



# OUR LADY OF THE *Assumption* PARISH

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

*Sunday, December 19 2021*  
*4th, Sunday of Advent*

## PARISH STAFF

### Pastor

Rev. Eduino T. Silveira | pastor@olaparish.net

### Pastors Emeriti

Rev. Brendan McKeefry & Rev. Michael F. Kiernan

### Deacon

Paul Friedrich | deaconpaul@olaparish.net

### Office Manager

Ivan Florez | officemgr@olaparish.net

### Parish Bookkeeper

916-481-5115, ext. 203

### Music Director

Casey Oliver | worship@olaparish.net

### Faith Formation

Joan Cotton | faithformation@olaparish.net

### Youth Minister

Johann Rubia-Miller | youth@olaparish.net

### Building Maintenance

Earl Knight | maintenance@olaparish.net

## ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAIRPERSONS

Pastoral Council: Carmy Baca

Finance Council: Joe Selewicz

Buildings & Grounds Committee: John Blaschke

## OLA PRESCHOOL - EIGHTH GRADE

Principal, Robert Love

Vice Principal, Steven Vidal

K-8th: eaddy@olaparish.net | 489-8958

P-8th Admissions: sweeney@olaparish.net

P-8th Website: www.school.olaparish.net

## Preschool Director, Ann Marie Duesbury

916-485-1504 duesbury@olaparish.net

License No. 343616796

## PARISH OFFICE

Monday - Friday | 8:30am - 4:00pm

## ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Provides assistance for those in need within our parish boundaries. Please call: 916-481-6352

Monday - Friday | 9:00am - 11:00am

## HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES

Ask an usher about them!

Please check our website for current MASS  
SCHEDULE information

[www.olaparish.net](http://www.olaparish.net)



## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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.





# WE ARE GOD'S INSTRUMENTS

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

**December 19, 2021**

**4th Sunday of Advent**

St. Augustine tells us that a “Christian is a mind through which Christ thinks, a heart through which Christ loves, a voice through which Christ speaks and a hand through which Christ helps.” As we look around and out at the world, we do not have to search too far before we come face to face with inequity and injustice. There is so much unfairness, prejudice, anger, hatred, violence, and want. The stories of human heartache, people being hurt, deprived of life’s necessities, loneliness, and sickness are far too commonplace. For many of the world’s ills, the vices of greed, lust, pride, gluttony, and jealousy are clearly among the more significant root causes.

## PRAY FOR OUR SICK BROTHERS & SISTERS

Why doesn’t God just step in and fix this mess? After all, God created this world, and one would hope that he would step up and take some measure of responsibility for it! Once we sit with this thinking for a while, we can begin to realize just how flawed it really is.

God did take responsibility and God did fix the problem! God sent us Jesus Christ as the divine solution to the world’s ills. It is not God who has shirked responsibility, we have. We are the ones who continually fail to set our own personal needs, wants, and securities aside so that One more powerful than us can use us. Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of God to come into the world.

Put simply, Mary listened and believed. Having opened herself to being an instrument of the Divine, God could use her as his mind, heart, voice, and hand. She became God’s vessel so that God’s greatness could reach the ends of the earth and peace could come upon the world. God’s fix for the world’s difficulties is you and me. We are the ones who confess that Jesus Christ came into the world as the Son of God, the Prince of Peace, and herald of justice. All we have to do is believe, as did Mary, that what has been spoken to us by the Lord will be fulfilled. Then, we can step aside and be the Christians we claim to be. What a difference it would make if every person who professed to be Christian truly understood that their one and only vocation is to be God’s instrument. What a beautiful, equitable, and just world it would be.

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**Nancy Carlson**

**Jonathan Rassmussen**

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**Shirley Ward**

**Molly Garcia**

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**Anna Gigi**

**Vicente Flores**

**Bill Koerlin**

**Salvador Beltran**

**Tom Hickman**



## STEWARDSHIP THOUGHTS

Stewardship Calling

### 4th Sunday of Advent

"For behold, when the voice of your greeting came to my ears, the babe in my womb leaped for joy." (luke 1:44)

When you hear the scripture readings and Gospel reading at Mass, do you "leap for joy?" If not, don't blame the lecturer or priest, rather look inside yourself. What are you doing to grow in friendship with Jesus? How do you prepare for Mass each week? Or, do you just show up and expect to be entertained? As the Body of Christ, we, as Stewards, are called to be active participants, not just passive observers.

