



OUR LADY OF THE *Assumption* PARISH

5057 COTTAGE WAY • CARMICHAEL, CA 95608 • (916) 481-5115 • OLAPARISH.NET

Handbook of Ministries, Leadership Councils, and Committees April 2025

LOVE AND SERVE GOD • LOVE AND SERVE ONE ANOTHER

Our Lady of the Assumption (OLA) Parish is known throughout the Sacramento region for its abundant generosity and its vibrant ministries. Thank you for prayerfully considering participating in our parish ministries, and thank you for allowing us to serve you and to pray for you when you are in need in any way.

For your convenience, we have categorized our ministries by the Four Pillars of Stewardship: Prayer, Hospitality, Formation, and Service. Please review all of the ministries and discern how God is calling you to get involved.

Subscribe to Flocknote for more information about our parish, ministries, and upcoming events.  flocknote.com/olaparish

Follow OLA Parish on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

 facebook.com/OLAParish  instagram.com/ola_parish_ca

 youtube.com/@OLAParishCA

PRAYER MINISTRIES

Prayer prepares us to do God's will, strengthens our faith in God, and helps us to love.

Altar Guild

Consists of persons who care for the altar linens, candles, and vessels used for Masses and Sacramental Rites.

Contact: Marylee Johnson (email: jmjohn@surewest.net)

Altar Servers

Assist the presider at various liturgical celebrations, including weekend and weekday Masses, school Masses, and funeral services. Girls and boys fifth grade and older are invited to participate.

Contacts: Steve Hall

(email: altarservers@olaparish.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/community/altar-servers>

Christian Meditation

Gathers weekly on Monday afternoons either via Zoom or in the church and follows guided meditations to help participants grow in relationship with Christ.

Contact: Fran Rider (email: birider2808@sbcglobal.net)

Eucharistic Adoration

Takes place in the church Tuesdays and Thursdays following the daily Mass until 7 p.m., and on First Saturdays following the 8 a.m. Mass until 10 a.m. Adoration is an opportunity to sit with the Blessed Sacrament and pray. Volunteers are encouraged to sign up for designated times.

Contacts: Don Thamer (email: don.nprz6@gmail.com) and Kimberly Sax (email: kimberlysax1@gmail.com)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/pray/adoration>

Eucharistic Homebound Ministers

Distribute the Eucharist to those in need at their homes. Members of this ministry are dedicated to serving the spiritual needs of homebound parishioners by bringing Christ to them and by keeping them connected to our community.

Contact: Peggy Vellanoweth (email: pcvella@aol.com)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/eucharistic-homebound-ministries>

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Assist in the distribution of Holy Communion. Men and women (16 years and older) must be fully initiated Catholics to participate.

Contact: Casey Oliver (email: worship@olaparish.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/extraordinary-ministers-holy-communion>

Lectors

Lay ministers who proclaim the Word at Mass or at other liturgical celebrations. Men and women (13 years and older) who are fully initiated Catholics are invited to participate.

Contact: Casey Oliver (email: worship@olaparish.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/lectors>

Mass Captains and Sacristans

Help organize liturgical ministers at Masses and ensure all set-up tasks and clean-up tasks have been completed.

Contact: Casey Oliver (email: worship@olaparish.net)

Music Ministry

Open to all who wish to support the full, conscious, and active participation of the singing assembly during the celebration of Mass, prayer services, and more. Music ministers serve in the pews and on the music risers in ensembles to offer comprehensive leadership and encouragement. Volunteers are needed for the Choir in the Pews at all Masses and for our ensembles. Vocalists and instrumentalists are welcome.

Contact: Casey Oliver (email: worship@olaparish.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/music-ministry>

HOSPITALITY MINISTRIES

Jesus teaches that when we welcome one another, we welcome Him.

Greeters

Receive the community and welcome them to Masses.

Contact: Chris Hine (email: chrishine726@hotmail.com)

Martha & Mary Gathering

Open to all parish ladies. They meet for fellowship, spiritual growth, and to assist with parishioner funeral receptions.

Contact: Peggy Stradford (email: peggystradford@icloud.com)

Pray and Play

Fosters fellowship and community for our parish families by gathering on the school playground after the 9 a.m. Sunday Mass.

Contact: Katie Cunha (email: katieecunha@gmail.com)

Social Committee

Promotes parish unity through the planning and execution of social events like our community dinners.

Contact: Julia Meyer (email: social@olaparish.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/social-committee>

Ushers

Help worshippers find seats, take up the collection, give visitors necessary information, and assist Mass Captains with additional responsibilities at weekend Masses.

