

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

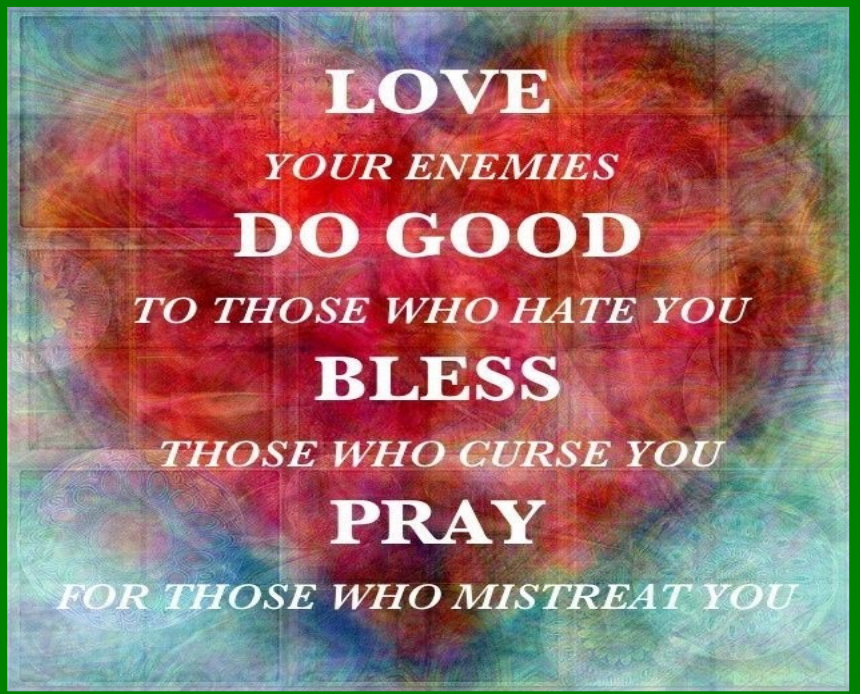
Call the Parish Office and press 1.

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 23, 2025

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MY OLA † MY FAMILY OF FAITH



Baskets will be in the vestibule from 2/09/2025 thru 3/02/2025 to collect your old blessed palm which will become our ashes for Ash Wednesday.

The Rosary will be prayed 20 minutes prior to all Masses next weekend except 10 AM Mass.



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday – February 22, 2025

THE CHAIR OF ST. PETER, APOSTLE

- 9 AM Domenico Calvarese
by Brother, Dino & Yolanda Calvarese
- 5 PM Confraternity of St. Peter by Chris Renzi

Sunday, February 23, 2025

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:00 T. Richard Campbell
by Daughter, Nancy Campbell
- 8:30 Michael Verguldi
by Dino & Yolanda Calvarese
- 10 AM Armond “Mondi” Novelli
by Daughter Jean Novelli Capolupo

Monday - February 24, 2025

- 8:00 Luigi Claudio Sciandro
by John & Anita Catlanotto

Tuesday - February 25, 2025

- 8:00 For the People of the Parish

Wednesday - February 26, 2025

- 8:00 Joseph Somers
by Daughter, Christine & Mark Gaeto

Thursday - February 27, 2025

**St. Gregory of Narek,
Abbot & Doctor of the Church**

- 8:00 Jack & Claire Norton
by Sr. Jeannine Norton, IHM

Friday - February 28, 2025

- 8:00 Nunzio (Sonny) Irrera 90th Birthday
by Daughter, Cynthia Irrera Mauriello

Saturday – March 1, 2025

First Saturday

- 9 AM Rev. Francis Rauseo, Pastor
- 5 PM Ralph J. Salamone
by The Salamone Family

Sunday, March 2, 2025

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 7:00 Flaviano & Vincenza Norcini
by Daughter, Laura Jansen & Family
- 8:30 Giulio Odorisio
by Daughter, Lisa Mari & Family
- 10 AM Virginia Giovannini
by Ralph & Virginia DiFronzo
(Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated.)

SANCTUARY LAMP IS BURNING



For: Lauren & Poppy Robb
Week of: February 23, 2025
By: Nanny Robb

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Please pray for the sick and disabled members of our parish family: William Vallejo, Carole Pullo, Gloria Biondi, Taylor Boileau, Nick & Kelly Sciaratta, Barbara Puppek, Catherine Harmer, John Becker, Janet Fleming, 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, 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, Donna DeLuca & Nicholas Connolly.

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 they can with these seniors & families. Please contact either Vince Caprio at 610-644-3482 or the Parish Office (610-688-1178) to provide the name, address and phone number of the members of our community who may be in need of assistance.

ITEMS COLLECTED BY OUTREACH:

- ◇ **Dry & canned food/pantry items**
(OLA food pantry is extremely low)
- ◇ Frozen casseroles
- ◇ Gently used Men’s shirts, pants/jeans, & sweatshirts for the homeless men at A Brother’s House in Norristown, PA!
- ◇ Diapers (all sizes), wipes, and formula
- ◇ Cleaning Supplies

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Holy Hour from 7 PM - 8 PM Tuesday

QUESTION OF THE WEEK: Which is the most difficult challenge for me: turning the other cheek when I have been hurt or wronged, refraining from judging others, or giving without repayment? How will I change my thinking and my behavior?

PREP

On Sunday, Feb. 23 we will have a final practice for the Confirmation Class in Church from 11:15 AM until 1 PM. All students from this class are expected to report directly to the Sacred Heart Chapel. Please continue to keep these students in your prayer.

Our Outreach for the "Souper Bowl" collection of soup will end at the end of February! Thank you to all who have participated in this effort!