<https://camdendiocese.org/stewardship>

## QUESTIONS OF THE WEEK

### Fourth Sunday of Advent

Theme: Jesus is identified as Lord before he is born.

Breaking Open the Word

Suggested text for faith sharing: Today's Gospel

Step One: Listen to the Word

As you hear this reading, what words or phrases strike you? What in this reading touches your heart? What lingers in your memory?

Step Two: Look into Your Life

**Question for Children:** How does the Blessed Virgin Mary help you to follow Jesus?

**Question for Youth:** When have you experienced the presence of the Holy Spirit?

**Question for Adults:** What role does Mary play in your own spirituality? If you were Elizabeth, how would you greet her at your doorway, if she were to arrive there?

<https://lifelongcatechesis.osv.com>

## Save the Date for our Annual Pasta Dinner



Mark your calendar for our annual Pasta Dinner **Saturday, January 22, 2022, Affinito Hall 6:30PM**

Scrumptious "Bob's" Meat Balls, Penne Pasta, Salad & Leatherby's Ice Cream & Italian Cookies Music & Song! Join in the Fun!

## Prayer Request

SATURDAY, DEC 18

5:00PM † Robert Johnson  
by Cummins Family  
† Donald John Marsau  
by Jo - Ann Marsau

SUNDAY, DEC 19 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

7:30 AM † Irene Meriano  
by The Meriano Family  
9:00 AM † Rodney Grossman  
by Friends & Family  
11:00 AM † Gert Langer  
by Langer Family  
† Guadalupe Crespo  
by Crespo Family

7:30 PM All Parishioners

MONDAY, DEC 20

8:00AM † Joanne Kelley  
by Patty Read

TUESDAY, DEC 21

8:00AM † Wesley Apker  
by Catherine Apker

WEDNESDAY, DEC 22

8:00AM † Malcom King  
by Chambers Family

THURSDAY, DEC 23

Saint John of Kanty, Priest

8:00AM † Thomas O'Donnell  
by Chambers Family

FRIDAY, DEC 24 - Christmas Eve Masses

**Note: No 8:00am Mass**

4:00PM (Vigil Mass) † Laurel Carbon  
by Paulina Carbon & Family  
† Shirley Pasquina  
by Bennett & Family

6:00PM (Vigil Mass) All Parishioners

SATURDAY, DEC 25

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

12:00am Mass at Night (Midnight Mass)

7:30Am † Estelita Brooks  
by Marylee Johnson  
by Sheila Johnson  
9:00AM † Gloria Plog & Alex Dalske  
by Sheila Johnson  
11:00AM † Steven Vander Pyl  
by Oliver Family  
† Lizz Baca  
by Carmy Baca

**Please Note: No 5:00pm Vigil Mass for feast of the Holy Family**



## JOIN OUR OLA COMMUNITY

Are you attending Mass regularly at Our Lady of the Assumption Church but are not registered? Register today as a parishioner. Visit the following link:


<https://olaparish.net/community/register-us> and follow a few simple steps, and you are done.

If you prefer in person, you can fill out a form at our parish office, which is open Monday through Friday, 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Registration forms are also available at the Church. Ask an usher for details.

If you are returning to an active Catholic life, we are happy to facilitate a smooth and joy-filled transition. May you find fellowship, peace, and serenity in our community.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Eduino, Pastor.

Thank You. 

### FOR THESE GIFTS WE ARE GRATEFUL!

Weekend Offertory 12/12/21 \$ 9,393.00  
E-Giving 12/06/21 to 12/12/21 \$ 5,330.25

Total \$ 14,723.25

II Collection Retirement Fund for Religious \$ 4,082

Average weekly budget amount \$12,000.00

### WESHARE

We want to encourage our parishioners to enroll in our automated donation program called **WeShare**. This program provides a convenient way to make your donations to our church in the comfort of your home.