Contact: Don Thamer (email: don.nprz6@gmail.com)

Women's Book Club

Meets to share the joy of reading on the second Monday of each month.

Contact: Mary Anne Campos (email: gcampos@sbcglobal.net)

FORMATION MINISTRIES

Throughout our lives, we seek to draw closer to God.

Adult Faith Formation

Provides the opportunity for adults to learn more about their Catholic faith through participation in workshops, presentations, and study programs offered in both the parish and throughout the diocese.

Contact: Jane Ricci (email: ministrycoordinator@olaparish.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/formation/resources>

Faith Formation for Children

Volunteers teach students who do not receive religious education during their regular school hours. This program supplements the faith formation already started in the home and during Masses. It includes preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation.

Contact: Tracy Urban (email: faithformation@olaparish.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/learn/faith-formation>

Liturgy of the Word for Children

Led by a team of parent volunteers during the 9:30 a.m. Sunday Mass in St. John's Hall. Children learn about the readings and Gospel at their level and participate in a related activity.

Contact: Tracy Urban (email: faithformation@olaparish.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/learn/faith-formation/liturgy-word-children>

Living the Word

A group dedicated to reading and contemplating the Sunday Scripture readings for each week. There are also opportunities for faith sharing and discussions about how to live your faith in your daily life. Volunteers can serve as discussion leaders, and this group also facilitates monthly Lectio Divina and Taize Prayer.

Contact: Tim Flanigan (email: tim@flaniganfirm.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/living-word>

OLA School

A ministry of our parish that provides a great education to our children to help them develop their whole being — mind, body, and spirit. Our goal is to prepare our children for life and to make them disciples of Jesus Christ as He commanded the Church to do.

Contacts: Robert Love (email: love@olaparish.net) and

Hellen Brassfield (email: rowell@olaparish.net)

Webpage: <http://school.olaparish.net/>

OCIA (The Order of Christian Initiation of Adults)

The process through which adults or youth (those between the ages of 7-18) are fully initiated into the Catholic Church through the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist. Volunteers serve as sponsors or team members. All can help by inviting friends and family members who are not Catholic to come and learn more.

Contacts: Jordan Holmes (email: ocia@olaparish.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/learn/faith-formation/becoming-catholic-adults>

Sacramental Preparation (Baptism/Marriage)

Offered for parents seeking preparation for Baptism for their children and for couples seeking preparation for their marriages.

Contact: Deacon Paul and Sharon Friedrich
(email: deaconpaul@olaparish.net)

Youth Ministry

Offered for the youth of our parish in seventh through 12th grades. Students are encouraged to participate in liturgical ministries at 11 a.m. Sunday Mass, youth group meetings, service projects, and more. Adult volunteers can serve as core team members or participate in other ways to help parish youth grow in faith and community.

Contact: Johann Rubia-Miller (email: youth@olaparish.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/learn/youth>

SERVICE MINISTRIES

God calls us to put love in action through concrete acts of service.

Bereavement Committee

Members provide caring support to those who have lost loved ones while assisting with funeral planning. Please call the parish office if you need their services.

Contact: Kate Walsh (email: kateandpat@hotmail.com)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/bereavement-committee>

Carmichael HART

A coalition of faith communities, non-profits, businesses, agencies, and individuals, who are committed to finding solutions to homelessness. OLA helps provide volunteers and resources for winter shelters, respite centers, and half-way houses.

Contact: Juan Yniguez (email: jcyniguez@att.net)

Catholic in Recovery

A nonprofit organization that seeks to serve those suffering from addictions and unhealthy attachments by making connections with others who have struggled or still struggle.

Contact: Bill Befort (email: bbefort@bellsouth.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/catholicinrecovery>

Family Promise Ministry

Provides fellowship and healthy meals to homeless families with children. Permanent housing is the ultimate goal, along with developing the self-sufficiency needed to sustain them.

Contacts: Chris Hine (email: chrishine726@hotmail.com)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/family-promise>

Front Office Volunteers

An essential support for our parish and a welcoming presence to our many visitors and callers. In addition to greeting parishioners and visitors, volunteers assist office staff by answering phones, helping with clerical tasks, and more.

Contact: Stacie Nieves (email: officemgr@olaparish.net)

Giving Tree Ministry

Provides Christmas gifts to needy families who live within OLA's parish boundaries — many of the families are clients of OLA's food locker. Work begins in October with gift signups and ends with gift sorting and distribution before Christmas.

Contact: Peggy Stradford (email: peggystradford@icloud.com)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/giving-tree-ministry>

Hats for the Homeless

Donates hats to many organizations in the Sacramento area. Anyone, regardless of skill level, is welcome to participate by making hats in any color, style, or size. The ministry welcomes donations of yarn, or monetary donations to purchase yarn or fleece. Patterns for knitted or crocheted hats available upon request.

