

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



March 3, 2024
3rd Sunday of Lent

MY OLA † MY FAMILY OF FAITH

**Lord You Have the
Words of
Eternal Life**

Psalm 19

LENTEN ACTIVITIES:

OLA Choir Cantata: "Lenten Sketches"

Sunday, 3/03/2024 at 4 PM in church

**Eucharistic Adoration & Confession,
Tuesday, 3/05/2024 at 7 PM in church**

**Mary's Way of the Cross led by Bette Jo Rose
Wednesday, 3/06/2024 at 7 PM**

Stations of the Cross, Friday, 3/08/2024 at 7 PM

MASSES FOR THE WEEK**Saturday –March 2, 2024****First Saturday**

- 9:00 Giulio Odorisio
by Daughter, Lisa Mari & Family
- 5 PM Margaret Crowe
by Michael & Cecilia Macera

Sunday, March 3, 2024**3rd Sunday of Lent**

- 7:00 Deceased Members of the Carini Family
by The Salamone Family
- 8:30 Maria Norma Benigni
by Dino & Yolanda Calvarese
- 10 AM Virginia Giovannini, 1st Anniv.
by Virginia & Ralph DiFronzo

Monday - March 4, 2024**St. Casimir**

- 8:00 Gertrude Verguldi
by Jim Calvarese & Family

Tuesday - March 5, 2024

- 8:00 Maria Norma Benigni
by Dennis, Judy, Dennis & Michelle Tolan

Wednesday - March 6, 2024

- 8:00 For the People of the Parish

Thursday - March 7, 2024**Sts. Perpetua & Felicity, Martyrs**

- 8:00 Baby Winona Ruth Geralamo
by The Fernandez Famuly

Friday - March 8, 2024**St. John of God, Religious**

- 8:00 Darlene Daniels by Marie Lemma

Saturday –March 9, 2024**St. Frances of Rome, Religious**

- 9:00 Baby Winona Ruth Geralamo
by The Fernandez Famuly
- 5 PM Maureen Rebstock by Maureen McCafferty

Sunday, March 10, 2024**4th Sunday of Lent****Laetare Sunday**

- 7:00 T. Richard Campbell 5th Anniv.
by Daughter, Nancy
- 8:30 Julia Quici by Daughter, Ann Giacomucci
- 10 AM Rose D'Innocenzo
by Son, Peter & Donna D'Innocenzo

SANCTUARY LAMP IS BURNING

For: Nicole Giacche

Week of: March 3, 2024

By: Mike & Joan Emmi

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, 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 Armond "Mondie" Novelli. 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.

CHANGE FOR CHRIST WATER JUGS

During Lent, we are collecting alms for the Mother of Mercy House in Kensington. This inner city ministry was started by 2 Philadelphia priests and an IHM sister. You can learn more about this ministry supporting the poor at www.motherofmercyhouse.org/about. Please pick up a purple cup and return it during Lent to an Usher or the Parish Office. There are water jugs in both vestibules. It is also possible to donate online using "Change for Christ" in Parish Giving.

OLA CHOIR CANTATA

The OLA Choir will perform *Lenten Sketches* by Joseph M. Martin today, **Sun., 3/3 at 4 PM.**

This Cantata is a musical portrait of the last pivotal days of Christ's earthly ministry: the Triumphal Entry; the Last Supper, the Garden of Gethsemane; and the Crucifixion.

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

Who can I invite to reconcile with? How can I view my relationships based more on love than on reciprocation? How does that affect how I act?

PREP

Today, 3/03, is the final session for the Family Catechesis program for this year. Parents & students meet from 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM in the Gym. I will ask each parent to sign the Safe Environment information form indicating your preference for the presentation of the lessons for this year. All student interactive review results should be completed & turned in by the end of March by hard copy or email.

All PREP students have been given a Purple Lenten cup to use for the months of March & April for our final Outreach of the year. Monies collected will be joined with the Parish Lenten Outreach which is for Mother of Mercy House located in Kensington in Philadelphia which supports one of the poorest neighborhoods in Philadelphia.

The Safe Environment lessons for this year will be presented to the students on Monday, 3/04 during regular class time. Optional Opt-out forms must be returned prior to that class.

MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS WED., 3/06 AT 7 PM

Everyone is invited to attend this special prayer service walking us through the Passion of Christ from our Blessed Mother's perspective sponsored by the Walking With Purpose Women's Bible Study.

OUTREACH

Outreach helps those in need in our community. Donations can be made to the Giving Room. If you find yourself in need, contact the Parish Office at 610-688-1178 or **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 available.*)
- ◊ Gently used Men's shirts, pants/jeans & sweatshirts for the homeless men.
- ◊ Diapers (all sizes), wipes, baby food, bottles and formula
- ◊ Cleaning supplies
- ◊ Adult Depends - Medium & Large

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION & LENTEN CONFESSIONS

Holy Hour from 7 PM - 8 PM Tuesday

Come spend an hour with Jesus!

