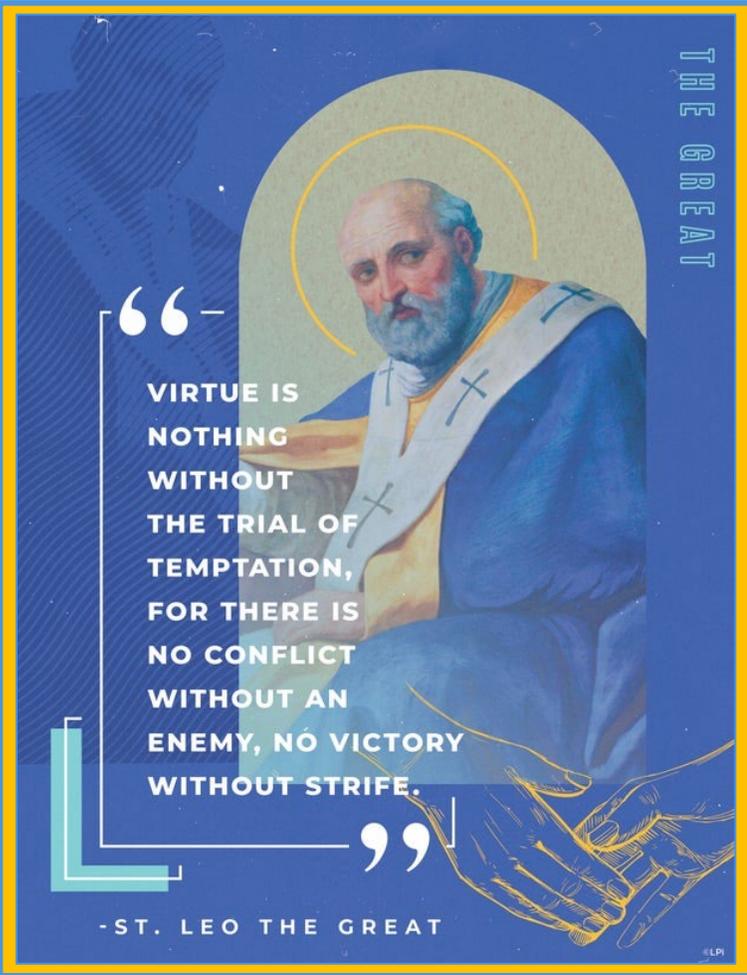




# OUR LADY OF THE *Assumption* PARISH

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

Sunday, February 22, 2026  
The First Sunday of Lent



THE GREAT

“—  
VIRTUE IS  
NOTHING  
WITHOUT  
THE TRIAL OF  
TEMPTATION,  
FOR THERE IS  
NO CONFLICT  
WITHOUT AN  
ENEMY, NO VICTORY  
WITHOUT STRIFE.  
”

- ST. LEO THE GREAT

## 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

[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.

## 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.

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

<b>Bulletin Weekend Dates</b>	<b>Article Submission Due Date</b>
March 7 <sup>th</sup> – 8 <sup>th</sup>	February 27 <sup>th</sup>
March 14 <sup>th</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup>	March 6 <sup>th</sup>
March 21 <sup>st</sup> – 22 <sup>nd</sup>	March 13 <sup>th</sup>

\*Due dates may be earlier due to the printer's holiday schedule.

## STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

### **We are deeply grateful for your contributions.**

The February 14<sup>th</sup> – February 15<sup>th</sup> Donations will be in the March 1<sup>st</sup> Bulletin due to the holiday.

## SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



On March 1<sup>st</sup> 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 FINANCE COUNCIL MEMBER EACH WEEK



"As a member of the Finance Council, I serve our parish by giving back to the OLA community and supporting Father Eduino with financial decisions to maintain or grow both the parish and the school."  
-Fernando Vellanoweth

The Parish Finance Council is a consultative body of lay persons appointed to advise the Pastor in matters pertaining to the financial affairs of the parish. For details, contact Chair, Joe Selewicz 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](mailto: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, FEBRUARY 21<sup>ST</sup>

5:00 PM † **Sue Oliver**  
by Murphy family  
† **Patrick Walsh**  
by Kate Walsh

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>

7:30 AM †† **Fernando and Mary Garcia**  
9:00 AM † **Maria Morales (Moran)**  
by Her Children  
11:00 AM † **Maria Morales (Moran)**  
by Her Children  
7:30 PM **All Parishioners** (Missa Pro Populo)

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>

8:00 AM † **Teresa Wilhelm**  
**(Sp) Larry Wilhelm**  
by Wilhelm family

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>

8:00 AM † **Vasco Faria and family**

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25<sup>TH</sup>

8:00 AM † **Dave Merold (Birthday)**  
by The Merold family

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 26<sup>TH</sup>

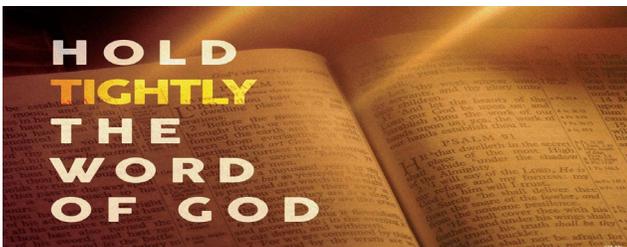
8:00 AM **(Sp) Mike Ellison**  
by Jane Ricci

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>

8:00 AM † **Jutta Woodington**

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>

5:00 PM † **Sue Oliver**  
by Fred Oliver



## PRAYER FOR OUR PARISH

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**

## PARISH CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</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

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23<sup>RD</sup>

8:00 am Mass  
9:30 am Meditation Group –  
Church  
10:00 am Catholic Cemetery  
Services – St. Paul's Room

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>

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

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

### WEDNESDAY, FEB. 25<sup>TH</sup>

8:00 am Mass  
6:00 pm Catholics in  
Recovery – St. Anne's Room  
7:00 pm OCIA – Affinito Hall  
Rm. 3

### THURSDAY, FEB. 26<sup>TH</sup>

8:00 am Mass  
8:30 am – 7:00 pm Exposition  
of the Blessed Sacrament –  
Church  
6:30 – 8:00 pm She Shall Be  
Called Woman – St. John's Hall  
7:00 pm Living the Word –  
Affinito Hall Rm. 3

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>

8:00 am Mass  
5:45 pm Lenten Soup Supper  
– St. John's Hall  
7:00 pm Stations of the Cross  
– Church

### SATURDAY, FEB. 28<sup>TH</sup>

3:30 pm Confessions – Church  
5:00 pm vigil Mass

## FIRST WEEK OF LENT

## 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.



## OBSERVANCES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 22<sup>ND</sup>

Sunday: 1<sup>ST</sup> Sunday of Lent  
Monday: St. Polycarp, Bishop and Martyr  
Friday: St. Gregory of Narek, Abbot and Doctor of the Church  
Sunday: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent

## GOSPEL MEDITATION

### The First Sunday of Lent

Mathew 4:1-11

In my second-to-last year of seminary, I woke up one September morning to devastating news: two beloved classmates had died in a car crash. I was overwhelmed with grief and anger like I had never known. I entered therapy for the first time and had intense conversations with my spiritual director. For months I felt lost in a spiritual wilderness. But something unexpected happened: I encountered Christ there. **The fear and sorrow didn't destroy me. In fact, that spiritual desert was a time of intense growth in faith.**

Today's Gospel begins: "Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the desert to be tempted by the devil" (Matthew 4:1). The word "led" denotes a gentle, humble submission to the Spirit. Jesus does not send himself into this desolate place where wild beasts roam and Satan tempts. Who wants to be around roaming, wild beasts? The Church Fathers saw them as symbols of our inner chaos: fears, temptations, wounds. The Spirit leads us there, sometimes against our wishes. But those same Fathers also saw that this deserted place is also where angels ministered to Jesus, amidst his great trial and temptation.

