



# OUR LADY OF THE *Assumption* PARISH

5057 COTTAGE WAY  
CARMICHAEL, CA 95608

(916) 481-5115

WWW.OLAPARISH.NET

PARISH@OLAPARISH.NET

**Sunday, December 28, 2025**

**The Holy Family**



## THE HOLY FAMILY

"Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead."  
- Mt 2:20

Excerpts from the Lectionary for Mass ©2001, 1998, 1970 CCD.

©LPR

## Mass Schedule

**Saturday vigil Mass at 5:00 p.m.**

**Sunday Masses at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m.,  
and 7:30 p.m.**

**8:00 a.m. daily Masses  
(Monday-Friday and first Saturday)**

**Holy Days of Obligation:  
8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.**

## Confessions

**Confessions are heard inside the church on  
Saturday afternoons at 3:30 p.m.**

*You may also call the parish office to schedule an appointment.*

## Parish Office Hours

**Monday – Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

## Pastor

**Rev. Eduino T. Silveira – [pastor@olaparish.net](mailto:pastor@olaparish.net)**

## Pastors Emeriti

**Rev. Brendan McKeefry & Rev. Michael F. Kiernan**

## Office Manager

Stacie Nieves – [officemgr@olaparish.net](mailto:officemgr@olaparish.net)

## Worship and Communications

Casey Oliver – [worship@olaparish.net](mailto:worship@olaparish.net)

## Communications

Jane Ricci – [communications@olaparish.net](mailto:communications@olaparish.net)

## Faith Formation

Tracy Urban – [faithformation@olaparish.net](mailto:faithformation@olaparish.net)

## Parish Maintenance

Jake Benjamin – [olamaint@olaparish.net](mailto:olamaint@olaparish.net)

**Emails from OLA Parish staff will be sent from an  
@olaparish.net email address or sent from OLA Parish via  
Flocknote ([mail@flocknote.com](mailto:mail@flocknote.com)). Please check the sender's  
email address if you receive any suspicious emails. Thank you.**

## OLA PARISH SCHOOL (Preschool – Eighth Grade)

Website: [school.olaparish.net](http://school.olaparish.net)

## Principal

Robert Love

## Admissions

Elisabeth Gustorf – [advancement@olaparish.net](mailto:advancement@olaparish.net)

## School Office

Donna Eaddy – [eaddy@olaparish.net](mailto:eaddy@olaparish.net)

## OLA ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

*Provides assistance for those in need  
within our parish boundaries.*

**Please call: (916) 481-6352**

**Monday – Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

**Food Locker hours of operation are Tuesday and Thursday  
mornings from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**Visit our website and join Flocknote for more information  
about our parish, ministries, and upcoming events.**

[olaparish.net](http://olaparish.net)  [flocknote.com/olaparish](https://flocknote.com/olaparish)

**Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube!**

 [facebook.com/OLAParish](https://facebook.com/OLAParish)

 [instagram.com/ola\\_parish\\_ca](https://instagram.com/ola_parish_ca)

 [youtube.com/@OLAParishCA](https://youtube.com/@OLAParishCA)

## PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

### **Love and Serve God. Love and Serve One Another.**

The Mission of the parish community at Our Lady of the Assumption Church is to proclaim the Word of God more fully, to gain a more intimate knowledge of God through our Catholic traditions, and to serve the people of God, especially in our efforts to meet the needs of the poor in our community, and when possible, around the world. We strive to build a sense of community among our parishioners, with the entire family of God.

## PARISH ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIRPERSONS

**Pastoral Council: Carmy Baca**

**Finance Council: Joe Selewicz**

**Buildings & Grounds Committee: John Blaschke**

**To reach out to any advisory council chairperson, please call the parish office or email [parish@olaparish.net](mailto:parish@olaparish.net).**

## BULLETIN SUBMISSION INFORMATION

If you have an event to promote or news to share, please fill out the Communications Request Form on our parish website at <https://olaparish.net/communications-committee>. All communications requests are subject to approval by Fr. Eduino. We will do our best to accommodate your timeline. For general questions or bulletin requests, you may also send an email to [communications@olaparish.net](mailto:communications@olaparish.net). \*Due dates may be earlier due to Printer's Holiday Schedule.