LENT
— 40 Days Of Renewal —



ASSUMPTION ACADEMY 2024 News



The Return of Go For the GOLD:

The \$10,000 Raffle is back!

Each ticket is \$100.

The winning ticket will be drawn in May.

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, please call the school office at 610-688-5277

Or

Email: pwelsh@assumption.academy

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 @Assumption-PreK

I would like to purchase
#_____ ticket(s) for:

Name _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

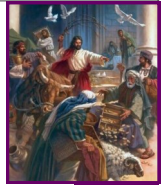
\$_____ check enclosed

\$_____ sent via VENMO)



CONTRIBUTION LETTER: To request your 2023 Contributions Letter for tax filing, contact the Parish Office at 610-688-1178 or email: ParishOffice@olastrafford.org.

PASTOR'S CORNER



Dear Friends,

This weekend, we celebrate the *Third Sunday of Lent*. Our gospel tells the account of the Cleansing of the Temple. Jesus dramatically makes a whip and drives out the money changers, those selling animals to be sacrificed, and even the animals themselves. As Our Lord overturns the tables, He shouts that His Father's house should not be "a marketplace." This cleansing occurred during Passover, when the Temple was crowded with pilgrims from Israel and beyond. Therefore, we can imagine the great chaos. With His actions, Jesus was disrupting and even destroying the system that had been set in place for these many travelers to pay the temple tax and purchase animals for sacrifice. The reason that Jesus cleansed the Temple was because the activity there was focused not on worship, but instead on worldly things. By chasing everyone and everything from the Temple area, Jesus was clearing out all that distracted from reverence for God and set back in order the practice of right worship. During this season of Lent, we might consider how we could do the same. What in our lives is distracting us from our proper worship of the Lord?

Part of our daily routine should be time for prayer. It is fitting during Lent to fast from an activity, such as time spent on social media or watching television, to make more time for prayer. In this way, we turn our eyes toward the Lord and sanctify our daily routine. Today's gospel also brings to mind our worship of God on Sunday. We must always keep in mind how we keep holy the "rest" of our Sundays, which can easily get cluttered with unnecessary work and activities that pull us away from our families and our prayers. In addition to Mass, perhaps we can consider sanctifying our Sundays with reading Scripture or offering private prayers and devotions, or simply sitting still for a while in silence with the Lord. In this way, we can turn our eyes toward the Lord and truly call it the Lord's Day, making changes that will lead to an experience that is less cluttered and more focused on God. By baptism, we are made His temples. How is the Lord asking us to make our temples holy, to rearrange our schedules in order to cleanse our lives of worldly things? This Lent, may we rely on Christ's grace to overturn the distractions in our lives and turn more fully toward Him in true and sincere worship.

This Sunday, March 3rd our own OLA Choir will present a musical offering called *The Lenten Sketches* composed by Joseph M. Martin. This hour-long work will provide us an opportunity to reflect (through music) on the last pivotal days of Christ's earthly ministry. It is my hope that you can come to hear our choir who have worked hard to provide this spiritually enriching event for our parish community during this holy season of Lent. The Lenten Sketches will take place at 4 PM in the church. I take this opportunity to thank our choir under the direction of Anne Sprissler for offering this special music to help us spiritually on our Lenten journey towards Easter.

You are invited to join us for Mary's Way of the Cross, sponsored by OLA's Walking With Purpose on Wed., March 6th at 7 PM in the church. This is a beautiful version of the Stations of the Cross as seen through the eyes of our Blessed Mother.

Next weekend Msgr. David Benz will be speaking at all of the weekend Masses on behalf of *Cross Catholic Outreach*. Cross Catholic Outreach is an international Catholic organization founded to create a meaningful link between parishes in America & the priests & nuns working overseas in the Caribbean, Africa, Asia & Central & South America. Msgr. Benz is a frequent guest here at OLA. Many of you have come to know him well. We look forward to seeing him once again & hearing about his current ministry to the poor.

Just as a reminder, our church will be open for Confessions & a Holy Hour before the Blessed Sacrament from 7 PM – 8 PM every Tuesday evening during the season of Lent. Also, Stations of the Cross devotions are scheduled for each Friday in Lent at 7 PM. Please consider participating in these traditional Lenten practices & especially bringing your children to participate in them.

I encourage you once again (if you haven't done so already) to take home one of the purple cups available at the exits of the church. Each year, during the season of Lent, we take up our annual appeal called "*Change for Christ*". This year, we are supporting Mother of Mercy House located in Kensington, Philadelphia. I invite you to visit their website: <https://motherofmercyhouse.org/> to learn more about them. This is a wonderful cause & a special opportunity to teach ourselves and our children the need to make sacrifices for others and to recognize the face of Christ in those who are poor and needy.

Once again, I am so grateful for your prayerful & financial support of our parish. May you and your families continue to have a fruitful and blessed Lent!

Love & prayers, Fr. Carey