

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

December 22, 2024
4th Sunday of Advent

+

December 25, 2024
The Nativity of the Lord

MY OLA † MY FAMILY OF FAITH



OLA CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

December 24, 2024: CHRISTMAS EVE

4 PM Vigil Mass in the Church
4:15 PM Vigil Mass in Assumption Hall
11:15 PM OLA Christmas Eve Concert in the Church
12:00 AM Midnight Mass in the Church

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

December 25, 2024: CHRISTMAS DAY

8:30 AM & 10 AM Mass in the Church

THE SOLEMNITY OF MARY, MOTHER OF GOD

12/31 5 PM Mass in the Church
1/01 10 AM Mass in the Church

MASSES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday – December 21, 2024

St. Peter Canisius,

Priest & Doctor of the Church

9 AM Special Intentions of Katie Seedor
by Pat & Marybeth Walsh & Matt Toscani5 PM Nicole Giacche
by John & Anita Catalanotto

Sunday, December 22, 2024

4th Sunday of Advent

7:00 Nick Recchi
by Wife, Antoinette & Family

8:30 Thomas Kincade, Sr. by His Children

10 AM Lawrence Lolli by His Children

Monday - December 23, 2024

St. John of Kanty, Priest

8:00 Louis & Gerri Piombino
by Their Children & Grandchildren

Tuesday - December 24, 2024

CHRISTMAS EVE

8 AM Gerald P. Carey, 18th Anniv.
by Son. Rev. Gerald P. Carey

4 PM For the People of the Parish

4:15 PM For the People of the Parish

12PM For the People of the Parish

Wednesday - December 25, 2024

THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD

8:30 For the People of the Parish

10 AM For the People of the Parish

Thursday - December 26, 2024

St. Stephen, the First Martyr

8:00 Darlene Daniels, Birthday
by Adriana & Tom Custer & Family

Friday - December 27, 2024

ST. JOHN, APOSTLE & EVANGELIST

8:00 Joyce Tomasso
by Daughter, Stephanie & Bryan Oscarson

Saturday – December 28, 2024

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs

9 AM Anthony Lemma
by Maria Lemma & Family5 PM Agnes McCafferty, Birthday
by The McCafferty Family

Sunday, December 29, 2024

THE HOLY FAMILY OF
JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH7:00 Marie-Claude Vittoz
by Diane & Paul Norcini8:30 Dominic & Nancy Toscani,
Beloved Parents by Son, Matt

10 AM Deborah Scavello by Her 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 Sciaratta, Barbara Puppek, 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.

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

OUTREACH HELP**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 & sweatshirts for the homeless men in Norristown, PA!
- ◇ Diapers (all sizes), wipes, baby food, bottles
Formula & Depends (Adult - Medium)
- ◇ Cleaning supplies

QUESTION OF THE WEEK:

What do I need to do in order to discern Jesus' presence in someone I've just met? in a friend? in someone I disagree with?

**ALTAR BREAD & WINE MEMORIAL**

For: Anne Brown
Week of: **December 22, 2024**
By: Dino & Yolanda Calvarese

**SANCTUARY LAMP IS BURNING**

For: Joyce Tomasso
Week of: **December 22, 2024**
By: Her Family

PREP

There will be no PREP classes on:
Sun., Dec. 22nd or Mon., Dec. 23rd
 in anticipation of the Christmas Holiday!

The OLA PREP Faculty, Staff & Students extend to all a sincere wish for
*a Blessed Christmas and
 a Happy New Year in 2025!*



ST. BLAISE MEN'S RETREAT AT MALVERN

Join Us for our 2025 annual St. Blaise Men's Retreat at Malvern on Jan. 31st – Feb. 2nd
Prayer Discernment Fellowship

It's time to get away from the busyness of everyday life & spend time with our Lord.