### **Bulletin Weekend Dates**

January 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup>

January 17<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>

January 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup>

### **Article Due Date**

\*January 2<sup>nd</sup>

\*January 9<sup>th</sup>

\*January 16<sup>th</sup>

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Total donations for December 8<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup>: **\$14,221.00**

The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary: **\$1,638.00**

The Retirement Fund for the Religious: **\$2,708.00**

**Thank you so much for your generous donations!**

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

There will be no Special Collections for the month of January.

## MEET A PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBER EACH WEEK



"As a member of the Pastoral Council, I serve our parish by offering my talents and assisting with the Council's recommendations for our Parish." - Nancy Carney

Every parishioner is welcome to express thoughts and concerns to any member of the Pastoral Council at any time. For details contact Pastoral Council Chair, Carmy Baca directly at [cbaca\\_929@yahoo.com](mailto:cbaca_929@yahoo.com) or by leaving a message with the parish office at (916) 481-5115.



## JOIN OUR COMMUNITY



**If you are attending Mass in person or online but not yet registered? Please register today!** This will enable you to get more information about liturgical and social events. Access our online form by scanning the QR code or go to: <https://olaparish.net/community/register-us>.



## FLOCKNOTE ONLINE GIVING COMMUNICATION & DATABASE

### **PLEASE JOIN OUR FLOCKNOTE ONLINE GIVING**

If you have not already signed up for Flocknote Online Giving, we ask you to please take a minute and sign up for continued recurring giving. Flocknote Online Giving is an integral component of OLA's comprehensive parishioner communication and database system.

Using Flocknote Online Giving is more convenient for both parishioners and parish office staff. **You will have the ability to support OLA with Flocknote Online Giving, and it will allow you to:**

1. **Make one-time donations.**
2. **Set up automatic recurring giving.**
3. **Choose which fund you specifically want to donate to.**
4. **Print your own tax records.**



Sign up for online giving through your existing OLA Parish Carmichael Flocknote account or by visiting <https://olaparish.flocknote.com/give>.

**Please contact us for assistance, at 481-5115 ext. 212 or [flocknotesupport@olaparish.net](mailto:flocknotesupport@olaparish.net).**

*Flocknote Fund It transaction fees are the industry standard amount and the same as WeShare.*

### **FLOCKNOTE SMARTPHONE APP**

Flocknote also offers an app for your smartphone where you can easily:

1. Check parish communications
2. Access educational videos through Flocknote Engage
3. Access Flocknote Online Giving to make a gift
4. View your giving history
5. Update recurring gifts

### **STAY CONNECTED BY SIGNING UP FOR EMAILS**



Keep current with details of OLA parish activities by visiting our Flocknote website by scanning the QR code using your smartphone camera or by visiting <https://olaparish.flocknote.com>.

Once there, be sure to join the **OLA Parish Carmichael News** and the **OLA Parish Carmichael Faith and Catechesis email groups** to receive important updates from OLA, including the weekly bulletin.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27<sup>th</sup>

5:00 PM **(Sp) McArdle Family Intentions**

by Jim and Jane McArdle

† **Tim Riehl**

by Steven & MaryJo Riehl

† **Sue Oliver**

by Murphy family

† **Emerson Severin**

by Paulina Carbon Leighton-Armah

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28<sup>th</sup>

7:30 AM † **Andrew Martelon** (birthday)

by Cathy Apker

9:00 AM † **Serafin Silveira**

11:00 AM **(Sp) Pat Worley**

by Kannengeiser family

7:30 PM **All Parishioners** (Missa Pro Populo)