Our Confirmation Ceremony will be on Sunday, March 2 at the 10 AM Mass. There will be reserved seating for the class, sponsors and families of the students. There are only 14 additional available pews for parishioners who wish to attend this Mass!

Our final session for the Family Catechesis Program will be on Sunday, March 9th at 9:45 AM in Assumption Hall.

LENTEN SOUP SALES

LOLA will be taking orders for and selling Italian Wedding Soup for Lent. You can complete an order form or purchase a quart on the weekend of 3/15 & 16. Each quart is \$15. All proceeds benefit OLA.

LENTEN CANTATA: NO GREATER LOVE

On Sunday, March 16th at 2 PM, a compilation of Lenten hymns that call to mind the final week of Jesus' life will be performed by the OLA Adult Choir, OLA Children's Choir, the Music Angels & soloists.

JOIN OLA'S FLOCKNOTE PAGE!

To join Flocknote either

1. text **MYOLAFAMILY** to 84576 or
2. scan the QR code



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 2024 News



There is still time



to come over the rainbow with us to find the \$10,000 pot of GOLD!

The Raffle is back!
Each ticket is \$100.

The winning ticket will be drawn on March 8th.

This is the main fundraiser for the school and this year could be the biggest event yet.

If you would like to sponsor this event, more information can be found here:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_ZGDwLzKl8C0V1V7l1aD_mLkQ3Uav7yE/view?usp=sharing

If you would like to purchase a ticket, you can complete the bottom portion of this column and drop it in the collection basket. \$100 can be paid by check or venmo at @OLA-Assumption.

I would like to purchase #_____ ticket

For _____

Phone # _____

\$_____ check enclosed

\$_____ sent via VENMO)



STEWARDSHIP

| YTD Weekend of: | 2/09/2025 | 2/11/2024 |
|--------------------|------------|------------|
| Collection: | \$ 203,915 | \$ 180,461 |
| Electronic Giving: | \$ 89,360 | \$ 80,284 |
| TOTAL | \$ 293,275 | \$ 260,745 |

FAITH FORMATION

ASSUMPTION ACADEMY NEWS

PAROCHIAL ADMINISTRATOR'S CORNER

The Sacrament of Confirmation



“Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.” At the 10:00am Mass next Sunday, Archbishop Nelson Pérez will confirm 16 of our parishioners with the imposition of hands and the anointing of the forehead. This completes their initiation into the Church, which began at Baptism and was nurtured through the Eucharist. These three sacraments – Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation – are so important in the spiritual life & health of Catholics that we as a parish celebrate with great joy on this special occasion! I thank Sr. Rita Marian Angelilli, IHM, all the catechists and teachers involved and especially the parents of these children for helping them prepare for this important moment in their life-long spiritual journey!

I consider this is a good opportunity every year to reflect on the Sacrament of Confirmation. The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* provides valuable insights into the historical development and rich theology of this sacrament; allow me to provide some highlights in the hope that you will read and reflect on the entire section (§1285 – 1321) yourself. The *Catechism* begins by stating that:

Baptism, the Eucharist and the sacrament of Confirmation together constitute the “sacraments of Christian initiation,” whose unity must be safeguarded. ...The reception of the sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal graces, for “by the sacrament of Confirmation, the baptized are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are, as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed.” (§1285)

The *CCC* goes on to provide the scriptural foundation for Confirmation:

In the Old Testament the prophets announced that the Spirit of the Lord would rest on the hoped-for Messiah for his saving mission. The descent of the Holy Spirit on Jesus at his baptism by John was the sign that this was he who was to come, the Messiah, the Son of God. ...This fullness of the Spirit was not to remain uniquely the Messiah’s but was to be communicated to the *whole messianic people*. On several occasions, Christ promised this outpouring of the Spirit, a promise which he fulfilled first on Easter Sunday and then more strikingly at Pentecost. Filled with the Holy Spirit, the apostles began to proclaim “the mighty works of God.” ...Those who believed in the apostolic preaching and were baptized received the gift of the Holy Spirit in their turn. From that time on, the apostles, in fulfillment of Christ’s will, imparted to the newly baptized by the laying on of hands the gift of the Spirit that completes the grace of Baptism. ...The imposition of hands is rightly recognized by the Catholic tradition as the origin of the sacrament of Confirmation. ...Very early, the better to signify the gift of the Holy Spirit, an anointing with perfumed oil (*chrism*) was added to the laying on of hands. This anointing highlights the name “Christian,” which means “anointed. (§1286-1289)

The *CCC* also provides a helpful explanation of the reason oil is one of the signs of Confirmation:

Anointing, in Biblical and other ancient symbolism, is rich in meaning: oil is a sign of abundance and joy; it cleanses (anointing before and after a bath) and limbers (the anointing of athletes and wrestlers); oil is a sign of healing, since it is soothing to bruises and wounds; and it makes radiant with beauty, health and strength. (§1293)

Through the laying on of hands and the anointing with chrism, the bishop confirms the presence of God’s Spirit in those who were first given this Spirit at baptism and strengthens their baptismal grace! Again, congratulations to our parishioners who are soon to be fully initiated into our faith community!

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENT:

The **Sacrament of Confirmation** will be administered next **Sunday, March 2, 2025 at the 10 AM Mass**. There will only be 7 pews in the back on either side available for parishioners. We ask that you consider attending either the 5 PM Vigil Mass on Sat., 3/1 or Sun 3/2. at 7 AM or 8:30 AM Masses where there is ample room. Please pray for our Confirmation candidates and their families!