

Ministry at OLA

Worship | Education | Service



*A Ministry of the Society of Mary
(The Marists)*

July 2022 - June 2023



The Call to Ministry at OLA

The heart of any parish is worship and from that worship stems ministry. Our partaking of the weekly – and daily – Eucharist prepares us to go into the world and serve God's people.

At Our Lady of the Assumption it calls us to create a community that is always reaching to grow spiritually, to serve the less fortunate, and to grow in love and fellowship with one another.

At our baptism we are anointed Priest, Prophet, and King.

We are **Priest** through worship – when we acknowledge the saving presence of God in our lives, offer sacrifice, and acknowledge the many gifts that He has given to us. We are **Prophet** when we are educated in our faith and then proclaim it to others. We are **King** when we lead and serve God's people.

We invite you to answer your baptismal call with us.

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Worship

OLA's Worship Ministries offer our parishioners opportunities to gather in prayer, to serve our liturgies behind-the-scenes, and to assist in the action of the liturgies. Through their gifts and talents ministry stewards ensure that our liturgical celebrations are truly life-giving expressions of our faith.

If you have questions about a Worship ministry, please contact the ministry leader listed or the Commission Ministry Head, Jocelyn Ralston, at jocelynralston@comcast.net.

LITURGICAL SUPPORT MINISTRIES

These ministries are for those parishioners who prefer to support our communal prayer outside of actual liturgies.

Altar Linens

Members of the Altar Linen ministry launder and iron linens used in the celebration of the Eucharist each week. Each member is assigned one week 4 times per year. [Gretchen Heath, gheath@olachurch.org](mailto:gheath@olachurch.org)

Altar Server Vestment Care

Members of this ministry clean and mend the vestments used by the altar servers. [Joy Baljet, servervestments@olachurch.org](mailto:servervestments@olachurch.org)

Butterfly Mass (For Those Living With Disabilities)

It is an Indonesian legend that when a butterfly comes into one's home it means that a visitor will be coming soon. The more colorful the butterfly, the more important the visitor. We welcome everyone in the parish to join in the celebration of Mass along with our brothers and sisters of all abilities on the 4th Saturday of each month at the 5pm Mass. The Butterfly Mass features softer lighting and music, fidgets for our "busy bees", and a calmer setting. OLA's parish family fosters a welcoming, accepting, and safe environment for persons living with disabilities. All are welcome to celebrate with us. [Joy Baljet, butterflystories@olachurch.org](mailto:butterflystories@olachurch.org)

Environment & Art

This group plans and implements the creative décor that enhance our ongoing and seasonal liturgies. Stewards are needed to assist in decorating the church throughout the year - especially during the Advent and Christmas seasons. [Jocelyn Ralston, jocelynralston@comcast.net](mailto:jocelynralston@comcast.net)

Mass Livestreaming

If you love technology and understand the importance of getting the Mass to those who cannot join us in person, this ministry is for you! We are seeking responsible teens and adults to livestream our weekend Masses, daily morning Masses, and other special liturgies. [Adrian Stevens, astevens@olachurch.org](mailto:astevens@olachurch.org)



Nursery

The Nursery is available during the 9am Sunday Mass for children 1- 4 years of age throughout the school year. The Nursery is located in the OLA Preschool classrooms - follow directional signs on Sunday or stop by the Welcome Desk for more information. *This ministry is in need of a leader. If you are interested, please contact Benny Strozier at bstrozier; www.olanursery.shutterfly.com*

Welcome Ministry

This instrumental Ministry is often the frontline to OLA visitors. This dynamic group of people gather before the liturgy in the Narthex to greet parishioners and newcomers as they enter the church. Members are scheduled at their preferred Mass. *Lisa Broniec, lbroniec@yahoo.com*

LITURGICAL MINISTRIES

These ministries are for those parishioners who wish to play a role in the celebration of our Masses and Prayer services.

Choir and Musicians

OLA's Music ministry provides many opportunities for parishioners of all ages to share their musical skills with the parish.

Choir/Musicians: Gregg Codelli, Director of Music, grcodelli@mindspring.com

Women's Schola/Hand Chimes/Children's Choir: Natalie Codelli, ncodelli@olachurch.org

Life Teen Band: Jake Mappes, Life Teen Mass Worship Leader, jmapees@olachurch.org



Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Extraordinary Ministers are commissioned to serve communion at weekend and daily Masses. Added training allows you to minister to the homebound, care centers, and hospitals (See Ministers of Care). *RaeAnn Brothers (Coordinator), rae.ann.hennan@gmail.com; Sharon Adams (Trainer), sharonfadams@bellsouth.net; Deacon Terry Biglow, terry.biglow@cdhpartners.com*

Sunday 5:30pm Teen Ministered Mass: Andrew Knuckles, Youth Minister, aknuckles@olachurch.org

Funeral Coordinators

Funeral Coordinators assist families in the event of the death of a loved one by helping to plan the funeral liturgy and by being present to support the family at the funeral. *Margie Patterson, margiepatterson@bellsouth.net*

Greeters and Ushers

Ushers greet those attending liturgies, provide assistance to those in need of seating, and usher at communion. They take up the offertory collection, hand out bulletins, and straighten up the church pews and Narthex after Mass. *Adrian Stevens, astevens@olachurch.org*



Lectors/Readers

Lectors proclaim the scripture readings and Prayers of the Faithful at liturgies.