Lenten Challenge: This Lent and throughout life's struggles, the Spirit leads you and me into the wilderness. Name one "desert" into which the Spirit has led you: perhaps grief, fear, silence, change, disappointment. **Ask for the grace to go there willingly. The beasts may be real, but they will not harm you. There, the angels are waiting to minister to the Christ living in you, who always goes where the Spirit leads.**

— Father John Muir

©LPI

## 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**

©LPI

## 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. When a name is added it will be in bold type for a week. **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  
Mariano Afonso  
Cathy Apker  
Shannon Armstrong  
Carmy Baca  
Doreen Baldwin  
Donna Blaschke  
Larry E. Carnine  
Joan Cotton  
Ryan Daniels  
Yolande De Forge  
Robert DeAnda  
Mike Ellison  
Aaron Esselman  
Bobbie Hall  
Kathy Harreld  
Dorothy Heimbichner  
Matthew Holmes  
Christine Jansen  
Sheila Johnson  
Maya Juarez  
Michael Kyalwazi  
Michael and Shannon Langer  
Julia Silva Lara  
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  
Camille Peter  
Adam Peter  
T.J. Rapozo  
Rob & Teresa Reavis  
Salvador Silva Reyes  
David Rider  
Guadalupe Rodriguez  
Mary Roy  
Emily Tuazon  
Linda Vaughan  
Wesley Villariza  
Rachel Wann  
Tomas Washington  
Charlie Wetherall  
Jack Wetherall  
Cole Miller Whitney (baby)  
Lawrence Wilhelm  
Pat Wood  
Bobby Zoppi

## 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.**

## THANK YOU



We appreciate and pray for our St. Vincent de Paul Society volunteers. Their dedication to serving those who need assistance within our parish boundaries is inspiring. Thank you to each of you.

## PREGNANCY ASSISTANCE



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

*The Gestational Program*

## HEALING AFTER ABORTION



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

## PARISH AND SCHOOL NEWS



### YOUTH STATIONS OF THE CROSS MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>

The OLA Youth Stations of the Cross will be featuring youth from our parish school and Faith Formation program. It will begin at 6:00pm in the church. We are looking for student readers (2<sup>nd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades). The readings are short, simple and will be emailed to you as soon as you sign up. We will meet in the church at apx. 5:30pm that night to review the readings and the order. We are also looking for students to sing in the choir that evening. **Please email Casey at [worship@olaparish.net](mailto:worship@olaparish.net) if your student would like to volunteer to read or sing.**

### LENTEN FISH FRY MARCH 20<sup>TH</sup>

Doors open for the Lenten Fish Fry at approximately 6:30pm after the Youth Stations of the Cross. Dinner will begin after Fr. Eduino gives the blessing. The menu includes fish, fries, apple slaw, and Leatherby's Ice Cream. Gluten free options are available. The dinner is free but donations are appreciated. Please RSVP by Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. RSVP forms are available in the church, parish/school offices or <https://olaparish.net/>.



We hope to see you there!

### 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. **Next meetings are February 22<sup>nd</sup>, March 1<sup>st</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup>.** For details contact: Catherine Olguin at: 916-223-1257 or email: [catharina.936@gmail.com](mailto:catharina.936@gmail.com).

### KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS

The Knights of Columbus and The American Wheelchair Mission will be here at all Masses on "WHEELCHAIR SUNDAY", March 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, to explain how you can help the poorest of the poor, gain mobility and freedom. Join them and Fr Eduino for this very inspirational and moving presentation.



### 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!



### OLA GABRIEL PROJECT

The OLA Gabriel Project works closely with the Sacramento Life Center and Saint Vincent de Paul OLA Conference. The Sacramento Life Center recently donated two used computers to support our moms; we provided one to a mom attending community college whose computer had broken. The Life Center also offers many vital resources that extend beyond the scope of the Gabriel Project.

**OLA Gabriel Project meeting is on Monday, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 p.m. in Affinito Hall, Room 3.** New members from OLA or other parishes are always welcome! Your help will truly make a difference! If you can't join us in person, please connect with us via MS Teams (contact [skropf@winfirst.com](mailto:skropf@winfirst.com) for information). We'd love to have you!