**Mass, Confession, Rosary,
 Stations of the Cross, Adoration**

Come be part of a group of OLA Men on a shared mission of faith, reflection & fraternity. This year's retreat is being directed by **Fr. Simeon Gallagher**, a renowned Capuchin priest, who will guide us with profound wisdom & insight. We look forward to welcoming you to our retreat!

Sign-up at: <https://www.malvernretreat.com/events/st-blaise-currant-memorial-2025/>

OR

Feel free to use the following QR Code:
 St. Blaise/Currant Memorial 2025



Registration. For more info, contact Anthony Gentile at 610-513-6834 or @ awgentile@verizon.net.

STEWARDSHIP

YTD Weekend of:	12/08/2024	12/10/2023
Collection:	\$ 132,998	\$ 117,390
Electronic Giving:	\$ 64,574	\$ 57,043
TOTAL	\$ 197,572	\$ 174,433

2024 ANNUAL APPEAL to-date: \$ 101,265



ASSUMPTION ACADEMY
 2024 News



The Faculty, Staff & Families of Assumption Academy would like to wish everyone a Very Merry Christmas!

May your hearts be filled with Joy and Peace now and throughout the New Year!



FAITH FORMATION

ASSUMPTION ACADEMY NEWS

MEDITATION ON THE GOSPEL:

On this, the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we hear Elizabeth declare to her cousin, Mary, “blessed is the fruit of your womb.” As Mary generously travels to be with Elizabeth who is expecting a child in her old age, Elizabeth recognizes that an even more generous gift is about to be born: the Savior of the World! As you have been busily finding gifts for your loved ones, I invite you to recall that our gift giving is in imitation of our God’s generous gift to us – his Son, whose coming we eagerly await during this Advent Season.

While he was with us, Jesus offered himself to us under the forms of bread and wine in the Eucharist and to the Father on the cross in expiation for our sins. In dying for us, he overcame the final effect of sin – death as he rose from the dead. His Resurrection allows us to be raised to eternal life with him. And, before he returned to his rightful place at the RIGHT hand of God, he promised the Holy Spirit of God to continue to lead and guide us. Yes, Jesus, the Son of God who became the son of Mary, has, showered us with gifts and we are blessed every day of our lives as we benefit from them.

This is why it is so important to celebrate the sacraments, for through them, we are reminded of God’s great generosity to us and are, in turn, strengthened and encouraged to share of ourselves with those around us. In the *Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy*, the Fathers of the Second Vatican Council remind us that our Lord, who came once in history to accomplish his great work of salvation, and will come again at the end of time to lead all the faithful to our heavenly Father, remains in our midst, especially through the sacraments:

To accomplish so great a work, Christ is always present in His Church, especially in her liturgical celebrations. He is present in the sacrifice of the Mass, not only in the person of His minister, "the same now offering, through the ministry of priests, who formerly offered himself on the cross", but especially under the Eucharistic species. By His power He is present in all the sacraments, so that when a man baptizes it is really Christ Himself who baptizes. He is present in His word, since it is He Himself who speaks when the holy scriptures are read in the Church. He is present, lastly, when the Church prays and sings, for He promised: "Where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them" (*Matthew 18:20*).

Yes, our coming together to worship God is the most sacred action we can perform as we gratefully acknowledge all that God has done for us, especially through his Son, Jesus. And, it guides and directs our daily lives in imitation of Christ’s great work. As we come to the end of another Advent Season, let us give ourselves time to meditate on this great mystery and so prepare ourselves ever more deeply to receive our Lord as we celebrate his coming on Christmas in just a few days. Remember, the very word “Christmas” means “Celebration of the Messiah.” **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**



BUON NATALE! MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Fr. Gerald P. Carey, Pastor

Msgr. Hans A. L. Brouwers, Parochial Administrator

Fr. Augustin Kassa, SMA, Resident Priest

Msgr. Donald Leighton, Weekend Assistant

Deacon Paul Fisher, Parish Deacon

Sisters, Servants of the Immaculate Heart of Mary

Patty Welsh, Assumption Academy Principal

and the Parish Staff