Our Lady of the Assumption Parish

545 Stratfield Road Fairfield, CT 06825-1872 Tel. (203) 333-9065 Fax: (203) 333-2562

Email: info@olaffld.org Website: https://www.olaffld.org

> "Ad Jesum per Mariam" To Jesus through Mary.

Clergy/Lay Leadership

Rev. Peter A. Cipriani, Pastor Rev. Michael Flynn, Parochial Vicar Rev. Marcel Saint Jean, In Residence Deacon Raymond John Chervenak Deacon Robert McLaughlin Michael Cooney, Director of Music

Masses

Saturday Vigil Mass: 4 PM Sunday Masses: 7:30 AM, 9 AM 10:30 AM and 12:00 PM (Subject to change) Morning Daily Mass: (Mon.-Sat.) 7:30 AM Evening Daily Mass: (Mon.-Fri.) 5:30 PM Holy Days: See Bulletin for schedule

Sacrament of Reconciliation Saturday: 3:00–3:45 PM or by appointment. Every Thursday: 7-8:00 PM

Rosary/Divine Mercy Chaplet

7 AM Monday-Saturday, Rosary 8 AM First Saturday of each month, Rosary 3 PM Monday-Friday, Divine Mercy Chaplet and Rosary

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

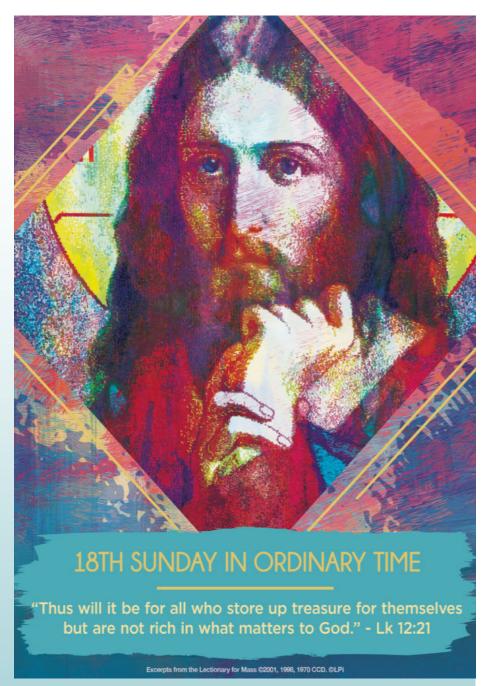
First Friday of each month from 8 AM Friday to 7:15 AM Saturday. To volunteer contact Grand Knight, Michael Lauzon at (203) 817-7528 or email mplauzon1@aol.com.

Novenas

Miraculous Medal-8 AM. Monday Saint Joseph-8 AM. Wednesday Divine Mercy-8 AM. Friday

Parish Membership

Our parish family invites all of its members to participate fully in our spiritual and social life. Every family moving into the parish is requested to register at the Rectory or go to our website for a registration form. If you move to another parish, or change your address, notify the Rectory.



Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

Anyone interested in becoming a Roman Catholic becomes a part of this process, as can any adult Catholic who has not received all the Sacraments of initiation. For further information contact the Faith Formation office.

Sacrament of Baptism

This Sacrament is celebrated on Sundays at 1:00 PM. It is required that parents participate in a Pre-Baptismal class. Classes are held on the third Saturday of the month. Registration is required by calling the parish office.

Sacrament of Marriage

Please contact the parish office as soon as possible so as to ensure a proper time and adequate preparation for this Sacrament. Pre-Cana or Engaged Encounters are required.

Anointing of the Sick Ministry to the Sick and Elderly

This Sacrament of healing expresses the love of God and our Church for our sick, our shut-ins and the elderly, unable to come to Church. For the dying, please contact the Rectory immediately. For the confined, the elderly and our shut-ins, whether at home, or in the hospital, please inform the Rectory.

From The Pastor's Desk

- Treasure Seekers -

Alexander the Great: He led many military campaigns and created one of the largest empires ever.