### LENTEN BABY BOTTLE DRIVE

**This Lenten season, give alms with the Sacramento Life Center!** The Sacramento Life Center is a nonprofit, AAAHC - accredited pregnancy clinic offering free Ultrasounds, Well Woman exams, and baby needs at no cost to low-income mothers and families. Their mission is to compassionately provide free medical and emotional support services and resources to empower women and families to choose life. All you have to do is **pick up a baby bottle** from your parish today and take it home with you. Keep it throughout the Lenten season and fill it with cash, checks, and coins. Keep your bottle in a central part of the home to inspire the whole family. **Every little bit helps.** Please return it to your parish around Easter, where they will be given to the Sacramento Life Center.



### 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 info. we have on file for you is correct. You may update/verify your Flocknote database info. using the instructions on pg. 2 of the bulletin. For assistance call: 916-481-5115 ext. 212 or email: [flocknotesupport@olaparish.net](mailto: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](mailto:bbefort@bellsouth.net) or visit [www.catholicinrecovery.com](http://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](mailto: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: [billrider2808@sbcglobal.net](mailto:billrider2808@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](mailto: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](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.

## LENTEN SCHEDULE

"Lent emphasizes the communal aspect of listening to the word and fasting... our parishes, families, ecclesial groups and religious communities are called to undertake a shared journey during Lent, in which listening to the word of God, as well as to the cry of the poor and of earth, becomes part of our community life, and fasting a foundation for sincere repentance."-Excerpt from "Listening and Fasting: Lent as a Time of Conversion"-2026 Lenten Message from Pope Leo XIV.

**Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>:** Sunday of Lent (usual Mass schedule) – RCIA Rite of Sending at 9:00am Mass

**Tuesdays, February 24<sup>th</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, and 31<sup>st</sup>**

- 8:30am – 7:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the church
- 6:45pm Rosary in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament (*livestream*)

**Thursdays, February 26<sup>th</sup>, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 26<sup>th</sup>**

- 8:30am – 7:00pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament in the church
- 7:00 pm Living the Word Scripture Study in Affinito Hall Rm. 3

**Fridays, February 27<sup>th</sup>, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>**

- 5:45pm–6:45pm Soup Supper in St. John's Hall
- 7:00pm Stations of the Cross in the church (*livestream*)

**Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>**

- 6:00pm Stations of the Cross in the church
- 6:30pm (approximately) After Stations of the Cross will be our Lenten Fish Fry after Fr. Eduino gives the blessing.

**Saturday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>**

- 3:00pm *Sacrament of Confession* in the church

**Sunday, March 1<sup>st</sup>:** Second Sunday of Lent (usual Mass schedule) – Penitential Rite for Candidates at 2/28 5:00pm Vigil Mass

The OLA Lent and Easter Triduum calendar is posted on our Parish Website at: <https://olaparish.net> and copies are also available in the church and parish office. Visit <https://olaparish.net/livestream-mass> for livestream Masses or <https://olaparish.net/ola-live> for all other livestream events.

## 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](mailto:worship@olaparish.net).

## LOVE AND SERVE GOD, LOVE AND SERVE ONE ANOTHER

### BOY SCOUT TROOP 328 FUNDRAISER

**We will be outside the church after the 7:30am, 9am, and 11am Masses Feb. 22<sup>ND</sup> and March 1<sup>ST</sup> to take orders for custom, scout crafted cutting boards.** The cutting boards are great for cutting food, for charcuterie, and for display. This is one of our biggest fundraisers and proceeds will go toward summer programs. Troop 328 is an integral part of the OLA, with over 60yrs serving the OLA community. We are always looking for individuals interested in joining Scouts, to have fun, to learn, and to make lifelong friends. For details on both, contact Mike at [rockusc@gmail.com](mailto:rockusc@gmail.com), or Cynthia at [cheebclark@gmail.com](mailto:cheebclark@gmail.com). Thank you for your support.

