

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:

In Transition

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 4, 2024

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Blessing of Throats

(Feast of St. Blaise)

MY OLA † MY FAMILY OF FAITH



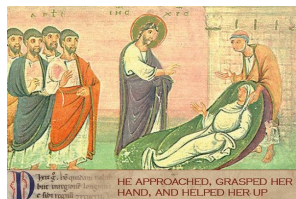
MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday –February 3, 2024

St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr

St. Ansgar, Bishop

- 9:00 Mary & Joseph Penkala
by Granddaughter, Christine He & Family
- 5 PM Peg Saidis by Sharon & Michael Saidis



Sunday,
February 4, 2024
5th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

- 7:00 Special Intentions of Jennifer & Diana Vu
by Their Parents, Andy & Jenny Vu
- 8:30 Darlene Daniels
by Dino & Yolanda Calvarese
- 10 AM Timothy Weglicki by The Flynn Family

Monday - February 5, 2024

St. Agatha, Virgin & Martyr

- 8:00 Henry "Hank" Ginnona
by Fran & Shirley Pietrini

Tuesday - February 6, 2024

St. Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs

- 8:00 Darlene Daniels by Vince Calvarese

Wednesday - February 7, 2024

- 8:00 Allan & Lois Flemming
by Joseph & Francis Schuda

Thursday - February 8, 2024

St. Jerome Emilliani

St. Josephine Backhita, Virgin

- 8:00 Deceased Members of the Flaviano &
Mamie Norcini Families
by Daughter, Laura Jansen & Family

Friday - February 9, 2024

- 8:00 Katherine Lex by Son, George Lex

Saturday –February 10, 2024

St. Scholastica, Virgin

- 9:00 Lauren Moran by Amy & Chris Grant
- 5 PM Deceased Members of the Salamone Family

Sunday, February 11, 2024

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

World Day of the Sick

World Marriage Day

- 7:00 For the People of the Parish
- 8:30 Special Intentions of Janet Lombardo
by Susan Kincade
- 10 AM Darlene Daniels
by Robert, Millie & Millie Slifer

SANCTUARY LAMP IS BURNING

For: Giacomo & Genoeffa Trosini
Week of: February 4, 2024
By: Daughter, Tina Lopez & Family

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please pray for the sick and disabled members of our parish family:

Nicole LaMonaca, Ed Drill, Anthony Ciarlone, Elsa Marsili, Josephine Sorrentino, Logan Schweiter, Margaret Cox, Victor Newton, William Vallejo, Carole Pullo, Gloria Biondi, Taylor Boileau, Dan, Angie, Nick & Kelly Sciaratta, Barbara Pupek, Catherine Harmer, John Becker, Janet Fleming, Holly Weaver, Louise Fehn, Milena Trosini, Yolanda Price, Russell Demanczyk, Fran Neary, Gabe Yervelli, Carolyn Weber, Arthur Mattmiller, Ed Rofi, Msgr. Marino, Fr. Woodeshick, Msgr. Malone, Fr. Carbonaro, Ann Koltay, Maria DiGiacomo, Kaitlyn Dorris, Marcella Canfarotta, Jim Batalise, Lynette Donnelly, Meghan Pitts, Rose Rogers, Philomena Mozanni, Erin & Noah Vandiver, Bill & Theresa Sherwin, John Catalanotto, Bella Reid, Elizabeth Maratea, Julia Whalon, Mike Long, Kristen Boyer, Goldie Trowery, Mary Lewis, Jim Spang, Brian Hunsberger, Carla Santoleri, Helen Carver, Ronnie Kelly, Jerry Rineer, Marian Quick, Ralph D'Ignazio, Martha Marcantonio, Mark Michaels, Dave Flinn, Joe Ellis, Jessica Recchi, Joyce Kleiber, John H. Shelsy, Joseph Carver, Carolyn DiDomizio Weber, Jay Fogarty, Cassie Hunt, Di McTiernan, Amie Hamel, Carol Barbera, Mike Howley, Tammy Kohal & Theresa Flanagan.

Please remember in your prayers the deceased members of our parish family, especially for James Tomasso. May his soul & 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, Matthew Wilson & Bryan Dixon.

OUTREACH HELP

Outreach helps those in need in our community. Donations can be made to the Giving Room. If you find yourself in need, you can reach a member of the Outreach Team by calling the Parish Office at 610-688-1178 or calling Vince Caprio at 610-644-3482.

ITEMS COLLECTED BY OUTREACH:

- ♦ Dry & canned food/pantry items
(OLA food pantry is extremely low)
- ♦ Frozen casseroles
(pans & recipes in the Giving Room)
- ♦ Gently used Men's shirts, pants/jeans & sweat-shirts for the homeless men in Norristown, PA!
- ♦ Diapers (all sizes), wipes, baby food, bottles and formula
- ♦ Cleaning supplies

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Holy Hour from 7 PM - 8 PM Tuesday

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

How do I best learn more deeply about Jesus?

PREP

Our Family Catechesis Session will be on Sunday, Feb. 4th at 9:30 AM! Our final session for the year will be on March 3rd. Any materials completed by that time should be sent in or emailed to me. Please remember the Outreach for this month will be cans or boxes of soup for our Giving Room.

Levels 1 to 7 will have no class on the weekend and Monday of February 18-19 due to President's Day holiday!

Level 7 will have their Confirmation Retreat on Feb. 25th. Information will be sent home with the students and an email will also be sent closer to that date!

Lent is just around the corner – Let us prepare well for this holy Season!