He did this all while he was about 30 years old and then the great Alexander fell gravely ill.

While he was on his death bed, he thought of the vast empire he had built, each and every spoils of war he captured and the might of his military machine. He went into depression, realizing nothing was worth it as even after an extremely successful life he could not avoid death. More than seeing all that wealth, he simply wanted to see his mother for the last time before he departed, but he knew he would not be able to do it and would soon pass away.

So he called in his Generals and made three last wishes before dying.

"My first wish is that my doctors should alone carry my coffin.

My second wish is that the path towards my grave shall be strewn with gold, silver and all the precious possessions in my treasury.

My third and last wish is that both my hands shall be kept dangling out of my coffin."

Curious about such strange requests the Generals asked Alexander what the point of these wishes might be, to which he responded:

"I want my doctors to carry my coffin to let know that no doctor can cure anybody. They are powerless and cannot save a person from the inevitability of death.

To strew gold, silver and other precious stones on the way to the graveyard, to let the people know that though I spent all my life accumulating riches, not even a grain of gold will come with me when I leave this world. It is a sheer waste of time, energy, and peace of mind when one yearns to be rich.

Having my hands dangling out of the coffin, I want people to know that I came empty handed into this world and likewise will go empty handed from this world."

I am sure we have all had those sandcastle moments in life...having put forth so much effort into something, maybe the accumulation of wealth only to see it so quickly disappear. Perhaps in the form of astronomical medical bills...have I worked hard all my life only so that I can afford to die?

As we hear Jesus warn today...though one may be rich one's life does not consist of possessions...what then does life consist of...especially since it always ends in death? What are those treasures that matter most to God that we are to accumulate with the little time we have in this world?

How many of you when looking at a coffin or burial urn

would compare them to a treasure chest? In them lie what was once a person...who had a family, a job, so many memories but who appears to be no more. Do we not instinctively crave permanence? Do we not long for more life, better life and not less and worse? And yet nothing seems more cruel than the all too quickly passing of time and the unstoppable aging and growing infirmity process and it frustrates us...angers us...makes us anxious. And it is then we must heed the advice of Saint Paul: Think of what is above not of what is on earth.

Our bodies are treasure chests, but we must not allow ourselves to get to the end of our lives and have our hearts, minds and souls empty of what matters most to God. And what matters or rather who matters most to God is Jesus Christ, and how full are our lives of Christ.

As much as I love sports...really love sports...I continue to be amazed at all the non-stop Sport talk shows there are. Can you imagine if people put in even half the time they spend on their fanaticism with sports, politics, social media, Netflix into growing their faith, this planet would be more than Heaven than even Heaven itself, well almost.

What matters most to God, that should be the compass point we follow each morning we have been given the grace to see and live another day. If people do not want God in this life, they will not want Him in the next life so with that in mind...taking it to heart so as to fill the soul with the enduring possessions of faith, hope and love, we must lest we die and remain dead: "put to death those parts of us that are earthly...immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire and the greed that is idolatry...stop lying to one another since you have taken off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self which is being renewed for knowledge, in the image of the creator."

That new self is the resurrected self, purchased for us by the wealth of Christ's blood which is more valuable than any perishable sum of gold and silver and so there is no greater possession we can have in this life than an active and well-lived faith in Jesus Christ.

Ironically enough, there is no one more greedy than a Christian, we want it all, that is the desire that has been placed in our hearts by way of the Incarnation. And rather than a depressing image of the empty dangling hands of the deceased Alexander, let us rejoice and savor that moment when extending our hands we receive the Body of Jesus Christ and then consuming Him, allow Him to fill our souls and our whole lives with the power and strength of His renewing love. Being in possession of Jesus Christ, we do have it all, both here on earth and forever in Heaven.