### FUNERAL ARRANGEMENT PLANNING

You are invited to meet one on one with Lance Arroyo for a guided conversation on Catholic Funeral and Cemetery Planning. Review of preexisting arrangements also available. **Monday's Feb. 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10am - 1pm in St. Paul's Room.** To reserve a spot call or text Lance at 916-297-0109.

### PRAYER FOR LENT

*Dear Jesus,*

*This is the first Sunday of Lent, and I want to commit myself more deeply to you this season. Inspire me with the Lenten penances you most desire, the ones that help me to grow ever nearer to you.*

**Amen.**

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### INTO THE DESERT

When we first got married, I wanted to know everything my husband was thinking, exactly when he was thinking it. Thirteen years later, I still want to know it all. But I want to know it after he's had a snack. I think he still wants to know what I'm thinking, too. But he wants to know it after I've had 10 minutes without hearing the word, "Mommy!" Life has taught us, you see, that it's hard to be a good person, a nice person, a gentle person, when your body doesn't feel good or nice or gentle. When you're hungry. When you're exhausted. When you're anxious. It's not impossible, of course. It's just ... hard. We're entering a penitential season, a time in which we purposefully deprive ourselves in certain ways. **During Lent, we intentionally enter into the desert of physical hunger and weakness. Why, in preparation for Easter and in an effort to spiritually purify yourselves, do we go to this place where it's so hard to be good? Why do we go to the desert? Because Christ has shown us that the desert is where decisions are made.**

There are many reasons why the Word became flesh to accomplish God's plan for our salvation. **But I think one of the most important reasons must have been that God wanted to show us that He knows, intimately, how easily the devil exploits our physical experience of this world.** We see it in today's Gospel: Jesus, hungry and weary. Jesus taunted and tempted. We see him. We recognize him. We are him. And we hear his voice, even though it trembles with fatigue: "Get away, Satan!" Today, we enter the desert. Because the desert is where decisions are made. -Colleen Jurkiewicz Dorman

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### LENTEN READING

**Question:** Can you recommend some good books for Lenten spiritual reading?

**Answer:** On more than one occasion, a coach being interviewed about his team—successful or not—will be asked about the next step. The inevitable response includes something about getting back to basics. Reviewing the fundamentals of the sport strengthens performance and builds confidence.

**The best Lenten reading takes us back to the fundamentals. If Lent is the time for the Church to be on retreat, then we should focus on the texts that help us deepen our understanding of our faith.** Spend time reading one of the Gospels and use a Scripture commentary to learn all you can about the passion of Jesus. Read about the lives of the saints, especially your patron saint and that of your parish. Perhaps there is some local candidate for sainthood, like Father Walter Ciszek, SJ, who wrote several faith-inspiring books. Finally, you can use the Catechism of the Catholic Church to learn more about the church's teachings and beliefs. The sections on prayer and the Mass are really great reflections. Focusing on the basics really helps us take another step forward in our faith. We have not only a better understanding of what we believe and practice, but also why we believe. With that belief comes the confidence we need to be better, more faithful witnesses to Christ. ©LPI

### LENTEN MINDFULNESS

What is it that tempts you the most? Is it an action, a person, or a place? It is something that seems innocent enough, like a food, a drink, or an event? When you really start reflecting, you find that there are many temptations all around. Even if you are strong and never succumb to a certain temptation, it is still there waiting for a weak moment in your life.

One difficulty in the life of a disciple trying to live a stewardship way of life lies in the temptations we never actually see. **We are too busy thinking about past failures or successes, or we are fixated on what possibilities the future holds that we miss the important things going on in the present.** Jesus could be standing directly in front of us, but we miss him because we are looking everywhere except straight ahead.

Being mindful means that we are looking out for how and when God will call us this very day. Our decisions this day will have a huge impact on the future. If we only look to the future, we will miss those important calls to action. We may even find ourselves in a desert of sorts, looking for any way out we can find. However, God may need us to give of ourselves for a reason we cannot yet discern while in that desert. **We need to stay awake, be aware, and look for His hand in all things.** If we don't, we may even miss the pathway out of that desert when it presents itself. — Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

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