Deacon Ed Patterson, epatterson@olachurch.org

Sunday 5:30pm Mass, 6th-12th grades: Joseph Hoffman, Assistant Youth Minister, jhoffman@olachurch.org

Stations of the Cross

At 7:30pm on Fridays during Lent the Stations of the Cross are prayed in the church. Stations are led by our deacons, ministries, and other members of the community. *Deacon Ed Patterson, epatterson@olachurch.org*

Wedding Guild

Wedding Guild members assist couples in pre-wedding preparations, the rehearsal, and on the day of the wedding. No previous experience necessary. Time commitment is shared with other coordinators.

Cheri Felton, cherifelton3@gmail.com



WORSHIP MINISTRIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

5:30pm Sunday Mass Ministry

Our 5:30pm Mass on Sundays is ministered exclusively by the teens of our parish (6th grade +), and we are always looking for new volunteers. We need Lectors, Ushers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion (EMHC), and members for our Teen Choir! (See below for information on Teen Choir.)

Youth must receive training to serve as a Lector or EMHC and will be scheduled in advance. Ushers and gift bearers should check in at the gift table when they arrive at Mass to volunteer to serve.

Andrew Knuckles, Director of Youth Ministry, aknuckles@olachurch.org

Altar Servers

These young ministers (boys & girls) are trained to assist the clergy in the celebration of the Eucharist for school Masses, weekend liturgies, funerals, and nuptial Masses. *Lynn and Bill Kester, servers@olachurch.org*

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Each Sunday at the 9am Mass (during the school year) children who are in kindergarten and first grade are invited to leave Mass to listen to the Liturgy of the Word for Children on their own. They have a time of reflection on the Word and then head back to Mass to join their family at the offertory. *Bridgett Posey, bridgett.posey@gmail.com; Sarah Welch, mse365@gmail.com*

Choir and Musicians (Children)

OLA's Music ministries provides many opportunities for our young people to share their musical skills with the parish: Children & Youth Choirs, and Hand Chime Team. There are weekly rehearsals and special seasonal rehearsals. For detailed information see the parish website. *Natalie Codelli, Director of Children's Choir, ncodelli@olachurch.org*

LifeTeen Band

Teens and Adults are invited to join the Sunday 5:30pm LifeTeen Band. The Band leads the music each week with rehearsals before Mass. *Jake Mappes, Life Teen Mass Worship Leader, jmapees@olachurch.org*

Little Lambs

Each Sunday at the 9am Mass (during the school year) independent preschool aged children are invited to receive their own Liturgy of the Word during Mass. They are led out by our community shepherd prior to the first reading and return to Mass at the offertory. They experience scripture and a reflection designed just for their age group.

Emily DeWitt, emily13dewitt@gmail.com





PRAYER

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Adoration takes place on Wednesdays from 9:30am - 6pm in the church/daily chapel. Start time may vary depending on OLA School liturgies. Adoration is visiting and spending time in quiet prayer with Jesus present in the Eucharist. It is an expression of our love for Jesus, who loves us so much that He never wants to leave us and stays with us in the Blessed Sacrament. You can drop in at any time or sign up to serve as a Guardian for a specific hour each Wednesday at olachurch.org/adoration. *Betsie Greiff, adoration@olachurch.org*

Elijah Cup Vocations Ministry

Every other weekend at one of the Masses, a different family takes the Elijah Cup home to pray for vocations to the religious life and priesthood - especially to the Society of Mary (Marists), the religious society that serves our parish. *Katie Schermerhorn, ktschermerhorn@gmail.com*

Evening Prayer and Benediction

Evening Prayer and Benediction takes place on Wednesdays from 6-6:30pm in the church (except the Second Wednesday of the month when the Healing Rosary is prayed). Evening Prayer is prayed, led by a deacon. Evening Prayer is followed by Benediction, a final solemn blessing with special prayers. Then the Blessed Sacrament is reposed to the tabernacle.

Healing Rosary and Benediction

On the second Wednesday of the month the Healing Rosary is led by a deacon following weekly. The Healing Rosary is followed by Benediction, a final solemn blessing with special prayers. Then the Blessed Sacrament is reposed to the tabernacle.

If you would like to add someone to be prayed for, *please contact Deacon Ed Patterson at epatterson@olachurch.org*

Monthly Sunday Rosary

Members of OLA's Knights of Columbus lead a monthly Rosary at 8:45am in the Church on the last Sunday of the month. All are invited to join the Knights in the ambo transept of the church as they gather beginning at 8:30am. The Rosary will begin promptly at 8:45am and is completed in time for the 9am Mass.