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 29<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM † **Steve Ramey** (birthday)

by Ramey family

† **John Bellair**

by Bill Befort

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30<sup>th</sup>

8:00 AM † **Louis R. Volpicelli**

† **Olivia Massetti** (death anniversary)

by Massetti family

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31<sup>st</sup>

8:00 AM **(Sp) Matthew & Erin Portillo**

**(Sp) Eric & Juanita Roth**

**(Sp) Trek & Lisa Portillo**

All by Portillo family

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 1<sup>st</sup>

10:00 AM **(Sp) John DeSouza**

by Virginia DeSouza & Son

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 2<sup>nd</sup>

8:00 AM † **Benedict Hauck**

† **Winnie Agnell**

by Agnell family

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 3<sup>rd</sup>

8:00 AM † **Guilhermina Silveira**

5:00 PM † **Sue Oliver**

by Murphy family

## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF DEC. 28<sup>TH</sup>

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| Sunday:      | The Holy Family   |
| Wednesday:   | St. Sylvester I, Pope; <i>New Year's Eve</i>                                  |
| Thursday:    | Mary, The Holy Mother of God, World Day of Peace, <i>New Year's Day</i>       |
| Friday:      | Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops and Doctors of the Church |
| Saturday:    | The Most Holy Name of Jesus   |
| Next Sunday: | The Epiphany of the Lord ©LPI   |

## PARISH CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28<sup>th</sup>

7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, and 7:30 pm Mass - Church

9:50 am (After Mass) Pray & Play - Preschool Playground

5:00 pm Adult Fellowship - Church & Affinito Hall

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 29<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am Mass

9:30 am Meditation Group - Church

### TUESDAY, DEC. 30<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am Mass

WED., DEC. 31<sup>st</sup> (office closed)

8:00 am Mass

6:00 pm Catholics in Recovery - St. Anne's Room

### THURS., JAN. 1<sup>st</sup> (office closed)

10:00 am Mass

7:00 pm Living the Word - Affinito Hall Rm. 3

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 2<sup>nd</sup>

8:00 am Mass

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 3<sup>rd</sup>

8:00 am Mass

3:30 pm Confessions - Church

5:00 pm vigil Mass

For a complete calendar, go to the parish website:  
<https://olaparish.net/calendar>.

## MASS SCHEDULE FOR THE SOLEMNITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD

**Join us for Mass for the Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God.**

It is a holy day of obligation.

**Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

**at 10:00 am**

There will not be an 8:00 am Mass on Thursday, January 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Mass will be live streamed on our parish website, Facebook page, and YouTube channel.



## HOW DO YOU REQUEST A MASS INTENTION

To request a Mass Intention, please come by the parish office or call (916) 481-5115. Mass Intentions refer to the practice of offering a Mass for a specific purpose, such as for living or deceased individuals. **This practice allows us to pray for others, both the living and the dead. This is a meaningful way for Catholics to express their faith and support for others through prayer.** The "†" means that a person is deceased. The "(Sp)" means that it is a Special Intention for someone in need or an event like a birthday. A suggested donation in the province of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, which the Diocese of Sacramento is part, is \$10.00 but if a person cannot afford it there is no need for a donation.



## GOSPEL MEDITATION

**December 28, 2025**

**The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph**

**Mathew 2:13-15, 19-23**

When I was ten, my dad gathered our family around the table in small-town Vermont and told us we were moving to the big desert city of Phoenix, Arizona. We were leaving behind family, friends, and everything familiar. None of us knew what to expect.

But something beautiful happened. As we made the move together, our family grew closer. In retrospect, I'm amazed at my parents' courage to go on that adventure. Even as a kid I realized our family found, in that challenge, a deeper unity and mutual love.

In today's Gospel, Joseph is told: "Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee..."

(Matthew 2:13, 20). First to Egypt, then later to Israel. The Holy Family is frequently challenged to move and change, to adapt to God's will for them, in order to find safety in the midst of threat. It's not just an idiosyncratic story about survival. It's a spiritual pattern for all of us. **Every Christian family is called to be a kind of sanctuary, especially in a world full of noise, busyness, and fear.**

May I make a practical application for us? The Lord's Day, Sunday, is perhaps the most practical way we imitate this dynamic we see in Joseph and his family. **Sunday is not meant to be just like every other day, filled with errands and stress. It's meant to be a day set apart; a holy "escape" into rest, worship, joy, and peace. A day to rise, take your family, and flee into God's presence.**

## THANK YOU

We extend our appreciation for our Martha and Mary Group for the time and talent they put into their baking, which raises money for the parishioner funerals receptions they assist with as well as needed altar items. Their dedication and hard work are truly appreciated!

