



OUR LADY OF THE *Assumption* PARISH

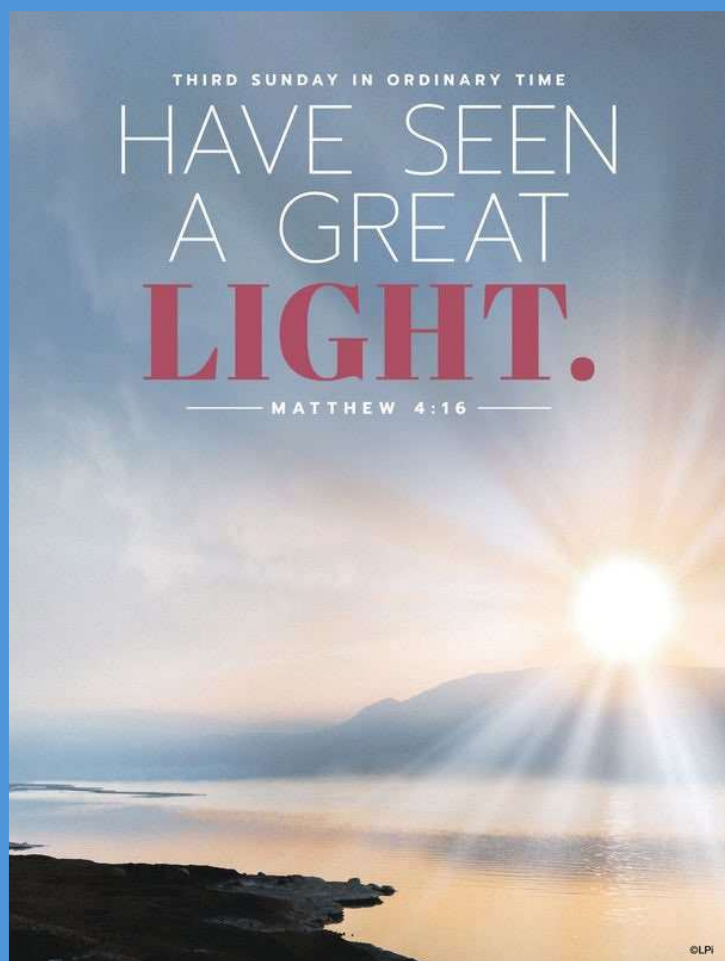
5057 COTTAGE WAY
CARMICHAEL, CA 95608

(916) 481-5115

WWW.OLAPARISH.NET

PARISH@OLAPARISH.NET

Sunday, January 25, 2026
The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



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

Pastors Emeriti

Rev. Brendan McKeefry & Rev. Michael F. Kiernan

Office Manager

Stacie Nieves – officemgr@olaparish.net

Worship and Communications

Casey Oliver – worship@olaparish.net

Communications

Jane Ricci – communications@olaparish.net

Faith Formation

Tracy Urban – faithformation@olaparish.net

Parish Maintenance

Jake Benjamin – 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). 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

Principal

Robert Love

Admissions

Elisabeth Gustorf – advancement@olaparish.net

School Office

Donna Eaddy – 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  flocknote.com/olaparish

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube!

 facebook.com/OLAParish

 instagram.com/ola_parish_ca

 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.

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 requests are subject to approval by our Pastor, Fr. Eduino Silveira.** We will do our best to accommodate your timeline. For questions or requests, email Jane Ricci at: communications@olaparish.net.

Bulletin Weekend Dates	Article Submission Due Date
February 7 th – 8 th	*January 30 th
February 14 th – 15 th	February 6 th
February 21 st – 22 nd	February 13 th

*Due dates are earlier due to Printer's Holiday Schedule.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

THANK YOU FROM THE WHOLE OF OUR CONGREGATION FOR YOUR DONATIONS.

Total donations January 17th, 18th, 24th & 25th will be available in the February 1st bulletin due to the printer's holiday schedule.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

There will be no Special Collection this weekend.

In February there will be the Annual Catholic Appeal Commitment weekend. 25% is returned to the donor's parish to help support local social Service ministries.