Parish Reconciliation Services

Communal Penance Services are held two times during the year – once during Advent and again during Lent.

Stations of the Cross

At 7:30pm on Fridays during Lent the Stations of the Cross are prayed in the church. *Deacon Ed Patterson, epatterson@olachurch.org*

Healing and Support

Healing and Support ministries offer spiritual, emotional, and physical support for members of our community who are in need of assistance.

Anointing of the Sick

Catholics suffering from illness are encouraged to receive the Anointing of the Sick. The Sacrament is given after the 5pm Mass every Saturday. *To schedule reception of the sacrament, please contact Karen Kotara at kkotara@olachurch.org or 404-261-7181 ext. 128.*

Healing Rosary and Benediction

On the second Wednesday of the month the Healing Rosary is led by a deacon following weekly. The Healing Rosary is followed by Benediction, a final solemn blessing with special prayers. Then the Blessed Sacrament is reposed to the tabernacle.

If you would like to add someone to be prayed for, please contact Deacon Ed Patterson at epatterson@olachurch.org.

Loaves & Fishes

Volunteers provide meals, on request, to families with new babies, those that are sick or hospitalized, families that have experienced a death, and individuals or families experiencing other hardships. Volunteers are also occasionally asked to assist with food preparation or donation for special parish events. *Gwen Brannon, gwen.brannon@gmail.com*

Ministry of Care

Parishioners bring the Word of God and the Eucharist on a weekly basis to the sick, elderly in hospitals or care centers or those who are home-bound. *If you would like to schedule someone to bring you communion, please contact Karen Kotara in the parish office at kkotara@olachurch.org.*

Parish Reconciliation Services

Communal Penance Services are held two times during the year - during Advent and Lent. This includes a brief, public prayer service followed by private confessions.

Reconciliation (Non Communal Service)

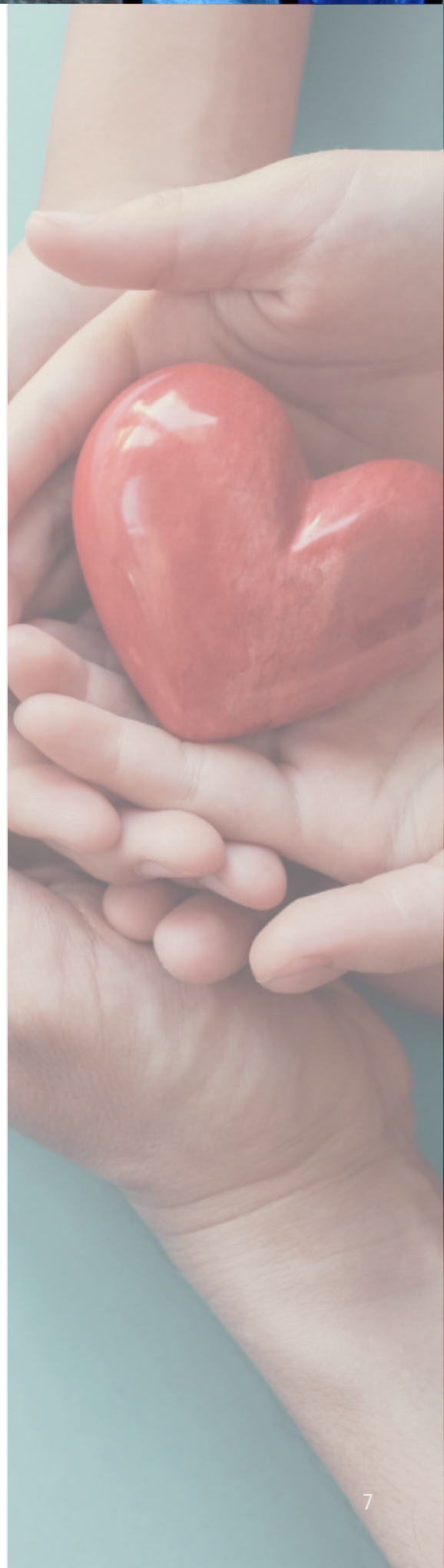
Confessions are also heard each Saturday from 4-4:45pm in the Daily Chapel. *During the week, contact Karen Kotara, kkotara@olachurch.org.*

St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul provides confidential and temporary emergency assistance to those within our parish boundaries in the form of rent, food, utilities, medicine or transportation. *If you are in need of assistance, please call 404-261-7181 ext. 124.* If you would like to become a Vincentian, please see Christian Outreach Ministries.

Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one care giving ministry. Stephen Ministers are there to listen and walk with you through troubled times, such as grieving from loss of a loved one, of a job, divorce, health issues, loneliness, or living in a time of pain or lack of direction. *All is confidential. Contact 404-261-7181, ext 128 or sministry@olachurch.org. If you would like to be a Stephen Minister, please see Christian Outreach Ministries.*



FAITH FORMATION

Faith Formation Ministries are responsible for passing on the teachings of the Catholic Church.

If you have questions about a Faith Formation ministry, please contact the ministry leader listed or the Commission Ministry Head, Maria, Thomas, at rmsb@outlook.com.