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 31, 2022

Parish Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday, 9 AM to 4 PM Friday, 9 AM to 12 PM

Assumption Catholic School

Mrs. Stacy Clements, Principal - (203) 334-6271 Grades: Pre-K 3 through 8 Hours: 8:40 AM - 3 PM Before and After School Programs Available (Before School program begins at 7:00 AM and After School program ends 5:30 PM)

Faith Formation

Mr. Frank Macari, Director - (203) 367-1108 Email address: Our.lady.assumption@snet.net Tuesday Classes For Grades 1-5 from 4:15-5 PM For Grades 6-8 from 7-7:45 PM

Office of Faith Formation Hours: Weekdays 10 AM - 3 PM and Tuesdays 10 AM-5:30 PM (during school year)

Parish Finance Council

Our parish Finance Council is a consultative body of lay persons established to advise the pastor in matters pertaining to the financial affairs of the church. The chairman is Ron Fiske, (203) 330-0375.

Parish Activities

American Heritage Girls Troop #4862: Monthly (except summer), 3rd Saturdays, 2:30 PM, parish center. For girls ages 5-18. Jillian Plomin at jplomin@gmail.com.

Altar Society of St. Joseph the Worker: Monthly, 1st & 3rd Saturdays of the month following 7:30 AM Mass. Cleans and beautifies the Sanctuary and chapels in the church.

Alcoholics Anonymous Friday, 8:00 PM, parish hall. Narcotics Anonymous Wednesday 7:30 PM, parish hall.

Bible Study: Thursdays, 9:15 AM and 7 PM, parish center. Study sessions will be posted in our bulletin. Currently suspended.

Choir: Adults: Wednesday, 7 PM in the church. Resurrection Choir: Sings at funeral Masses. Contact Michael Cooney, Director of Music, at (203) 572-2213 or email music@olaffld.org for details. Currently suspended

Knights of Columbus: Monthly, 2nd & 4th Tuesday, 7 PM parish hall. Grand Knight Michael Lauzon at (203) 817-7528 or email mplauzon1@aol.com.

Parish Nurses: Monthly, 2nd Wednesday, Sept. to June, at 7 PM St. Vincent Medical Center Blood pressure screening: Currently suspended

Sisters in Faith: Monthly, 2nd Monday, 7 - 9 PM, parish hall, except July & August. Ministry for women of Assumption Church. Mary Garbe at marygarbe@gmail.com.

Mass Intentions



Saturday, July 30th

4:00 p.m. **Anthony Campos**

Sunday, July 31st

7:30 a.m. Mary Danilowicz 9:00 a.m. Mary Iassogna Emily Kulak 10:30 a.m. Brian Dunn 12:00 p.m.

Weekday Masses

Mon. 8/1 7:30 a.m. Robert Danilowicz 5:30 p.m. Vincent Antezzo

Tues. 8/2 7:30 a.m. Lachance & Grondin families

5:30 p.m. James P. Carroll

Wed. 8/3 7:30 a.m. Louise Gardella

5:30 p.m. Lachance & Grondin families

7:30 a.m. George Laflamme Thurs. 8/4

5:30 p.m. Milagros Tirado

7:30 a.m. John P. Grifffith Fri. 8/5

5:30 p.m. Maria Garcia

Sat. 8/6 7:30 a.m. Special Intention of

Vincent Cipriani

Saturday, August 6th

4:00 p.m. Timoteo DeBenedittis

Sunday, August 7th

Annie Chambers 7:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. Maria DiNonna 10:30 a.m. Deacon Kevin Moore 12:00 p.m. John & Helen Feeney



Our Sanctuary Light will burn this week In Loving Memory of Thomas Griffen

Our Devotional Light will burn this week In remembrance of Gerald Cimmino



PRAY FOR OUR SICK

Fr. Ronald Amiot Ellie Art Rita Bellavance Michael Black Eleanor Bruckmann Vincent Gordon Ken Burns Bella Burns Francisca Campos Marissa Capponetti Joan Carpenter Letitia Ciccio Lucille Costello Marilyn Croce Phil DeFelice