This group is open to all parish ladies and includes meeting for fellowship and spiritual growth.



Happiness is  
HOMEMADE



## FOR THOSE IN OUR COMMUNITY WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY...

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord,  
and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May the souls of all the faithful  
departed, through the mercy of God,  
rest in peace. Amen.*

**All Souls**



## PRAY FOR OUR SICK BROTHERS & SISTERS

### BULLETIN SICK LIST POLICY

**To ensure the privacy of people who are sick, please make sure you have their permission before submitting their name to the list.**

The names will be added in alphabetical order. Once a name is added, it will be removed either when requested OR after six months, *unless there is a specific request to keep the name on the list for longer.*

*To add a name, remove a name, or if a name has been removed that needs to be added back, you may call the parish office at (916) 481-5115 or email:*

[communications@olaparish.net](mailto:communications@olaparish.net).

**Thank you.**

Doug Abbes  
Cathy Apker  
Shannon Armstrong  
Doreen Baldwin  
Donna Blaschke  
Joan Cotton  
Ryan Daniels  
Yolande De Forge  
Robert DeAnda  
John DeSouza  
Aaron Esselman  
Bobbie Hall  
Kathy Harreld  
Dorothy Heimbichner  
Matthew Holmes  
Christine Jansen  
Sheila Johnson  
Maya Juarez  
Michael Kyalwazi  
Michael and Shannon Langer  
John Lemieux  
Kathleen Lemieux  
David DeLeonardis  
Dave Levin  
Elaine Lyons  
Delilah Macfal  
Bennett Mattingly  
Armie Mauricio

Langford Metzger  
Margaret Mongeau  
Jessica Montgomery  
Nguyen Family  
Kathleen Nolan  
Jane Osborn  
Dave Palmer  
Maria Passarelli  
Camille Peter  
Adam Peter  
T.J. Rapozo  
Rob & Teresa Reavis  
David Rider  
Guadalupe Rodriguez  
Mary Roy  
Marie Schuring  
Hannon Sulochana  
Emily Tuazon  
April Valencia  
Linda Vaughan  
Wesley Villariza  
Rachel Wann  
Tomas Washington  
Charlie Wetherall  
Jack Wetherall  
Cole Miller Whitney (baby)  
Lawrence Wilhelm  
Pat Wood

## HOMEBOUND PARISHIONERS

**Distribution of the Eucharist to our homebound parishioners is available.**

Eucharistic Homebound Ministers are dedicated to serving the spiritual needs of our homebound parishioners by bringing Christ to them and keeping them connected to our community. **Leave a message for Peggy Vellanoweth at the parish office if you would like to receive the Eucharist.**

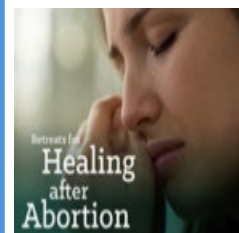
### PREGNANCY ASSISTANCE THE GABRIEL PROJECT



**Pregnant? Worried?  
Need Help?**  
**Call (800) 910-0191**

*The Gabriel Project*

### FINDING HEALING AT RACHEL'S VINEYARD



**Call  
(916) 733-0161  
or email  
[projectrachel@scd.org](mailto:projectrachel@scd.org).**

All messages are confidential.

## PARISH AND SCHOOL NEWS

### ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY OLA CONF.



For those who need assistance and live within our parish boundaries, the OLA SVdP Food Locker is open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10:00AM – 12:00 PM.

The continued generosity of this parish made it possible to serve so many in need every month. **THANK YOU!**

**DRIVERS are NEEDED** to pick up Food for SVdP! A driver/s is urgently needed to pick up food from Winco every Wednesday between 8-9am. The person should be able to lift 50 pounds and have an SU V or small truck for transport.

**We are also looking for back up and part-time drivers.**

Please contact Dale Stradford at [dstradford@ymail.com](mailto:dstradford@ymail.com) or at (916)471-8527.