BECOMING CATHOLIC

Catholic Inquiry Group/RCIA

The Catholic inquiry group introduces individuals to the spirituality and traditions of the Catholic church. This group starts the process of RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) through which unbaptized or other tradition baptized adults are formed in the teaching and practices of Catholicism in order to be initiated into the Catholic Church. This group is also for baptized Catholics who need to complete the sacraments of initiation: Confirmation and/or Eucharist. The group meets on Sundays at 4pm. *Elizabeth Piper, Dir. of Faith Formation, piper@olachurch.org*

RCIA Team

This group attends Sunday RCIA meetings, leads table discussions, and even presents at meetings. Members also serve as Sponsors for those going through RCIA and walk with them on their journey of faith through the Easter Vigil and beyond. *Elizabeth Piper, Director of Faith Formation, epiper@olachurch.org*

RCIA Hospitality

This group helps set-up, clean-up, and provide food for events celebrating those in the RCIA Program. There are several events throughout the year; however, the reception following the Easter Vigil is the main event. *Donna and Cathy Dravis, dravisgirls@gmail.com*



ADULT FAITH FORMATION

Adult faith formation, by which people consciously grow in the life of Christ through experience, reflection, prayer, and study, must be "the central task in catechetical enterprise," becoming "the axis around which revolves the catechesis of childhood and adolescence as well as that of old age." This can be done specifically through developing in adults a better understanding of and participation in the full sacramental life of the Church. OHABWU,5. Elizabeth Piper, Director of Faith Formation, epiper@olachurch.org

Bible Studies/Courses

Bibles Studies and other Courses are held throughout the year to help us grow deeper in our faith, to have a greater understanding of the teachings of the Catholic Church, and to help us learn to live more Christ-centered lives.

Guest Speakers

Guest speakers meet throughout the year to speak on many different subjects. These speakers - including authors, psychologists and priests - meet the needs of the community on subjects that help us be more aware of our neighbors. Each providing our community with a better understanding of the world around us. *Elizabeth Piper, Director of Faith Formation, epiper@olachurch.org*

Thursday Morning Bible Study

Every Thursday from 8:15-9:15am in rhw Upper Room parishioner Art Keegan teaches a Bible Study Course. Contact Art to learn what the group is studying now. *Art Keegan, artkeegan@hotmail.com*

Wednesday Morning Bible Studies

Bible studies are offered on Wednesday mornings from 8:30-9:30am throughout the year on various books of the Bible. *Elizabeth Piper, Director of Faith Formation, epiper@olachurch.org*

CHILDREN AND YOUTH FAITH FORMATION

Families Forming Disciples (Families K-5th Grade)

Families Forming Disciples, developed by the Archdiocese of Atlanta, is a youth group model of faith formation for children in K-5th grade. With the guidance of their family children learn, act, and build a church community. Families meet monthly in person or virtually for a learning session guided by a catechist. The second week they do mission work/activity to act on what the lesson demonstrated. The third week each month is focused on building community in small groups and meet off campus guided by volunteer mentors. These groups meet either Sunday from 10-11:30 am or Tuesday 6:30-8pm. All families are welcome to join. *Elizabeth Piper, Director of Faith Formation, epiper@olachurch.org*

Edge with Purpose (6th - 8th Grades)

Middle School Faith Formation has moved to a youth group model. Edge with Purpose which includes confirmation foundation is offered to all middle school youth at our parish. It is designed by Life Teen to meet the changing needs of the Middle School youth. Youth will build community, learn and act on their faith. All middle school youth are invited to join. There are two options to choose from: Sunday beginning with 5:30pm Mass followed by dinner and our program until 8pm, or Tuesday night from 7 to 8:30. *Elizabeth Piper, Director of Faith Formation, epiper@olachurch.org*

Scripture and S'mores

Middle school youth are invited at different times throughout the year. Youth gather around the firepit to read and reflect on the Sunday readings then build community through making S'mores or playing games. All middle school youth are invited to drop in. *Elizabeth Piper, Director of Faith Formation, epiper@olachurch.org*

YOUTH MINISTRY

Life Teen (9th-12th Grades)

Sundays from 7-8:30pm in the Youth Room. Nights officially start at 7pm but the door is open following 5:30pm Mass). Each week, we come together to grow in our faith as missionary disciples of Jesus Christ and grow closer to each other as we encounter God in conversation and in one another. In addition to our weekly sessions, we also take students on retreats such as our annual In His Steps retreat at St. Bernard Abbey in Cullman, AL. We also engage in various service opportunities throughout the year, such as trips to the Central Night Shelter and our annual Coat Drive in October.

Girl Talk (High School Girls)

High school girls are invited to join us once a month (Thursday nights) for food and discussions centered around faith and life. Girls are welcome to come when they can as we know schedules vary by month and sport season.