MEET A PASTORAL COUNCIL MEMBER EACH WEEK



"As a member of the Pastoral Council, I serve our Parish by attempting to: lovingly listen to our parishioners' thoughts and concerns, openly observe the beauty and opportunities of our parish community, humbly hear the Word of the Lord, and respectfully respond to the needs of our parish family expressed by these various means of spiritual communication."

– Paul Wagstaffe

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 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. Flocknote Fund It transaction fees are the industry standard amount. Using Flocknote Online Giving is more convenient for both parishioners and parish office staff. **You will have the ability to support OLA 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.



You can sign up for online giving by going through your existing OLA Parish Carmichael Flocknote account or go to: <https://olaparish.flocknote.com/give>. Please contact us for assistance, at 916-481-5115 ext. 212 or flocknotesupport@olaparish.net.

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 or by scanning the QR code using your smartphone camera or go to <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, JANUARY 24TH

5:00 PM † **Sue Oliver**
by Murphy family
† **Jasper Anderson Sr.**
† **Carole Vercruyssen**
by Fred Oliver

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25TH

7:30 AM †† **Francisco and Adelina Sousa**
9:00 AM † **Tom Willow**
by Murphy family
11:00 AM † **Maja Peceli**
by Maria Peceli
7:30 PM **All Parishioners** (Missa Pro Populo)

MONDAY, JANUARY 26TH

8:00 AM †† **Fernando and Mary Garcia**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27TH

8:00 AM † **Tim Riehl**
by Steve and Mary Jo Riehl

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28TH

8:00 AM † **Fred Brown**
by Laurie Brown Hecox
† **Barry Rillera**
by Tom Campbell

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29TH

8:00 AM **(Sp) Zenithe Ayube**
by Paulina Carbon & Leighton-Armah families

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30TH

8:00 AM † **Helen Gregorio**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 31ST

5:00 PM † **Sue Oliver**
by Murphy family
† **Jasper Anderson Sr.**



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.

PARISH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, JANUARY 25TH

7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am,
and 7:30 pm Mass – Church
9:50 am (After Mass) Pray &
Play – Preschool Playground
NO Faith Formation
10:00 am School Open House

MONDAY, JANUARY 26TH

8:00 am Mass
9:30 am Meditation Group –
Church

TUESDAY, JANUARY 27TH

8:00 am Mass
8:30 am – 7:00 pm
Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament – Church
6:30 pm Knights of Columbus
Mtg. – St. John's Hall

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28TH

8:00 am Mass
11:00 am Martha & Mary Grp. –
St. John's Hall
6:00 pm Catholics in
Recovery – St. Anne's Room
7:00 pm OCIA – Affinito Hall
Rm. 3

THURSDAY, JANUARY 29TH

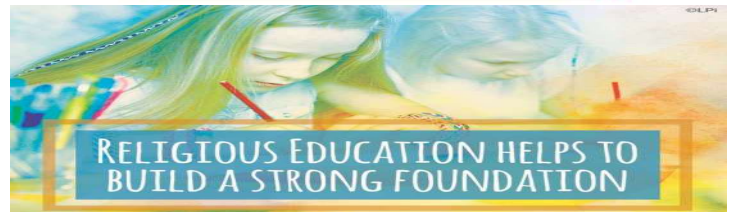
8:00 am Mass
8:30 am – 7:00 pm Exposition
of the Blessed Sacrament –
Church
7:00 pm Living the Word –
Affinito Hall Rm. 3

FRIDAY, JANUARY 30TH

8:00 am Mass
SATURDAY, JANUARY 31ST
3:30 pm Confessions – Church
5:00 pm vigil Mass

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

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK



OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION PARISH PRAYER

O Blessed Virgin Mary, Assumed into Heaven,
You reign with your Son in glory.
We ask for your intercession,
that we may one day join you in the heavenly Kingdom.
We thank you for watching over our parish
named in your honor.
Help us to continue to do the work of your Son.
Loving Mother,
intercede for us in our needs,
and help us to live lives that are pleasing to God.
Amen.

OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 25TH

Sunday:	3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Monday:	Sts. Timothy and Titus, Bishops
Tuesday:	St. Angela Merici, Virgin
Wednesday:	St. Thomas Aquinas, Priest and Doctor of the Church
Saturday:	St. John Bosco, Priest
Sunday:	4 th Sunday in Ordinary Time

GOSPEL MEDITATION

January 25, 2026

The Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Mathew 4:12-23

I was 22 years old, lying in bed one night while on a pilgrimage, when I suddenly sensed an idea in my mind: "Go to the seminary." There was no voice, no vision, but a gentle and unmistakable clarity. I simply prayed, "Lord, if that's from you, let me find great joy in it." Three days later, my heart was bursting with joy. I dropped everything and entered the seminary. The older I get, the stranger my rather careless and hasty departure seems to me. I followed not because it made sense, or because I was especially brave. I went because the Lord called me.

Something like this happens in today's Gospel. Jesus walks by Simon, Andrew, James, and John and says, "Come after me" (Matthew 4:19). And immediately they leave their nets and follow. There's no explanation, no hesitation ... just movement. Why? As St. John says, "In this is love: not that we have loved God, but that he loved us" (1 John 4:10). They do not leave their nets because his call made perfect, calculable sense. They left them because they were called. And Jesus' call is powerful.

Take a moment this week to remember when Christ first called you. However small or quiet it was, recall it, and give thanks. The more we marvel that Christ has called us personally, the more passionately and freely we will follow him.

— Father John Muir

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THANK YOU

Thank you to our dedicated Pastoral Council members for working with Fr. Eduino to enhance the process of pastoral planning, development of programs, services, and evaluating the pastoral effectiveness of various programs and services.



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.

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
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

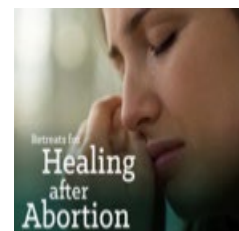
Distribution of the Eucharist to our homebound parishioners is available. Eucharistic Homebound Ministers are dedicated to serving the spiritual needs of our homebound parishioners by bringing Christ to them and keeping them connected to our community. **Leave a message for Peggy Vellanoweth at the parish 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.
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.

Back-up drivers are needed to pick up Food for SVdP! Volunteers should be able to lift 50 pounds and have an SUV or small truck for transport. Please contact Dale Stradford at dstradford@ymail.com or at (916)471-8527.

We are in need of paper or plastic bags. Please drop them off in our boxes at the back of church.

See page 7 for a letter from Leo Winternitz.

SHE SHALL BE CALLED WOMAN

If you're looking to grow your relationship with the Lord, join us **Thursday, January 29th from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. in St. Paul's Room.** This program offers a supportive environment for spiritual growth, featuring weekly gatherings that include fellowship with refreshments, a video presentation, and small group discussions. **It's designed to help women grow in their faith and feel more connected to God and each other.** Contact Magaly Beas at (209) 663-2188 for additional information.

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 5:00 pm if you like. There will be a group rosary at 5:30 pm followed by basketball in Affinito Hall. Basketball will wrap up prior to 7:30 pm Mass. All players and spectators must be 18yrs or older and a registered parishioner. **The next meeting is TBA!** For details: Catherine Olguin at 916-223-1257 or email: catharina.936@gmail.com.

RSVP FOR PARISH PASTA DINNER ASAP

Join us for the annual OLA Parish Pasta Dinner on Saturday, February 7th, 2026. Doors open after the 5 p.m. vigil Mass, and dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. after Fr. Eduino gives the blessing. The menu includes meatballs, pasta, bread, salad, wine, beer, and Leatherby's ice cream for dessert. All are welcome! The dinner is free of cost, but donations are appreciated. Please RSVP by Monday, February 2nd via our website www.olaparish.net, QR code or in person in the parish office.



OLA SCHOOL IS BUILDING THEIR FAITH

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!



Gabriel Project



We joyfully welcome Zainab who is due in February, Kershma who is due in May and Ashley who has a 15-month-old.

We are currently out of NB diapers! We even accept open packages of diapers! We are deeply grateful to our generous parishioners for their continued support.