### CATHOLICS IN RECOVERY

**Join Catholic in Recovery Wednesday nights at 6 p.m. in St. Anne's Room.** Meetings combine the spiritual principles of 12-step recovery and the sacraments of the Catholic Church. Join others in recovery as we overlap scripture from Sunday's Mass readings, liturgical themes, and recovery topics with honest discussion and prayer. Confidentiality is protected. We welcome those recovering from any addiction, compulsion, or unhealthy attachment.: For details: **Bill B. at (561) 827-0624 or [bbefort@bellsouth.net](mailto:bbefort@bellsouth.net) or [www.catholicinrecovery.com](http://www.catholicinrecovery.com).**

### SAVE THE DATE TO GET CRABBY



**Mark your calendar for the School Crab Feed on February 28<sup>th</sup>!**



### GABRIEL PROJECT

**The OLA school and pre-school staff adopted Jessica and her son as their Christmas family this year.** As Jessica prepares to begin college classes at the JC in January, the OLA staff generously provided Jessica with school essentials and gifts for her and Nathaniel. Rose and I had the privilege of delivering the Christmas presents. Jessica was deeply grateful for the love and support of the OLA community, making it a truly heartwarming experience for all.

Please keep all pregnant Mothers in your prayers.

### ADULT FELLOWSHIP

**OLA adult parishioners are welcome to a fellowship of Sunday prayer and a pickup Basketball game in Affinito Hall.** Come to the church as early as 5:00PM if you like. There will be a group rosary at 5:30PM followed by basketball in Affinito Hall. Basketball will wrap up in time for those attending 7:30PM Mass. All players and spectators must be 18yrs or older and a registered parishioner. **OUR NEXT MEETING IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28<sup>TH</sup>!** Please contact Catherine Olguin at 916-223-1257 or [catharina.936@gmail.com](mailto:catharina.936@gmail.com) for questions.

### OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE FEAST DAY

On Friday, Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>, we celebrated the Our Lady of Guadalupe Feast Day with our 2<sup>nd</sup> annual bilingual Mass and reception. Our Lady appeared in Mexico in 1531 with a message of reconciliation and forgiveness for all the Americas. Thank you to everyone whose time and talent created this meaningful event. **Our Lady of Guadalupe, pray for us!**



### SANTA'S BREAKFAST FUN



**Thank you to the amazing elves who made this possible:** Claudia Oriz, Janelle Fong, Elizabeth Gustorf, Andie Rutledge, Lee Scott, Austin Biagi, Knights of Columbus, Martha & Mary Group, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders (Cruz, Adam, Austin, Cam, Preston, Brandi, Magdalene, Morgan, Cate, and Jayden).



### SCHOOL PROJECT



On November 15<sup>th</sup>, the school had a workday and as one of its projects, installed two steel canopies covering two of the school's picnic tables. The tables are used for lunch. The school has been using temporary cloth canopies, which quickly deteriorate and get damaged during heavy winds. **The parish and school would like to purchase three more of the steel canopies to cover its picnic tables. If you would like to donate towards the purchase of three steel canopies, they cost around \$1,000 dollars apiece.** Any donations would be used for purchasing the canopies. We will let you know when we have reached our goal of \$3,000 for the purchase. Thank you.



# PRAYER AND FORMATION AT OLA

## EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

**No Adoration on Dec. 30<sup>th</sup>, it will resume on Jan. 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**All are invited to come to pray in the church on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 8:30 am – 7:00 pm**



***Make time to pray  
in the peaceful presence  
of our Lord.  
All are invited to pray a  
Holy Hour if you have the  
time to do so.***

To sign up for an Adoration time slot, please contact  
Don Thamer at [don.nprz6@gmail.com](mailto:don.nprz6@gmail.com)  
or (916) 549-7195 mobile/text.

## OLA MEDITATION GROUP

**"BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD"** This group meets weekly on Mondays at 9:30 am in the church and follows Christian Meditation practice to help participants to grow in relationship with Christ. For more information, E-mail [birider2808@sbcglobal.net](mailto:birider2808@sbcglobal.net).