To enroll please follow these simple steps:

- Go to <https://olaparish.net>
- Click on Donate.
- This will take you to our "Contribute" page, where you will find the **WeShare** link to enroll and start making your donation.



## OUR PARISH

### PARISH CALENDAR

<b>Sunday, Dec 19</b> <b>Fourth Sunday of Advent</b> <b>7:30am-9:00am-11:00am &amp; 7:30pm Mass</b> <b>10:15am Faith Formation Classes—School</b> <b>10:30pm Flame Meeting - St. Paul's Room</b>	<b>Monday, Dec 20</b> <b>8:00am Mass</b> <b>6:00pm Advent Contemplative Prayer - Church</b> <b>6:30pm Penance Service</b> <b>7:00 pm Boy Scouts Meeting—Troop 328—St. John's Hall.</b>
<b>Tuesday, Dec 21</b> <b>8:00am Mass</b> <b>8:30am—7:00pm Adoration in the Church</b> <b>6:30pm Knights of Columbus Meeting - St. John's Hall.</b>	<b>Wednesday, Dec 22</b> <b>8:00am Mass</b> <b>2:15pm School Music Practice—Church</b> <b>7:00pm RCIA—Affinito Hall - Meeting Room 3</b> <b>7:30pm Neocatechists - St. John's Hall.</b>
<b>Thursday, Dec 23</b> <b>8:00am Mass</b> <b>8:30am—7:00pm Adoration in the Church</b> <b>6:30pm Lectio Divina/ Taize Prayer - Church</b>	<b>Friday, Dec 24</b> <b>8:00am Mass</b> <b>Christmas Eve Masses</b> <b>4:00pm Vigil Mass</b> <b>6:00pm Vigil Mass</b>
<b>Saturday, Dec 25</b> <b>Christmas Day Masses</b> <b>12:00am Mass at Night (Midnight Mass)</b> <b>7:30am Mass at Dawn</b> <b>9:00am Mass during the Day</b> <b>11:00am Mass during the Day</b> <b>No 5:00pm Mass Vigil Mass</b>	<b>Sunday, Dec 26</b> <b>7:30am-9:00am-11:00am &amp; 7:30pm Mass</b> <b>12:15pm Baptism - Church</b> <b>10:30pm Flame Meeting - St. Paul's Room</b> <b>12:30pm Girl Scouts Troop 103</b>

### DEADLINES

#### BULLETIN WEEKEND DATES

#### ARTICLE DUE

Dec 25-Dec 26

Dec 17

Jan 02 -Jan 03

Dec 24

Jan 09 - Jan 10

Dec 31



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**Dear Brothers and Sisters**

As a Church we are preparing to celebrate with Faith ,Love , and Gratitude the Birth of Our Savior, Jesus Christ, Who out of mercy became Man to save us. He came in love to proclaim the Good News that God so loved the world that He sent His beloved Son to Save us by His death and resurrection that

brought forgiveness of sins and eternal life. He came to guide us and lead us into true joy by giving us His Holy Spirit that transforms us and fills us with love and peace. Jesus asks us to have faith in Him and to live by His Words which are spirit and life. Even though these are difficult times for us with the pandemic still affecting our lives and many other hardships, Jesus gives hope and strength .

I want to encourage you and your loved ones to put your hope and faith in Jesus Who has the power to heal and save us and by His Grace to empower us to love one another and destroy all barriers that afflict us and separates us from God and one another. I encourage you to join us for Christmas masses on December 24 at 4:00 pm,6:00pm and midnight as well as on Christmas Day 7:30 am,9:00am and 11:00am . I also invite to check our Parish website which has all the celebrations for Advent and Christmas . Also we will have a Communal celebration of Reconciliation on Monday December 20 at 6:00pm. On behalf of our staff, ministries and volunteers I pray that God Blesses you with wonderful Advent, a Holy Christmas and a Happy New Year filled with the Peace and Love that Jesus brings us.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Sincerely

