son, Jesus, The Holy Family and the Saints. We are blessed to be able to teach the lessons of the Sermon on the Mount to young children so that they grow in compassion and empathy.

We are blessed to have the support of the OLA parish community.

This past week, we celebrated all of our blessings with gratitude, outreach and FUN!

Thank you for your continued support & prayers.



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Please Consider sponsoring our fundraiser

Sponsorship Levels

Gold Sponsorship (\$1,000)

Silver Sponsorship (\$500)

Bronze Sponsorship (\$250)

Family Sponsor (\$50)

Call 610-688-5277 for more information

STEWARDSHIP

YTD Weekend of:	1/19/2025	1/21/2024
Collection:	\$ 182,162	\$ 157,102
Electronic Giving:	\$ 83,436	\$ 76,069
TOTAL	\$ 265,598	\$ 233,171

2024 ANNUAL APPEAL to-date: **\$ 119,190**

FAITH FORMATION

ASSUMPTION ACADEMY NEWS

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR'S CORNER

PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



In the Book of Exodus, we read about the Lord striking down “every firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh sitting on his throne to the firstborn of the prisoner in the dungeon, as well as all the firstborn of the animals” (*Ex.* 12:29). Pharaoh then called Moses and told him to “leave my people at once, you and the Israelites! Go and serve the Lord as you said” (*Ex.* 12:31). As they left Egypt, God commanded Moses: “Consecrate to me every firstborn; whatever opens the womb among the Israelites, whether of human being or beast, belongs to me” (*Ex.* 13:2). This was one of the first laws that God commanded his newly-formed nation to follow; it even preceded the Ten Commandments. And so, from that time onward, all observant Jews would sacrifice their firstborn animals and ransom their firstborn son by offering either “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons” (*Lv.* 12:8).

The Feast of the Presentation that we celebrate this weekend began to be observed in the Church in the sixth century. Since it is celebrated on Sunday only when February 2nd occurs on a Sunday, it hasn't been part of our Sunday celebration since 2020. Allow me to reflect on its significance in Salvation History and for each of us today.

This first appearance of Jesus in the temple served to fulfill certain prophecies, like that of Malachi that we read in today's first reading: “Suddenly there will come to the temple the Lord whom you seek” (*Mal* 3:1). Upon his appearance, our Lord would bring purification so that the sacrifices offered by the sons of Levi would be authentic and pleasing to God.

Jesus is described by the author of the *Letter to the Hebrews* in today's second reading as one like us: “Since the children share in blood and flesh, Jesus likewise shared in them” (*Hb* 2:14). This letter also anticipates our Lord's death which will overcome the devil and our slavery to the devil: “through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who through fear of death had been subject to slavery all their life” (*Hb* 2:15). In today's Gospel, we also hear Simeon speak of the salvific nature of Jesus' mission: “Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word, for my eyes have seen your salvation” (*Lk* 2:29). Up to this point, the gospel narrative has reflected the joy of new parents and their child, happily observing the rituals of the law they loved. But, then, Simeon interjects an ominous note: “Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be contradicted – and you yourself a sword will pierce – so that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed” (*Lk* 2:34-35). Only at great cost would Jesus carry out the purpose for which he was born. Both he and his mother would know suffering. But, that suffering, as Anna the prophetess would affirm, would bring about the redemption of Jerusalem (*Luke* 2:38) while offering the light of salvation to the gentiles (*Luke* 2:32).

Yes, this is an important feast since it demonstrates both the faithfulness of the Holy Family and offers glimpses into the great work that this little infant, presented in the temple in fulfillment of the Jewish Law, would accomplish for all of humanity. As we continue Ordinary Time, time ordered by God for our salvation, let us reflect on this feast and its meaning for us today. Whenever Jesus, Son of God and son of Mary and Joseph, came to the temple throughout his life, his presence lent purity, his words offered light and life, and, in the end, his once-and-for-all perfect sacrifice would effect the redemption of all of humankind.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT:

The **Sacrament of Confirmation** will be administered by Archbishop Nelson Perez on **Sunday, March 2, 2025 at the 10 AM Mass**. Due to the seating required for the Confirmandi, sponsors and family members, there will only be 7 pews in the back on either side available for parishioners. Liturgy of the Word for Children on this Sunday will NOT be offered. No announcements will be made at this Mass. We ask that you keep this in mind when you are planning to attend Mass on Sunday, March 2nd. It is not our intention to discourage anyone from attending Mass, but we want you to be fully aware of the limited seating that will be available at the 10 AM Mass on Sunday, March 2nd. Please pray for our Confirmation candidates and their families!