Michael Devanev Sandy Erickson Diane & Anthony Gilbertie Holly Graham Amy Hanson Harold Liskov Fr. George Mansour Karen Mayer Robyn McDaniel Allison McGrath Rita Mevers Christian Morales

Leroy Moye Sue Ňeri Louis Pisani Barbara Reilly Gerry Ressigue Ruby Saldanha John Salgado Ann Samperi Dana M. Shocker David Van Vlack Tim Terry Patty Vitola K.I. Webb Peter Zaleski

July 23/24

2022

Weekend Offertory: \$5,094.00 Online Giving \$2,313.00

There is no second collection next weekend.

Thank You



DONATE Online

We realize many of our parishioners are still not be able to attend Mass regularly, please consider making your offertory through Online Giving. Please visit our website and click on the Tab "Donate" and create an account.

Parishioner's Corner

Looking for some further outstanding reflections on the Sunday Mass Reading? Please visit Assumption's own Dr. Frank DeStefano's wonderful "Sunday Sunday" blogs at https://doctorfrank.blogspot.com/.



As the 2022 Bishop's Appeal continues, we are grateful to the parish families who have already made their gift or pledge. For us to achieve our overall goal, it will require the active involvement and personal sacrifice of all members of our faith community. If you have not yet responded to the 2022 Bishop's Appeal, please set aside a moment to prayerfully consider a gift amount that reflect your blessings. Your gift will help tremendously and, together with your fellow parishioners, will enable the dioceses to provide essential pastoral, educational, and human needs throughout Fairfield County. Thank you for your support.

Our Lady of the A	ssumption Parish
2022 Bishop's Appear	l as of July 22, 2022
ABA Goal:	\$123,900
Total Pledged:	92,156 (74%)
Donors to Date:	213 Donors



To make a gift, or for more information, please visit us at 2022BishopsAppeal.org, call (203) 416-1470 or scan with your phone.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Will take place on Friday, August 5, following the 7:30 AM Mass and will conclude on First Saturday, August 6, prior to the 7:30 AM. Mass. Due to our 5:30 PM Mass on Friday the Blessed Sacrament will be reposed from 5:30 to 6:15 PM. All are welcome to come and spend an hour with Jesus.

Blessing of College Students

There will be a special blessing of college students on **Sunday, August 7 at our 12:00 PM Mass with Fr. Peter**. All college students are welcome to join us as we ask God's blessings on you and your studies during the coming year. Please come wearing something indicating the College you will be attending.

Faith Formation Registration

The registration process has begun for the up coming school year. Registration forms and the 2022-2023 Class Schedule are posted on the website at: olaffld.org, under Faith Formation tab. Please fill out and mail the registration form with your tuition payment no later than September 6th directly to the Faith Formation office as noted on the form. Classes begin on Tuesday, October 18th. Please contact the Office of Faith Formation directly at (203) 367-1108 or email our.lady.assumption@snet.net, if you have any questions. Thank you and we are looking forward to another great year with you and your child.



Once again this year, we are pleased our parish family can come together for Fellowship, Food, Fun. Please join us for our Parish Family picnic on Sunday, August 14th at 1:30 PM in the Parish Hall as we celebrate Our Lady of the Assumption's Feast Day. The church will provide a catered barbeque lunch (from Mission BBQ in Orange) that includes smoked meats, rolls, cornbread, homemade sides, salad and dessert. A variety of drinks will also be available. We hope you can be join us in our celebration!

RSVP is REQUIRED

¦Please RSVP by <mark>Sunday, August 7th</mark> , a final count
must be provided to the caterer. Please fill out the
information below and return it in the collection
basket, or email Lisa at Ireed@olaffld.org with
this information. Please no walk-ins!