## LIVING THE WORD SCRIPTURE STUDY

**All are welcome for Living the Word Scripture Study on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in Affinito Hall Meeting Room 3.** At Living the Word, we discuss the Sunday scripture readings and how they apply to our daily lives.

## RETURNING TO YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH

**If you are returning to your Catholic Faith, we would like to offer an informal conversation with a member of the parish staff** to help facilitate a comfortable active return to our church community by sharing information on topics that may have changed in your absence: Sacraments, Explanation of Mass, Church Terminology, Divorce/Annulment, etc. as well as discussing the many OLA ministry options. Interested? Please leave a message for Casey at (916) 481-5115 ext. 212 or send an email: [worship@olaparish.net](mailto:worship@olaparish.net). We are very excited to have you join our faith family!

## CHOIR IN THE PEWS MUSIC MINISTRY



**Choir in the Pews is a volunteer ministry that is open to all ability levels.** We need prepared singers in the pews who are willing to sing out during Mass to support and encourage the singing of others. If you have been interested in participating in music ministry, but have never had the time, this ministry is for you!

**Please email Casey Oliver at [worship@olaparish.net](mailto:worship@olaparish.net) to learn more.**

## OLA MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**For more information about ministry at OLA, visit our parish website:** <https://olaparish.net/community/ministries> or contact Casey at: [worship@olaparish.net](mailto:worship@olaparish.net). You may also leave a message at: (916) 481-5115 ext. 212.

## THE HOLY FAMILY CHAPEL

**The OLA Chapel (located to the left of the altar) will be Christened the Holy Family Chapel at the 9:30 am Mass on December 28<sup>th</sup> the Feast of The Holy Family.** Please go by and see the lovely picture and plaque that was generously donated. This is a warm and welcoming place for our young families.

## RESOLUTIONS TO GET CLOSER TO GOD

**Question: I'd like to make some new resolutions about practicing the faith in our family during the new year. Do you have any suggestions?**

**Answer: The family is the most essential space for the formation of values and character.** Practicing your faith as a family can happen both internally and externally. Consistent prayer together builds habits that can last a lifetime. With younger children, praying together as a family in the evening or at dinnertime could be fairly doable most nights. In the evening, select a few common prayers such as the Our Father, Hail Mary, or Guardian Angel prayer. Ask each of your children to thank God for three things that day and include a time for children and adults alike to pray out loud for special needs in your family. This practice could be done with older children, committed to intentional efforts in the midst of increasingly busy schedules.

Look for other opportunities to practice the faith outside the home as well. Sunday Mass should already be part of your family's weekly routine. Consider setting other monthly goals as well. This could be a family service project in your city, attending the sacrament of Confession together, or hosting a hospitality night in your home. Get your children involved in the planning process. Ask them where they'd like to volunteer or who they think is having a hard time and might need a special night just for them. Rather than simply imposing new practices, your whole family can have a dynamic role understanding and integrating faith and life. ©LPI

## FAITH ENRICHMENT AND FORMATION RESOURCES

**Our parish has Flocknote Engage, which includes FREE access to Bishop Barron's Word on Fire ENGAGE video library and study programs (including free pdf study materials)! All that is needed is an OLA Parish Flocknote account. Sign up for free at <https://app.flocknote.com/olaparish/>. Login to Flocknote by clicking on the sheep icon at the top left of our website's home page and visit Word on Fire (WOF) Digital to watch any of the videos at any time.**

**Fr. Eduino encourages parishioners to gather in small groups to learn more about our faith.** The Flocknote Engage library is a great resource if you want to bring together a small group to learn about a variety of topics. For more info. email Casey Oliver at [worship@olaparish.net](mailto:worship@olaparish.net).

# LOVE AND SERVE GOD, LOVE AND SERVE ONE ANOTHER

## GIVING TREE

**Thanks again to our generous parishioners whose generosity supplied gifts to 109 families this year!** Also, thank you to the Peggy and Dale Stradford and their team who made it all happen. We are blessed to have such selfless parishioners.



## OTHER PLANS

I don't know exactly what kind of life Mary and Joseph envisioned when they were first betrothed — back in those simple times when they were just like any other couple who had hopes, dreams and no angels telling them what to do.

