

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:

Nicole Giacche

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRY:

Anne Sprissler

PARISH OFFICE PHONE: 610-688-1178

WEBSITE: olastrafford.org

SUMMER PARISH OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Thurs.: 8:30AM - 4PM & Fri. 8:30 AM - 12Noon

Emergencies

Call the Parish Office and press 1.

PREP OFFICE

Sr. Rita Marian Angelilli, IHM

ASSUMPTION ACADEMY

Patricia Welsh 610-688-5277

THE PARABLE OF THE TWO SONS Matthew 21:28-32

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

October 1, 2023

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

MY OLA † MY FAMILY OF FAITH

REMEMBER YOUR
MERCIES O LORD

PSALM 24 (25)

The Rosary will be prayed 20 minutes
prior to all Masses next weekend.



MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday – September 30, 2023

St. Jerome, Priest & Doctor of the Church

9:00 John Garzarella by Linda Worrall

5 PM Anthony Ercole, 10th Anniv.
by Wife, Filomena & Family

Sunday, October 1, 2023

26th Sunday**in Ordinary Time**

7:00 Joanne A. Doyle by Richard & Rosemary Ise

8:30 Special Graduation Intentions of Joseph
O'Connell by Peter & Donna D'Innocenzo10 AM Anthony Mascuilli, 12th Anniv.
by Wife, Rose Marie & Children**Monday - October 2, 2023****The Holy Guardian Angels**

8:00 For the People of the Parish

Tuesday - October 3, 2023

8:00 William Lex, 43rd Anniv. By Son, George

Wednesday - October 4, 2023**St. Francis of Assisi**8:00 Brother George Ruhl, CSSR
by Nephew, George**Thursday - October 5, 2023****St. Faustina Kowalska, Virgin****Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos, Priest**

8:00 Marie Hayes by Cathy, Mike & Sophie Kunsch

Friday - October 6, 2023**First Friday****St. Bruno, Priest****Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin**8:00 Richard P. Hood
by Anthony & Dina Gentile & Family**Saturday – October 7, 2023****First Saturday****OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY**9:00 Special Intentions of
Deacon John & Bette Jo Rose
by Richard & Rosemary Ise5 PM Special Intentions of John Catalanotto
by Maryann Belmonte**Sunday, October 8, 2023****27th Sunday in Ordinary Time**

7:00 For the People of the Parish

8:30 Bob & Bette Neely
by Daughter, Bette Jo & Deacon John Rose10 AM Nancy Marie Kraft
by Son, Karl Kraft & 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, Nicole Giacche, 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, Jennifer Hartmann, Joseph Carver, Carolyn DiDomizio Weber, John H. Shelsy, Jay Fogarty, Baby Winona Ruth Gerolamo, Cassie Hunt & Di McTiernan.

Please pray for our parishioners serving in the Military:

John Meixner, Rebecca Robbins, Luke Scilovati, Matthew Wilson & Bryan Dixon.

FORTY HOURS**Sun., 10/15 from 11 AM - 8 PM,****Mon., 10/16 from 9 AM - 8 PM****Tues., 10/17 from 9 AM - 8 PM.**

Every night, Evening Prayer will start at 7 PM with Fr. Joseph J. Nicolo, Pastor Emeritus of St. Helena in Blue Bell, PA as our guest homilist. Please sign up for a time to come and sit for an hour with Jesus present in the Eucharist. He is here to listen to our gratitude for blessings, our troubles and our needs for His assistance. There are sign-up lists posted on the bulletin board in the main vestibule by the elevator. Bring a friend!

ALTAR BREAD & WINE MEMORIAL

For:: Special Intentions of
Lauren & Katie Seedor

Week of: **October 1, 2023**

By: Mom & Dad

SANCTUARY LAMP IS BURNING

For: Robert C. Dolley

Week of: **October 1, 2023**

By: The Dolley Family

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

How would my behavior change if I reorient myself toward others and away from myself? What could I do this week that I hadn't planned to do and for whom?

PREP

We welcome our First Holy Communion Class and their families to the 10 AM Mass on Oct. 8th for the Initiation Ceremony marking the beginning of their preparation for the reception of the Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist.

Also on Oct. 8, our Confirmation Class will view a video of the life of Blessed Carlo Acutis. He has been declared Blessed and is on the road for canonization as a Saint. He is recognized for his true devotion to Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament and his relentless determination to spread the truth of Eucharistic miracles. He died at the age of 15 from a form of blood cancer. His spiritual wisdom far surpassed his age and his beautiful spirit serves as an inspiration to all.

Next Sunday, Oct. 15, we welcome our Confirmation Class and their families to the 10:00 AM Mass to take part in the Initiation Ceremony for these students as they prepare for the beautiful Sacrament of Confirmation.

IHM COMPANIONS

IHM Companions meet on the 1st Tuesday of each month in the Convent from 10 AM - 11:30 AM. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sr. Rita Marian in the Parish Office at 610-688-1178.. The 1st meeting is on 10/03/2023.

STEWARDSHIP

SUNDAY & OTHER COLLECTIONS**

(does not include Electronic Parish Giving)

On 9/10/2023: \$ 8,814 9/11/2022 \$ 3,513

** OTHER COLLECTIONS INCLUDE: HOLY DAYS, CHRISTMAS and EASTER FLOWERS

Electronic Parish Giving Deposited on
9/13/2023: \$ 2,427.50

CUM FISCAL YTD TOTALS AS OF
including Electronic Parish Giving
9/13/2023: \$ 83,471 9/14/2022: \$ 77,924

Note: 2023-2024 fiscal YTD offerings are
+ 7.1 % more than 2022-2023.