Please join us for our Gabriel Project meeting at 12:00pm on Sunday, February 1st in Bannon Hall. We look forward to sharing how we provide spiritual, emotional, and material support to help meet the needs of women and families facing difficult or crisis pregnancies. Whether you can give a little time or a lot, your help truly makes a difference. We'd love to have you join us in this life affirming mission.

SAVE THE DATE TO GET CRABBY



OLA CRABFEED

Save the Date
Saturday, February 28, 2026
Affinito Hall

Doors open 5:00p.m.
Dinner 6:30p.m.

Silent and Live Auction
Dessert Auction

Proceeds help to benefit OLA 8th Grade trip to Washington D.C.

Tickets on sale January 28th

2025 GIVING INFORMATION

We will be sending out the 2025 giving information for your tax records in February. To accomplish this, we need to ensure the parishioner information we have on file for you is correct. You may update/verify your Flocknote database information using the instructions on page 2 of the bulletin. Please contact us for assistance, at 916-481-5115 ext. 212 or flocknotesupport@olaparish.net.



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. For more information, contact Bill B. at (561) 827-0624, email bbefort@bellsouth.net or visit www.catholicinrecovery.com.

PRAYER AND FORMATION AT OLA

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

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 or text (916) 549-7195.

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, email: bilrider2808@sbcglobal.net.

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. You may also leave a message at: (916) 481-5115 ext. 212.

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. 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 to learn more.

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK MASS AT OLA

Saturday, February 7th at 10:00 am Mass with Bishop Rey Bersabal, here at Our Lady of the Assumption Church! **This celebration of the Eucharist will include the sacramental Anointing of the Sick, the blessing of caregivers and blessing with water from the shrine in Lourdes.** This event is sponsored by the Diocese of Sacramento and The Order of Malta. For details, contact Tony Riehl at 916-733-0274 or triehl@scd.org.



SCHOOL WITH A PARISH OR A PARISH SCHOOL

Is it a school with a parish, or is it a parish with a school? It is a question I always consider when people ask me about Catholic Schools Week, though you might look at that opening question and ask, "What?"

It is a good question, because our parish communities have a mandate from the Gospel to preach the good news. Moreover, that is exactly what a good Catholic school does. It is another one of the ministries of a parish: to educate well-rounded individuals in Gospel values, preparing those young individuals to take their eventual place in the larger secular community. All the educational efforts of the parish school are focused on the life of faith. That faith is formed in knowledge of the teachings of the Church and of the Gospel, and those qualities are demonstrated through a life of service to the community.

A Catholic school is a community of faith, knowledge, and service, as a ministry of the parish community; and Catholic Schools Week provides a wonderful opportunity for us to reflect on whether we have "a school with a parish, or a parish with a school," and make sure our parish school is living its mandate from the Church. ©LPI



FAITH ENRICHMENT & 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.

LOVE AND SERVE GOD, LOVE AND SERVE ONE ANOTHER

SPIRIT OF PATIENCE

In treating others with a spirit of patience, said Pope Francis, we “look at them ... with God’s gaze, knowing how to distinguish their faces from their faults.”

“Rushing and impatience are enemies of spiritual life,” he continued. “God is love, and those who love do not tire, they are not irascible; they do not give ultimatums. God is patient, God knows how to wait.” Patience is sometimes referred to as being “annexed” to the moral virtue of fortitude. In practicing patience, we bear any kind of suffering for a greater good. St. Thomas Aquinas describes patience as a means to “safeguard the good of reason against sorrow, lest reason give way to sorrow” (Sum. II-II, 136, Art. 1).

The virtue of patience is a fruit of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22), and as Christians who have received the Holy Spirit we are called to **“be patient in tribulation”** (Romans 12:12) and to **“preach the message (of Christ) .. with great patience”** (2 Timothy 4:2). ©LPI

WEALTH

Question: If one’s gift or talent is making money, and one uses that money for honorable purposes, is it considered a spiritual gift? What does our faith teach us about wealth and stewardship?