Contact: Angie Strawn (email: amstrawn@comcast.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/hats-homeless>

Knights of Columbus

A Catholic family fraternal service organization which assists the Church and communities in the Arden-Carmichael areas.

Contact: Peter Kilkenny (email: pakcantor@gmail.com)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/knights-columbus>

Offertory Counters

Volunteers who work in teams to count the offertory collections.

Contact: Vince Madden (email: vince@mvmadden.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/offertory-counters>

Respect Life Committee and OLA Gabriel Project

Raises awareness of pro-life issues among our parish community.

The OLA Gabriel Project, inspired by the Word and example of Jesus Christ, offers immediate and practical assistance to pregnant women and their families.

Contacts: Rose Ross (email: ross1671@sbcglobal.net)

Sharon Krypt (email: skropf@winfirst.com)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/respectlife>

St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVdP) OLA Conference

A group of Catholic lay persons who respond to the needs of the poor living within the OLA parish boundaries through the twice-weekly on-site food locker and temporary assistance with rent, utilities, clothing, etc.

Contact: Marylee Johnson (email: jmjohn@surewest.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/st-vincent-de-paul-society-ola-conference>

COUNCILS AND LEADERSHIP COMMITTEES

Pastoral Council

A pastoral consultative body which strives to discern the movement of the Holy Spirit among God's people in the parish. It gives its help to the pastor in fostering pastoral activity. The Pastoral Council develops pastoral programs, improves services, and evaluates the effectiveness of various programs and services.

Contact: Carmy Baca (email: cbaca_929@yahoo.com)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/pastoral-council>

Parish Finance Council

A consultative body of lay parishioners who advise the pastor in matters pertaining to the financial affairs of the parish.

Contact: Joe Selewicz (email: joejsel@gmail.com)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/finance-council>

Liturgy Committee

Under the direction of the pastor, sets goals, direction and principles for the liturgical life of the parish, assesses the needs of the worshipping assembly, trains competent liturgical ministers, and implements directives from the universal Church and the diocesan church. Environment Committee, a subcommittee of the Liturgy Committee, liturgically adorns the inside of the church.

Contacts: Casey Oliver (email: worship@olaparish.net), Katie Cunha - Environment Committee (email: katieecunha@gmail.com)

Webpages: <https://olaparish.net/liturgy-committee>,
<https://olaparish.net/environment-committee>

Building and Grounds Committee

Coordinates the regular maintenance and improvement of the parish buildings and grounds. Safety and Security Committee, a subcommittee of the Buildings and Grounds Committee, addresses safety and security issues for the parish and the school.

Contact: John Blaschke (email: johnblasch@outlook.com)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/building-grounds-committee>

***Hospitality Committee**

Assesses and supports all activities related to hospitality by working with staff and various ministries. The committee also makes recommendations to enhance current parish hospitality activities and encourages new hospitality activities as needed.

**We are seeking volunteers and leadership for this committee. Please reach out to our pastor, Fr. Eduino Silveira, or to our Pastoral Council Chair, Carmy Baca, if you are interested in serving on this committee.*

Communications Committee

A subcommittee of the Pastoral Council. Assists the pastor and parish office in coordinating parish communications using multiple communication platforms, including the parish bulletin, parish website, Flocknote, myParish App, and social media. This committee also helps our parish build community by communicating the needs of fellow parishioners to those who may be able to help and by promoting the services of our various ministries.

Contact: Casey Oliver (email: worship@olaparish.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/communications-committee>

Strategic Planning Committee

A subcommittee of the Pastoral Council. Helps develop and monitor the implementation of the Pastoral Plan for the parish that is renewed every three to five years. The Plan recognizes, informs, and guides parish pastoral activities. This effort is facilitated by the Strategic Planning Committee in collaboration with the entire faith community including parishioners, staff, and the pastor.

Contact: Juan Yniguez (email: jcyniguez@att.net)

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/strategic-planning-committee>

Vocations Committee

Are you called to a ministry of fostering vocations, especially to ordained ministry and religious life? The committee's tasks include organizing a campaign of prayer for vocations, creating parish awareness of vocations, and inviting individuals to consider the call to be a priest, deacon, sister or brother, spouse, or single person.

Webpage: <https://olaparish.net/vocations-committee>

This handbook is current as of April 2025.

If you need assistance reaching out to a ministry, you are welcome to call the parish office at (916) 481-5115. You may also reach out via email to Jane Ricci, Ministry Coordinator: ministrycoordinator@olaparish.net.