Edge with Purpose (6th-8th Grades)

Our middle school youth group meets on Tuesday evenings from 7-8:30pm. Our nights are a mix of social and faith-based nights as we seek to grow closer to God and have fun doing it! During the year we serve the homeless, have coat/clothing drives, and go on a retreat to St. Bernard Abbey (Cullman, AL), and more.

Kids Club (3rd - 5th Graders)

Kids Club meets one Monday a month from 6 -7pm. Each night starts with a pizza dinner, followed by fun and exciting games, as well as activities centered around learning about our Catholic Faith!

Andrew Knuckles, Director of Youth Ministry, aknuckles@olachurch.org

FAITH FORMATION VOLUNTEERS

Adults are needed to support all our ministries. At least 2 adults that have been approved through Safe Environment are needed for all events with children or youth. These programs cannot run for our children and without our adult community: Support Teams to prepare monthly week 2 activity kits, Mentor Families to guide/set up monthly small group sessions, Set-Up/Hospitality for in person meetings; Core Team members for Youth Ministry, and Support Team members for service opportunities. *Elizabeth Piper, Director of Faith Formation piper@olachurch.org; Andrew Knuckles, Director of Youth Ministry aknuckles@olachurch.org*



SPIRITUAL LIFE

Spiritual Life Ministries help foster the spiritual life of the members of our community through activities including retreats, prayer, and discussion groups.

If you have questions about an individual ministry, please contact the ministry leader listed or the Commission Ministry Head, Jim Eyre, at jamesaeyre@gmail.com.

FOR EVERYONE

Elijah Cup Vocations Ministry

Every other weekend at one of the Masses, a different family takes the Elijah Cup home to pray for vocations to the religious life and priesthood - especially to the Society of Mary (Marists), the religious society that serves our parish. *Katie Schermerhorn, ktschermerhorn@gmail.com*

FOR ADULTS

Christ Renews His Parish (CRHP)

Christ Renews His Parish is a parishioner led retreat designed to give both the individual and the parish community an opportunity for renewal and growth in the spiritual life. This annual parish retreat is held each February at OLA. The retreat lasts from Friday evening until Sunday afternoon. Participants sleep in their own homes; all meals are provided. *Merry and Ben Cella, merrycella@gmail.com*

Second Touch Retreat (2T)

Relive the experience that awakened you at CRHP by joining us at this mini-retreat. Held each fall from Friday night through Saturday. You must have attended a CRHP weekend retreat in order to attend this retreat. *This ministry is in need of leaders. If you are a former CRHP Lay Director and interested in leading this ministry, contact Anne Stephens at astephens@olachurch.org.*

Small Christian Communities (SCC)

Small Christian Communities are faith-sharing groups of 6 – 12 people that meet at various times and days. Small Christian Communities are powerful vehicles for adult faith formation, providing opportunities for learning, prayer, mutual support, and the shared experience of Christian living and service. These groups meet in parishioners homes and use discussion materials rooted in Scripture and Church tradition. *Elizabeth Piper, Director of Faith Formation, at epiper@olachurch.org.*

Young Adult Ministry

All young adults (20s and 30s) are invited to join the Young Adult Ministry! There are several ways to participate: we have a Bible/spiritual book study group that meets weekly and we also plan social events and service opportunities. For more information on ways to get involved and to receive our emails, please contact us. *Angela O'Donoghue and Meghan Schmidt, youngadults@olachurch.org*

FOR COUPLES

Couples Small Faith Groups

Groups of 6-8 couples who meet once or twice a month in members' homes for faith and fellowship. Groups choose from several options for studies. Please contact us if you are interested in being a part of a Small Faith Group for couples. *Karen O'Toole, karensotoole@yahoo.com*

Marriage Encounter/WEDS Group

Worldwide Marriage Encounter is the largest pro-marriage organization in the world and promotes weekend experiences for couples who want to make their good marriage even better. WEDS groups meet for the purpose of supporting each other in dialogue and to help each other live out the concepts of the Marriage Encounter Weekend. All couples who have attended a Marriage Encounter Weekend are invited to join the OLA WEDS group. *Karen Sheehan, ksheehan2000@yahoo.com*

Mosaic (Interfaith Couples Ministry)

The goal of this ministry is to offer support for couples who are in dual faith relationships. Parish leaders will work with our interfaith couples to determine their needs and how our parish community can best help them navigate the challenges – and joys – that an interfaith relationship can bring. *This ministry is in need of leaders. If you are interested in leading this ministry, contact Anne Stephens at astephens@olachurch.org.*

Sponsor Couple for the Engaged

Lay ministers/married couples meet with engaged couples as part of the marriage preparation process. Training required.
Kelly and Andrew Moore, sponsorcouple@olachurch.org.