Answer: Jesus said it best: to whom much is given, much is expected. All gifts come from God, and our abilities are given to us to be used for the benefit of ourselves and of others and at the service of the Gospel. In an article entitled “The Many Faces of Stewardship,” Catherine Doherty wrote about stewardship in the “nitty-gritty everydayness of my life,” and about the currency or “money” of spiritual stewardship: love, understanding, and unselfishness.

For a gift to have a spiritual benefit, our intention and involvement would be part of the consideration. If I give money to a charity, but do so in order to gain a tax advantage, it could hardly be a virtuous thing on my part. But if I give because I want to help and, am even willing to get involved, I have committed myself in a deeper, more meaningful way. Regardless of our money-making talents, in the end, true stewardship comes down to how well we practice the virtues of faith, hope, and love within our life and with those in our community and church. Ultimately, the most important element in stewardship is not intangible—it’s you! ©LPI

HELP NEEDED TO SERVE THE HOMELESS

As a part of Winter Respite, Our Lady of the Assumption has committed to serve our local homeless neighbors on Wednesday, February 4th and Wednesday, February 25th. We will serve at Congregation Beth Shalom (on [4746 El Camino Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608](https://www.4746ElCaminoAvenueCarmichaelCA95608)). **We will need 12 volunteers on each day to serve different shifts between 7:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. The shifts include cooks, greeters, servers, and hosts.** The services we will provide include a hot breakfast, coffee, a bag lunch, and cots.

Winter Respite is a program of the non-profit Carmichael Homeless Assistance Resource Team (HART). <https://www.hartstogether.org/carmichael>. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please contact parishioner Juan Yniguez at jcyniguez@att.net or 916-207-9512.

SEA OF GALILEE MOMENTS

Young or old, believer or non-believer, rich or poor, healthy or sick: it doesn’t matter who we are. It doesn’t matter what our life looks like. **If we are a human being, if we have a soul, we stand on the shore of a great and powerful sea, a net in our hands and a hunger in our soul.**

So what’s in the sea? I don’t know about yours, but mine is filled with feelings of inadequacy. It’s filled with fear and resentment and confusion. It’s filled with misplaced pride. It’s deep. It’s dark. It’s well-stocked.

I cast my net, over and over again. What else is there to do? If I draw back a harvest, it can sustain me for days, weeks, maybe even years. The nourishment of the sea can keep away the hunger pangs — for a time. You can survive on fear and resentment and pride if it’s all you have. You’ll never feel full, and you’ll never be strong, but you’ll survive on what the world can offer you — so long as you keep coming back to the shore.

This is where Jesus finds us.

If I close my eyes, I can picture the moments exactly, all of them: my Sea of Galilee moments. I could describe them to you — the day, the year, what was happening in my life, what I wanted and what I needed and what gnawing hunger had brought me, once again, limping, crawling back to the shore.

But you wouldn’t understand my Sea of Galilee moments, just like I wouldn’t understand yours. There is only one who understands, and his is the voice we heard, clear and strong: **“Put down the net, and come with me.”** ©LPI

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY OLA CONF.

Dear Parishioners,

Thanks to your efforts, volunteers working for the Saint Vincent de Paul food locker were able to feed 18,699 people in 2025. During this period, the Home Visitation Team (SVdP volunteers working in the back office) were able to serve at least 720 people, enabling them to stay in their homes and keeping their heat going and lights on by helping with rent and utilities. This help includes about 8,000 children from 0-17 years old. This is made possible by the dedicated efforts of volunteers working at SVdP and by the financial support of OLA parishioners.

Financially, thanks to your generosity we are doing well with the start of 2026. **Your funds will ensure that we can keep on providing nutritious food to our neighbors, help people stay in their homes, provide assistance with clothing and furniture through the SVdP Thrift Store and help with utilities.** Of course, we have to ensure that we maintain financial health so you will continue to see fund-raising activities throughout the year. We are very fortunate to have a compassionate OLA community.

If you have any questions about our operations or ideas to better help serve our neighbors, please do not hesitate to contact me or any of our officers (Marta Forst, Maria Mendezona, Richard Strawn and Mary Anne Campos) at svdp@olaparish.net.

Thank you for all that you do.

Leo Winternitz



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