**“THE SAMARITANS CHOICE
- AN ACT OF LOVE.”**

On Mon., Feb. 19, 2024 at 7 PM at St. Joseph Church, (332 Manor Avenue, Downingtown, PA), in the church, the Archdiocesan Office for Life & Family in partnership with the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, American Association will present an educational program designed to help stem the tide of human trafficking in our local community. The presentation is provided free of charge and open to all. The focus is on prevention and protection for you, your family and those who fall into your sphere of influence by raising awareness on how to identify the signs, how to report it, and how to support survivors. For more information on this program please visit the website:
<https://phillycatholiclife.org/> .

RETROUVAILLE

REDISCOVER THE LOVE IN YOUR MARRIAGE - February 16-18, 2024 at the Family Life Center in Malvern, PA. Tens of thousands of couples have healed their marriages through Retrouvaille (pronounced Retro-vy). Retrouvaille helps couples learn to build communication skills and to increase intimacy, while providing help for marriage problems, difficulties, or crises. For more information, or to register, visit www.HelpOurMarriage.org or call 215-766-3944 or 800-470-2230. All inquiries are strictly confidential.


**ASSUMPTION
ACADEMY
2024 News**
**Catholic School's Week**

On today's episode of Myth Busters allow me to bust a few myths about Catholic Schools.

Catholic School teachers don't have to be certified.

BUSTED

The Archdiocese of Philadelphia requires teacher's to be licensed and certified in the State of PA. At Assumption Academy, every teacher (and a few aides) holds a degree in Early Childhood, Elementary and or Special Education. Several hold Master's Degrees and one has a Reading Specialist Certification.

Catholic Schools do not follow the State Standards for Education.

BUSTED

All schools in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia adhere to the educational standards set forth by the state of PA. Assumption Academy utilizes both the Frogstreet curriculum and Benchmark with the added benefit of being able to spend the day with Jesus and the Holy Family.

Catholic School tuition is too high.

BUSTED

Due to the generosity of alumni, parishioners and complete strangers who donate through the EITC program, no one is turned away for an inability to pay tuition. **The plain fact is that Catholic Schools like Assumption Academy are some of the best schools you will ever find.**

PASTOR'S CORNER



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Dear Friends,

This weekend, we celebrate the *Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time*. We find Jesus in the home of Simon Peter whose mother-in-law He had just cured. "The whole town gathered at the door" when evening came. This was Jesus' first time being in Capernaum after beginning His public ministry, and already people were flocking to Him in droves. The next morning, Jesus gets up before dawn and goes away alone to pray. Soon, some of the disciples find Him and tell Him that, once again, the whole town was looking for Him. The excitement at this moment was great. So many people were amazed. Their amazement at Jesus was not simply just a form of curiosity. It was an amazement fueled by faith, which is why Jesus was able to perform so many miracles there. The people quickly realized that Jesus was the One of Whom the prophets of old had spoken. He was the Messiah, and the people gave Him their full attention.

As we think of the crowds and their unwavering desire to be near our Lord, we should consider our own desires pertaining to God. Do we regularly find ourselves consumed with a desire to find our Lord, to be with Him, to listen to Him and to receive His grace and mercy? Or are we sometimes tempted to see Jesus and the practice of our faith as boring and uninteresting? One of the unfortunate effects of modern technology is that we easily become fascinated by and intrigued with many superficial things. Perhaps it's the latest short video on a mobile app, or the latest episode of a favorite television series, or a new post by a friend on social media. There are many things today that compete for our attention, intrigue us and even amaze us. But this weekend we are invited to ask ourselves, "Is Jesus one of those things in our life?"

The people in today's Gospel were so enthralled by Jesus that they continually sought Him out. We are invited this weekend to think about their excitement, their hope and their genuine joy at their discovery of the Messiah. As we think about them, consider whether we too can share in their excitement about Jesus. And, if that excitement is lacking, let us recommit ourselves to seeking out our Lord. Wherever we see that excitement present, rejoice and give glory to God.

On Saturday, we celebrate the Feast of St. Blaise, Bishop and Martyr. He has been traditionally invoked as a patron saint of those suffering from diseases of the throat. On his feast day, we will bless throats with candles that were blessed previously on Candlemas Day. As customary here at OLA, we will also have the Blessing of Throats at all of our Masses this weekend for those who could not be present on his actual feast day. At the end of Mass, a "general" blessing will be imparted over the entire congregation. Then for those who would prefer an "individual" blessing, you will be invited by the priest to come forward and do so.

It seems hard to believe that soon we will enter the season of Lent. Lent is a very austere time liturgically. No flowers are placed at the altar and the joyful Gloria and Alleluia are taken away until Easter. This simplicity recalls the simplicity of the desert in which our Lord fasted and prayed before He began His public ministry. We too are called at this time of year to spiritually go into the desert of Lent to renew the vows of our baptism.

It has been customary here at Our Lady of the Assumption to have our music for Mass adjusted to reflect the sentiments of this penitential season. We do this in several ways. First, the organ is only played to sustain the singing of the congregation and secondly, we use more simple chants at the Entrance and Communion time of Mass as well as for some of our Mass parts. There are two things that you will be made more conscious of at Mass. First, in the case of the Entrance and Communion Chants, we will be actually singing the Mass itself. This option to do so has always been present since the reforms of the Second Vatican Council but oftentimes has not been chosen with the option of replacing these texts with "another suitable song". More recent awareness of the importance of singing the Mass has inspired composers to set these texts to music. We will use these then to allow the words of the Mass to penetrate our minds and hearts.

Secondly, several of our Ordinary Mass parts will be sung in Latin using simple music as well. This not only helps to carry on the vision of the Second Vatican Council regarding the desire that all Catholics be able to participate together universally in a common prayed language, but also these musical settings will maintain a simple and prayerful atmosphere.

I look forward to sharing more with you about the music we have planned for Lent over the next few weeks. In the meantime, I hope and pray these changes will add to your journey towards Easter.

Love & prayers, Fr. Carey