FOR WOMEN

Common Thread

Women's small groups are groups of 10-15 women who meet in each others homes to support one another in their journeys as individuals, spouses, mothers, and Christians. Part social and part reflection, these groups promote deepening friendships through faith-filled connections.
Catherine Rice and Gianna Kasten, olawomensgroups@gmail.com

Mary's Mothers: A Faith Group for Mothers of School Aged Children

This group of mothers meet each Friday during the school year from 9-10am in the grassy area next to the church entrance. All moms who wish to connect with other moms and who seek to create a spiritual foundation of faith for themselves as they experience the joys and challenges of motherhood. *Kim Carey and Kelly Perry, olamarysmothers@gmail.com*

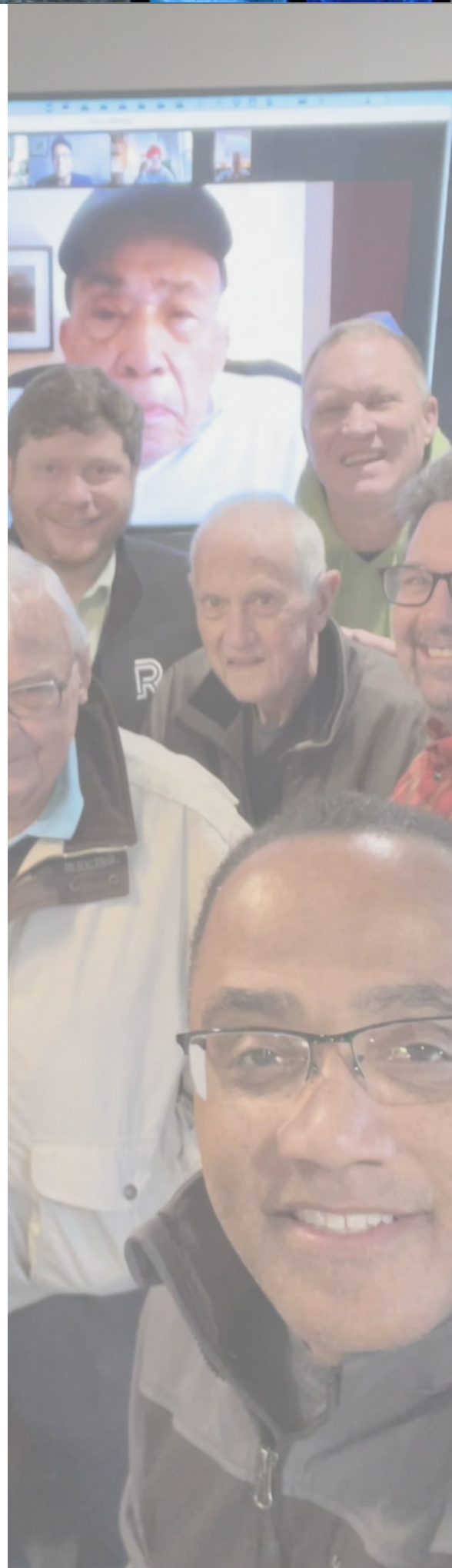
FOR MEN

Friday Morning Men's Bible Study

The group attends the 7:30am Mass and then meets for breakfast and bible study. We are in need of fresh blood and would welcome new members with open arms. Joining is easy - just show up at Mass on Friday or if you sleep late come to J. Christopher's on Dresden at 8:15am. *Al Massey, almassey3394@att.net; Art Keegan, artkeegan@hotmail.com*

Saturday Men's Discipleship Group

The Saturday Men's Discipleship Group welcomes all men in the community. They meet every Saturday from 7:30-9am in the Parish Office Conference Room. We discuss a variety of issues that all men face, utilizing both scripture and Christian teaching to guide us through the issues on our hearts. This diverse group of men, at all different places in our Christian journey, is focused on men in their relationship with God, their spouses, their children, and in their careers. We strive to become better men, better husbands, better fathers... Better Christians. *Deacon Bill Kester, Declan Reilly, and Ralph Williams, olasatmorningmensgroup@gmail.com*



CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

Christian Outreach Ministries help us to live lives of mercy and to fulfill our baptismal call as we serve others who are in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual aid.

If you have questions about a Christian Outreach ministry, please contact the ministry leader listed or the Commission Ministry Head, Amanda Reilly, at amandareilly@comcast.net.

WITHIN THE OLA COMMUNITY

Body & Soul Ministry

The Body and Soul ministry organizes the parish blood drives, health fairs, and performs fundraisers for healthcare issues such as cancer and food allergy research. *Sara Sullivan, sara.b.sullivan@icloud.com; Jennifer Dempsey, jennedempsey55@gmail.com*

Funeral Reception Ministry

The OLA Funeral Reception Ministry provides funeral reception services that include food preparation, set-up, service, and clean-up in support of family and friends as they comfort one another following a funeral Mass. We have many volunteer options available to fit your time schedule. Communication is by e-mail, and we use Signup Genius to request stewards for the different volunteer needs. You can pick an item or spot to fill if you are available to help. *Sharon Bowman, sharon.bowman@comcast.net*

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is the world's largest Catholic fraternal service organization, founded by Father Michael J. McGivney in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1882. This Catholic organization for men is devoted to fundraising in support of many activities in and around the parish; specific areas of activities are church, school, community, youth, and pro-life. *Eric McGee, eric.mcgee@berkadia.com*