Whatever their plans were, I think it's safe to say that the future God had in store for Mary and Joseph was not one either of them expected. I would imagine they both anticipated something a little quieter. A little more stable (no pun intended). A little less tumultuous.

It exhausts me simply to read through the chaos of their movements in today's Gospel. Flee to Egypt, return to Israel (but not Judea! Herod's son is there! Divert to Galilee! Divert!). Settle in Nazareth (let me remind you, this is all happening with a baby in tow, and without the aid of a minivan). Take a deep breath, but don't get too comfortable — now it's almost time to lose your kid in Jerusalem. Then you'll have about 20 years off before he starts raising people from the dead, and that's when things start to get *really* crazy.

**The story of the Holy Family is the ultimate example of the phrase "God had other plans." If any four-word sentence encapsulates what we can expect from the Christian life, it is this.**

I thought I was meant for that job, but God had other plans. I thought I would live in this place, but God had other plans. I thought I was supposed to become this person, but God had other plans.

We can do all the right things. We can make all the right choices. We can say, over and over again until our voice wears out, "Thy will be done." But all we can know for sure is that God has other plans. ©LPI

## CELEBRATING THE CLOSING OF JUBILEE 2025

**Organ music for Advent & Christmas by Rex Rallanka, organist and Jonathan Hansen, Tenor on Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament.**

This concert is free and precedes the 5:00 pm Jubilee, Pilgrims of Hope, closing Mass.

For details go to: [www.cathedralsacramento.org](http://www.cathedralsacramento.org).

**Students:** Please cut out the brick and bring it to school on Monday to add to your class board and help your class "build" their faith!

December 28, 2025

## HELP COLD WEATHER RESPITES IN SAC. COUNTY

As colder temperatures and rain are expected, the Department of Health Services, in partnership with various agencies, is using this moment to raise awareness and share ways in which the community can support the vulnerable communities who may be more affected by the winter weather. **Due to the duration of the current weather system with overnight lows and minimal increase in daily temperature combined with the damp nature of the fog layer, the County, in partnership with First Step Communities, has activated various weather respites across the County.** Donations can be dropped off at the Warren E. Thornton Youth Center, 4000 Branch Center Road, Sacramento. **Staff are on site at all hours to accept donations through Jan. 5<sup>th</sup>.**

Items needed include Blankets, Bath towels, Unopened hygiene items, New adult underwear, Adult winter clothing (sweaters, jackets, sweats), Socks, Hats and gloves, and Dog food. **There is a particular need for men's clothing, as women's items are more commonly donated.** Community members are encouraged to give if they are able and help spread the word about available resources. To learn more about how the Department of Health Services supports Sacramento County residents or to find additional ways to help, visit the Sacramento County website at:

<https://www.saccounty.gov/content/saccounty/us/en/article/s/2025-articles/the-longest-night-of-the-year-is-your-call-to-help-.html#gsc.tab=0>.

## HANDEL'S MESSIAH

**The Cathedral Choir & Capella Antiqua Baroque Orchestra present Handel's Messiah performed in English and Spanish with soloists: Liisa Davilla - soprano, Leandra Ramm - mezzo-soprano, Matt Hidalgo - tenor, Daniel Yoder - bass.**

Performed on period instruments in English and Spanish will be held at the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacramento on Friday, Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 pm in English and Saturday, Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 pm in Spanish. Tickets are \$20 general and \$10 student. Scan QR code for tickets and info. or: [capellaantiquasacramento@gmail.com](mailto:capellaantiquasacramento@gmail.com).



## 2025 CARITAS AWARD - LOVE IN ACTION

**Northern Valley Catholic Social Service is honored to recognize Monsignor Russell Terra, Father Michael Kiernan (Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, Pastor Emeritus), and the late Deacon Michael Evans as our 2025 Caritas Award Recipients.**

In the Catholic tradition, caritas means love in action. These founding leaders embodied that spirit through their faith, compassion, and commitment to serving others. Their vision helped lay the foundation for NVCSS and continues to guide our mission today. With deep gratitude, we honor their lasting legacy and love in action across our communities.





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