*Eduino Silveira*

**Eduino Silveira, Pastor**





## SPIRITUAL GROWTH

### LIVE THE LITURGY

Did you ever find yourself wishing that God would just step in and fix all that is wrong with the world? After all, how much longer can all of this go on? There is so much inequity in life. Our world's political, economic, and environmental systems do not always serve the best interests of people. We read stories about injustice, disregard for human life, greed, heartache, and people being hurt and deprived every day. People are still starving and there is often little regard for human life. This is not the way God intended it to be. Realizing that we have caused most of these problems ourselves, we look to God for an answer and a way out of the difficulties we have created. Taking responsibility for our actions is not something that comes easily. What we fail to see is that God has

already sent the answer in the person of Jesus Christ. God did fix our problem! Mary had to set her needs aside in order for the Son of Justice to come into the world. We need to do the same. It is only by believing in, listening to, and acting upon what God has spoken that true peace will ever come to be, and God's fix be made known.

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## EVERYDAY STEWARDSHIP

### RECOGNIZE GOD IN YOUR ORDINARY MOMENTS

#### Baby Jesus' Wish List

Odds are you've got a Christmas list going by now — gift ideas for everyone from your nephew to your goddaughter to your mailman. But what about the birthday boy? What's the gift Jesus gets from you this Christmas?

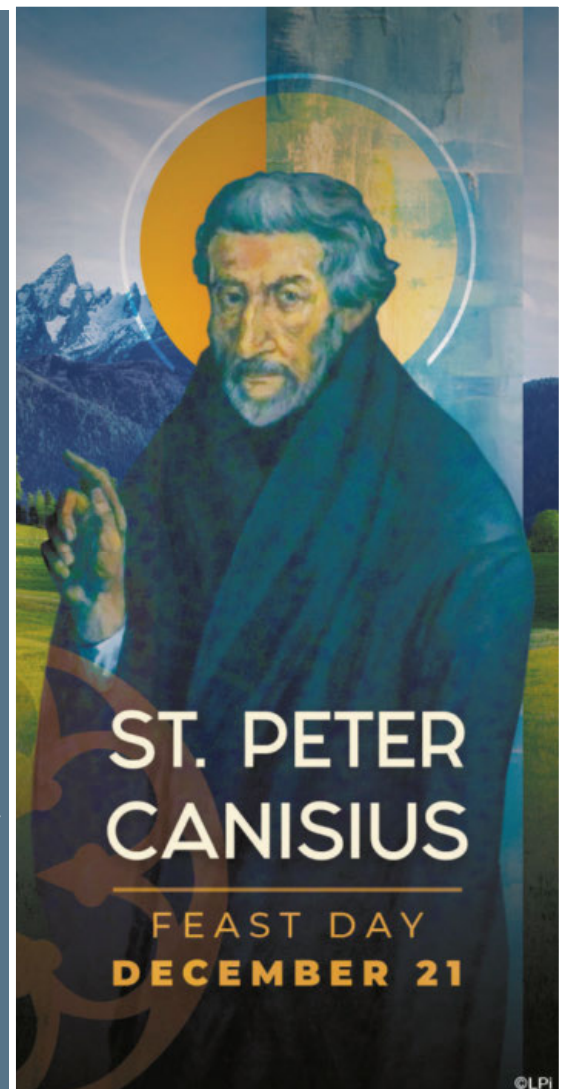
If you've ever read the Book of Leviticus, you know all about the sacrifices God asks of the Israelites, referred to in the reading from Hebrews today. Leviticus can be a chore to read — a little repetitive, a little intimidating. There's a lot of very specific actions that God asks His Chosen People to complete to make up for whatever they have done wrong. In essence, it's a bit of a wish list for gifts.

But it's a wish list that can really confuse you. What's God going to do with a cereal offering? The kidneys of an animal? If you look closely, what God is doing here is beautiful. He's customized his wish list to only those things He knows the Israelites can give. It's God saying, in what amounts to theological baby-talk for folks who barely know of Him and His ways, exactly how they could be stewards. "Do this, but don't do that. If you do that, do this and you will find My mercy."