Loaves & Fishes

Volunteers provide meals, on request, to families with new babies, those that are sick or hospitalized, families that have experienced a death, and individuals or families experiencing other hardships. Volunteers are also occasionally asked to assist with food preparation or donation for special parish events. *Gwen Brannon, gwen.brannon@gmail.com*

Ministry of Care

Parishioners bring the Word of God and the Eucharist on a weekly basis to the sick, elderly in hospitals or care centers or those who are home-bound. Special training is required in addition to being a trained Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist. *Lee Killian, 1LeeKillian@gmail.com*

Stephen Ministry, Stewards

Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one care giving ministry. After training you will show God's mercy, care and compassion to someone who is facing difficulties in their life. We are grounded in Jesus's command to love one another. *Paul Roberts, paul.roberts771@gmail.com, sministry@olachurch.org. If you would like to talk to a Stephen Minister, please see the Healing/Support Ministries section.*

OUTSIDE THE OLA COMMUNITY

Adopt-A-Cop: A Prayer Protection Ministry

Serving Those Who Protect. Adopt-A-Cop assigns law enforcement officers from the Brookhaven Police Department to a family, group, or individual who will pray daily for them and send a monthly note of encouragement, support, and gratitude for their service to the community. Members support the department in their community building activities, strengthening the relationship between our parish and the Brookhaven Police Department.

Anne Stephens, Communications Director, astephens@olachurch.org



Care for Creation Ministry

Inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical Care for Our Common Home (Laudato Si') OLA's Care for Creation Ministry's mission is to inspire the parish and surrounding community to restore and preserve all of God's creation through worship, education, and service. With the Archdiocese of Atlanta's Laudato Si' action plan as our guide, we seek to live more sustainably in harmony with God's creation and encourage our community to do so as well. The Care for Creation team is developing a multi-faceted program of education, service and worship open to all OLA parishioners, visitors and community members. *Suzanne Degnats, sdegnats@gmail.com*

IOH: Interfaith Outreach Home Ministry

The Interfaith Outreach Home allows formerly homeless persons to have a place to stay, along with their families, until they are able to get back onto their feet. OLA's IOH ministry The ministry provides continued support to the residents and the staff. We support IOH in all capacities, including works to maintain the interior and exterior of the home. Please consider sharing your time and talent by joining our ministry. We have plenty of projects to fit any schedule. *This ministry is currently in need of a leader. If you are interested, please contact Anne Stephens at astephens@olachurch.org.*



Justice and Peace Ministry

This organization supports its members to put their faith in action in support of others. Monthly Ethical Trade coffee/tea/chocolate sales raise money toward building homes in Nicaragua through Food For the Poor. The group attends and supports interfaith outreach programs in the Atlanta area and also advocates for legislative issues in conjunction with Catholic Social Teaching. This ministry is in partnership with STAND UP FOR KIDS - a program supporting the homeless youth of Atlanta and hosts annual drives to provide needed supplies for homeless youth. The OLA Just Faith community actively supports the work of other Outreach Ministries at OLA. *Suzanne Ernst, suzernst@att.net*

KAIROS Prison Ministry

Kairos is an ecumenical Christian Prison Ministry that ministers to men and women in medium and maximum security prisons. Volunteers are needed to join the team, help lead retreats, and show agape in the form of baking cookies for prisoners and prison staff. *Kevin Fitzpatrick, Kevin.fitzpatrick@dcblflegal.com*

Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus is a Catholic men's organization that is devoted to many activities in and around the parish; specific areas of activities are church, community, youth, and pro-life. *Eric McGee, eric.mcgee@berkadia.com*

Mercy Care Ministry

Mercy Care Chamblee is our neighborhood clinic that provides free/low cost healthcare to families who do not have access to basic medical care. OLA's Mercy Care ministry provides volunteer support for neighborhood health fairs, collects critical essential care items to support front line street medicine teams, and raises funds to support community initiatives. The group assembles 100s of care packages for the homeless each month. Opportunities are also available for medical professionals and life/health skills professionals interested in volunteering their time and talent. *Victoria Klyza, mercycare@olachurch.org; Meg Molden (Meal Kits), mcmealkits@olachurch.org*

Middle School Missions Camp

Rising 6th – 8th graders spend a week during the summer learning how to share their time and talent through service to OLA and the local community. *Maria Thomas, msmissions@olachurch.org*

Night Shelter Food Drivers (November – March)

Drivers deliver food to the Central Presbyterian Night Shelter on Tuesdays, November - March. Food is provided by the Soupremies ministry. *Jim Tiernan, jimtier25@yahoo.com*



Night Shelter Volunteers (November – March)

Overnight volunteers serve at the Central Presbyterian Night Shelter by serving dinner to the guests (70 homeless men), cleaning up afterwards, and then staying overnight at the shelter to provide supervision of the guests. We typically have 6 overnight volunteers per night who rotate shifts of sleeping and supervising the guests. Total time on site is from 6pm - 6am. The reward of this ministry is the direct, hands-on outreach with the homeless men. These men are real people who are down on their luck. They are humble and genuinely appreciative of the warm meal and the shelter from the winter weather. Serving them in this way is a humbling and uplifting experience. Nick Meyer, nickgmeyer@gmail.com

Pro-Life Committee

The purpose of this ministry is to raise awareness and educate individuals about pro-life issues and to inform the community about upcoming events such as life chains, prayer vigils, the Annual March for Life, and various fundraisers. Our main goal is to protect the life of the unborn & their mothers. The ministry is always looking for new members to participate in events throughout the year.