Name (s):	
# Adults Attending # Children Attending	
Phone #	



Annual Parish Raffle

Tickets have been mailed to your home. Please sell or purchase tickets yourself for chances to win these great prizes. Tickets can be returned in any offertory basket or the parish office with cash or check made payable to Assumption Church, kindly note on check, "Raffle 2022". Please return unsold tickets to the parish office, as well. If you would like additional tickets to sell, please contact the parish office. Good Luck! Drawing will take place on Sunday, September 18 at 6:00 PM. Winner need not be present to win.

Three Cash Prizes to be Awarded!

Grand Prize: \$10,000 Cash Prize

• 1st Prize: \$3,500 Cash Prize

2nd Prize: \$1,500 Cash Prize

2023 Mass Book

Our Book of Mass Intentions for 2023 will open on Tuesday, August 23rd. Email Lisa at Ireed@olaffld.org, drop of or send by mail your Mass Intention requests (PRINTED NEATLY) and include your phone number. You may also call the parish office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Friday mornings with your request. In order to accommodate as many parishioners as possible, there is a limit of 4 Mass Intentions for our Saturday Vigil and/or Sunday Masses and NO restrictions for our daily Masses. The Mass Stipend amount is \$15, payment is due at the time of request, and can be mailed to our office, attention Lisa. If you are requesting a Mass intention and a Sanctuary/ Devotional Light, please issue separate checks for the Mass and light(s).

Sanctuary Candle Remembrance

Request for Sanctuary Candle Remembrance for 2023 will also begin on **Tuesday**, **August 23rd**. It is a beacon to all of the real presence of our Lord in our Church. You can reserve a weekly burning Sanctuary Candle (Sunday to Saturday) for a special intention or in memory of a loved one. An acknowledgement of your request will appear in our bulletin, announced at weekend Masses, and included in the daily Mass intentions for the week. **The stipend amount is \$25** and can be mailed to our office (a separate check from Mass Intentions). At this time there is a limit of 4 weeks in 2023.

Alcove Devotional Light

Starting on **Tuesday, August 23rd** parishioners will also have the opportunity to sponsor the Alcove Devotional Light for their special intention during 2023. Your intention will be posted near the candle, appear in our bulletin, announced at weekend Masses, and included in the daily Mass intentions for the week. **The stipend amount for the Alcove devotional light will be \$20** and can be mailed to our office (a separate check from Mass Intentions). At this time there is a limit of 4 weeks in 2023.

Readings for the Week

Sunday: Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23/Psalm 90:3-4, 5-6,

12-13, 14, 17 [1]/Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11/

Luke 12:13-21

Monday: Jeremiah 28:1-17/Psalm 119:29, 43, 79, 80, 95,

102/Matthew 14:13-21

Tuesday: Jeremiah 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22/Psalm 102:

16-18, 19-21, 29 and 22-23/Matthew 14:22-36

or Matthew 15:1-2, 10-14

Wednesday: Jeremiah 31:1-7/Jeremiah 31:10, 11-12ab, 13/

Matthew 15:21-28

Thursday: Jeremiah 31:31-34/Psalm 51:12-13, 14-15,

18-19/Matthew 16:13-23

Friday: Nahum 2:1, 3; 3:1-3, 6-7/Deuteronomy 32:35cd

-36ab, 39abcd, 41/Matthew 16:24-28

Saturday: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14/Psalm 97:1-2, 5-6, 9/

2 Peter 1:16-19/Luke 9:28b-36

Next Sunday: Wisdom 18:6-9/Psalm 33:1, 12, 18-19, 20-22

[12b]/Hebrews 11:1-2, 8-19 or 11:1-2, 8-12/

Communion Antiphon

"You gave us bread from heaven, O Lord, have in it all that is sweet." - Psalm 78:1

2nd Annual Car Wash

The annual car Wash will be held on Sunday, **August 7th**, (rain date Sunday, August 14) **from 12:00-4:00 PM at the Notre Dame Fairfield High School Parking lot** (220 Jefferson Street). All money raised will be donated to the Habitat for Humanity, Youth CFC. Call Pedro Espada for advanced tickets: 203-572-9193. Tickets will be available the day of the car wash. Tickets: \$10.00 Per car. Food Truck and Music – weather permitted will be on the premises.