Our guide to stewardship — the Gospels of Christ — is less precise because by the time of Christ, God's people have grown in understanding of love and mercy and relationship with the divine. Through Christ, we find out that God's real wish list didn't really consist of cereal offerings and the kidneys of various animals. It's far simpler, but luckily, it's something we still have on-hand. All He wants is our whole heart.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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**Sunday, December 19: Fourth Sunday of Advent** (usual Mass schedule)

**Monday, December 20: Advent Contemplative Prayer** at 6:00 pm and **Penance Service** at 6:30 pm

**Tuesday, December 21: Adoration in the church** 8:30 am - 7:00 pm

**Thursday, December 23: Adoration in the church** 8:30 am - 7:00 pm

**Friday, December 24: Christmas Eve Masses**

**No 8:00am Mass**

4:00 pm Vigil Mass - Family liturgy with a dramatic interpretation of the Liturgy of the Word

6:00 pm Vigil Mass - Saturday

**December 25: Christmas Day Masses**

12:00 am Mass at Night (Midnight Mass)

7:30 am Mass at Dawn

9:00 am Mass during the Day

11:00 am Mass during the Day

**No 5:00 pm Vigil Mass for Feast of the Holy Family**

**Sunday, December 26: Feast of the Holy Family** (Usual morning schedule and **No 7:30 PM Mass**)

**Saturday, January 1, 2022: Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God**, Mass at 10:00 am.

**Sunday, January 2: The Epiphany of the Lord** (usual Mass schedule)

**Monday January 3: Rosary** (Joyful Mysteries) at 6:30 pm in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament

**Tuesday, January 4: Adoration in the church** 8:30 am - 7:00 pm

**Thursday, January 6: Adoration in the church** 8:30 am - 7:00 pm

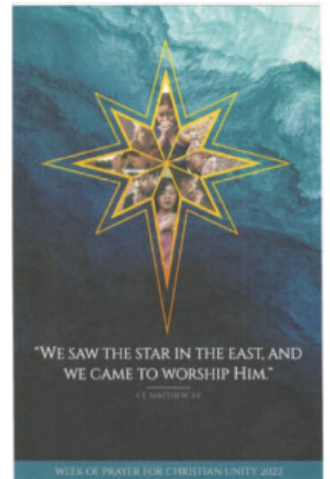
**Sunday, January 9: Baptism of the Lord** (usual Mass schedule)



## COMMUNITY

### *Special Event for Week of Prayer for Christian Unity on January 18, 2022*

You are invited to a Special Event on Tuesday, January 18, 2022 from 3:00-8:00 p.m. during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. The theme is: ***We have seen his star in the East and have come to pay homage to him*** (cf. Matthew 2:2).



**Panel Discussion (3:00 – 4:15 p.m.)** *Uniting as Christians, as we pay homage to Christ.*

**Featured Speaker (4:30 – 5:00 p.m.)** *The gift of the star is a sign of hope during today's troubled times.*

**Dinner (5:15 – 6:15 p.m.)**

**Worship Prayer Service (6:30 – 8:00 p.m.)**

This Special Event will be held at **Westminster Presbyterian Church (1300 N Street, Sacramento)**, and also will be available through Livestream (link information will be announced soon). There is no charge for this event. If you are interested or have questions, please contact **Deacon Dennis Gorsuch**, NSEC Chair, at (916) 984-8550, or E-mail: [dennisgorsuch@comcast.net](mailto:dennisgorsuch@comcast.net).

### OLA Youth Christmas Eve Choir

We need singers for the OLA Youth Christmas Eve Choir. This choir will join the OLA Youth Ministry Choir and Ensemble for the 4:00 pm Christmas Eve Mass (3:00 pm arrival time), and is open to youth in grades K-12. There will be one in-person rehearsal: Tuesday evening, December 21st. Sheet music and a rehearsal video will also be provided. Please join us! All singers will need to wear a face mask at all times, including while singing. Participants in the choir may also participate in the Christmas play.

If your child would like to participate, please confirm his/her participation via email: **Casey Oliver**, Music Director, at [worship@olaparish.net](mailto:worship@olaparish.net).

Thank you!



### END-OF-THE-CALENDAR-YEAR CONTRIBUTIONS

Many individuals will make charitable contributions late in the calendar year to take advantage of tax benefits. In order to do so, checks must be dated and envelopes post-marked on or before December 31, 2021.

If you are in the position to make end-of-year contributions, please consider our parish as a beneficiary of your support.

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