IMPROVEMENT FUND

including Electronic Parish Giving
YTD TOTALS AS OF

9/13/2023: \$ 7,816 9/14/2022: \$ 6,079

Note: 2023-2024 fiscal YTD offerings are
+ 29.0 % more than 2022-2023.

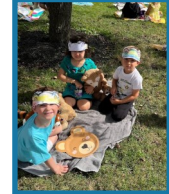
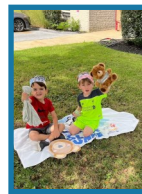
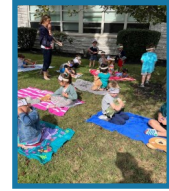
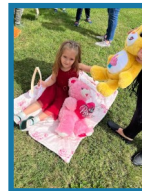
We thank you for your generosity!



ASSUMPTION ACADEMY 2023 News



How did you celebrate the last day of summer?



Please join us Tuesday, 10/3 at 9:30 AM
for a blessing of the animals.
All pets are welcome!

Mommy and Me 2023

Mommy and Me is a teacher-directed program for children ages 18 months to 3 years. Beginning 10/2/2023, **Mommy and Me** will take place from 9:30AM-10:45 AM. Sessions are \$15 or you can purchase a punch card for \$130 — good for 10 sessions.

No need to register.

Just stop in Assumption Hall at 9:30 AM.

Hope to see you there!



WALKING WITH PURPOSE



Please join OLA's Walking with Purpose Women's Bible study for their 6-week study of St. Paul's Letters to the Co- lossians starting Oct. 4th. Classes are held on Weds. evenings in Assumption Hall. For more details and to register, please visit www.olastrafford.org/www.

PASTOR'S CORNER



Dear Friends,

This weekend we celebrate the *Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time*. The gospel for this Sunday contains yet another parable for us to consider. A man had two sons. He asked the first son to go to into the field to work. He refused to do what was asked of him. But afterwards he had a change of heart and went to work as he was asked. When the father asked the second son to go to into the field, he said that he would do so, but he did the very opposite, he did not go to the field. Jesus then turned to the chief priest & the elders and asked them which one of the sons did his father's will. They all agreed; the first son. This parable as we can see then is about hypocrisy, that is, saying one thing & then doing another.

Just as it was for Jesus' followers in His day, this gospel is held up for you and I today so that we too can look truthfully at our own lives. It puts before us some very challenging questions. When I am asked to do something, do I say yes and then do the very opposite? How do I behave and act? Do the words I speak match what I do and how I treat others? These are difficult questions that Jesus puts to each of us through this parable. The old saying "*actions speak louder than words*" is very appropriate for this Gospel. I can say that I am going to help another person who is in need of my help and support, but if I don't actually do anything, what good have I done? And so, may we always have the courage to ask God to help us to put our faith into real concrete action. May we not be like the second son in the Gospel who said one thing and then went and did the very opposite.

The beginning of the month of October brings to mind the feast of St. Francis of Assisi which falls on Wed., Oct. 4th. As customary at this time of year, on Sat., Oct. 7th, we will celebrate our annual parish Blessing of Animals at 10 AM outside in the church Piazza. We welcome all of God's creatures to be blessed that day as we ask that through the intercession of St. Francis they will be protected from all harm and that we will always see them as truly a blessing from God and a source of great comfort. May we always see in them as a reflection of the unconditional love of God.

Next Sunday, Oct. 8th at the 10 AM Mass we will celebrate the Rite of Acceptance with our Level 3 PREP children. These young parishioners are preparing to receive their sacraments of Penance and First Holy Communion. They will be recognized at that Mass and given a special blessing and small gift as they prepare for these important sacramental celebrations in the Spring. Please keep them in your prayers at this time in their journey of faith.

Looking ahead, we will celebrate our annual celebration of **Forty Hours Devotion** beginning on Sunday, Oct. 15th at the 10 AM Mass. The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed upon the altar each day (Sunday, Monday and Tuesday) until 7 PM when we will gather to celebrate sung Evening Prayer and Benediction. This year, we welcome Msgr. Joseph Nicolo, Pastor Emeritus of Saint Helena Parish in Blue Bell, PA who will be our Homilist for these privileged days. I encourage you and your families to attend these evenings of devotion. I know that Msgr. Nicolo's words will be uplifting and inspirational. In addition, we will have sign-up sheets in the vestibule of the church for adorers to cover the daily periods of Adoration. Please check these sheets as you leave church and sign up if you can to spend some quiet time with the Lord present among us in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

Last week we welcomed the pilgrims of the Fr. Bill Atkinson Service Corps who walked in his honor from Villanova to our church. Upon their arrival, they were grateful to have our doors open to offer prayers in thanksgiving as well as a place to have a little food and conversation before returning home. Let us continue to pray for the cause of canonization of this wonderful Augustinian priest.

Lastly, the Annual Appeal letter will be arriving soon to your homes. I have included a Financial and Spiritual report as well as a report on our Outreach Ministry. In addition, there is a census form that you are asked to complete. In my letter I have shared all the projects we were able to complete with last year's appeal and I have taken the opportunity with this year's letter to explain a major project that we need to undertake for the coming year. I ask you to prayerfully consider this year's special capital project and I will keep you updated on our progress in the weeks and months ahead.

Thank you again for all you do for our parish. Until next week, may God bless you and your families!

Love & prayers, Fr. Carey