Free Estate Planning Resource

As Catholics, we are called to steward our families, finances, and entire lives in a God-honoring manor. To help you be a steward of everything God has entrusted to your care, the Diocese of Bridgeport is sharing a free, online will writing tool. It is cost-free and takes 20 minuets tor less to protect your loved ones and your assets, and create a legacy gift that passes your Catholic faith on to future generations. Please visit FreeWill.com/BridgeportDiocese to get started. Contact Bob O'Brien (robrien@diobpt.org or 203 -339-1148) with any question or if you 'd like a tutorial of the FreeWill website.

Pilgrimage to India

Hosted by Holy Family and St. Emery Parish, it is 14 days to India including two days in Dubai that departs on January 5, 2023. They will visit the International Shrine of Saint Thomas Cathedral Basilica Chennai, Shire of Saint Francis Xavier and the Basilica of Bom Jesus in Goa, first and second century Eastern Churches, tomb of Saint Alphonsa, cities of Kochi, Goa, Munnar, Kumarakom and Dubai (City Tour, Creek Dhow Cruise, Desert Safari with BBQ dineer). The cost is \$5,600 person and the space is limited. Please call the Holy Family and St. Emery Parish office for more details at 203-336-1835.



7 Weeks Until SeptemberFest! Are you ready for some fun?

Our 28th annual SeptemberFest will be held on Friday, 9/16, Saturday, 9/17 and Sunday, 9/18. You are an important part of our parish, and your support is vital to our parish and to the many people it serves. There will be many opportunities over the summer for ways to help this vital fundraiser, including volunteering, sponsorships, patrons, raffle ticket sales, and food list donations. Thank you for your continued support!

SeptemberFest 2022 Shopping List

Please help to support our 28th annual SeptemberFest Carnival by donating items on the shopping list. This will help to keep costs down and it is a way that everyone can participate in the success of this weekend. Monetary donations can be made payable to Assumption Church and placed in the offertory basket marked on the envelope accordingly. Donations of purchased items can be placed in *the bins marked located in the Church vestibule.*

Please donate only store packaged items only.

Calling All SeptemberFest Volunteers

SeptemberFest is quickly approaching and we are looking for parishioners to volunteer a few hours at one of the many booths, as well as set up, clean up and break down at the festival. This is also a great opportunity for high school students who need to fulfill their service hours. For your convenience we will have online volunteer sign-ups, please visit SignUp.com at https://signup.com/go/FXhkcSH. Flyers are also available in the church vestibule with a QR code to the sign-up. If you have any questions or volunteer requests, contact Jennifer Cullinan at jamarrin@aol.com. or Deirdre Sikora at deirdre.sikora@gmail.com.

Family and Company Sponsorship

SeptemberFest attracts thousands of people to a three-day weekend celebration with great food, fun games, and exciting rides. Our vibrant fairgrounds welcome more than 1,500 people each day. Please consider being an important part of our community by being a sponsor. We will proudly recognize your generous support by displaying your company name or personal name on signs around the fairgrounds, in our parish bulletin, and our website. There is no better way to display your support for Assumption parish. Family and company sponsorship forms are available in the Church vestibule, on our website or at the parish office. Please send your completed form and check no later than **August 21st to the parish office**.

Be a PATRON of SeptemberFest!

With a *small* **donation of \$25** to this year's SeptemberFest, you can make a *big* difference and show your support. All patron names will be listed in our bulletin following SeptemberFest with our gratitude. Just fill in the form below and return with your check made payable to Our Lady of the Assumption Church. Indicate "Patron" in the memo section of your check. Thank you for your support.

2	022 SeptemberFest Patron
FIRST NAME	
LAST NAME	
Phone Number	

If you prefer to be a sponsor, **Family and Company Sponsorship forms** are available in the vestibule, on our website or at the parish office.

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