Katherine Baldwin, prolife@olachurch.org

Soupremies (November - March; Lent)

Teams of chefs prepare meals to be served at the Central Night Shelter. Teams cook on a rotating schedule. Meals are prepared in the Marist Hall Kitchen each Monday of the Month and delivered the next day by the Night Shelter Drivers Ministry. Teams also provide the meal for the parish Lenten Soup Suppers. Anne Marie Shulman, annemarieshulman@mac.com; Jill Termini, jilltermini@ups.com

Sr. Thea Bowman Racial Justice Ministry

Our mission is to become a deep source for learning, teaching, transformation, and action to dismantle the communal sin of racism in our church, parish, and community. We learn together through group study, training, experiences, and pilgrimages, and we seek to join other Catholic and interfaith communities to become active and trustworthy fellow pilgrims in the fight against racism. We are inspired in our work by the spirit and power of Sister Thea Bowman, religious sister, educator, musician, scholar, and Servant of God, and we pray for her canonization.

Beth Belden, beldenbeth@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society

The purpose of this group is to provide confidential and temporary emergency assistance to those within our parish boundaries in the form of rent, food, utilities, or medicine. Members make personal visits to assess and verify needs of clients. Knox O'Callaghan, ocallaghan.ocallaghan@gmail.com



Loaves & Fishes

Volunteers provide meals, on request, to families with new babies, those that are sick or hospitalized, families that have experienced a death, and individuals or families experiencing other hardships. Volunteers are also occasionally asked to assist with food preparation or donation for special parish events. *Gwen Brannon, gwen.brannon@gmail.com*

Ministry of Care

Parishioners bring the Word of God and the Eucharist on a weekly basis to the sick, elderly in hospitals or care centers or those who are home-bound. Special training is required in addition to being a trained Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist. *Lee Killian, 1LeeKillian@gmail.com*

Stephen Ministry, Stewards

Stephen Ministry is a one-to-one care giving ministry. After training you will show God's mercy, care and compassion to someone who is facing difficulties in their life. We are grounded in Jesus's command to love one another. *Paul Roberts, paul.roberts771@gmail.com, sministry@olachurch.org*

If you would like to talk to a Stephen Minister, please see the Healing/Support Ministries section.

PARISH LIFE

Parish Life ministries provide welcoming and social activities for our parishioners of all ages. These ministries help our community grow in relationship with one another.

If you have questions about a Parish Life ministry, please contact the ministry leader listed or the Commission Ministry Head, Juliet Greco, at julietgreco@yahoo.com.

Doughnut Sunday

Doughnuts, coffee, and juice are served once a month after the 9am Mass (September through May). *Sara Pilling, jacksonsara@hotmail.com*

Lenten Fish Fries

On Fridays in Lent, you can gather with other great parish cooks to help prepare and serve this wonderful Lenten meal. Volunteers are also needed to help serve, set-up/lean-up, and collect payment at the door. *Nick Maddox, maddoxnick1982@gmail.com*

OLA Hospitality Ministry

This ministry helps with food preparation, set-up, service and clean-up for special events throughout the year hosted by the pastor and/or parish priests. This is a great opportunity to give back and provide support to the marists at our parish. Volunteers are added to an email list and are able to sign up for opportunities to help according to their own availability. *Cindy Posta, olahospitality@olachurch.org*

OLA One Ministry

OLA One invites you to join together, integrating our community more than ever, making it stronger, while enjoying the diversity and the good things that our different cultures can give to each other. Our members participate in scheduled parish events, and host diverse events throughout the year - all aimed at bringing our entire community together! *Diana V. Pradilla and Adriana Moreno, oneola@olachurch.org*



Parish Life Group

All are invited to gather during the school year for various activities and service projects. Events are designed for both family participation and adult only. Our events are open to singles, married couples, couples without children, single parent families - everyone! Volunteer opportunities exist at all levels for events. *Julie Mawson and Julie McNulty, parishlife@olachurch.org*

FOR ADULTS

Book Club

The book club for adults meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at 10am in the Upper Room. The group selects a book relevant to the spiritual life to be discussed in an informal and friendly setting. Consult the parish bulletin for each month's book and just show up for the discussion! *Sharon Bowman, sharon.bowman@comcast.net*

Bridge Club

All skill levels are welcome to this dynamic group that meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month October thru June, 6:30-9:30pm in Moylan Hall. *Mary Anne Grady, maryannegrady@yahoo.com; Charlie Grady, charliegrady@att.net*

New Member Welcome and Orientation

This team organizes quarterly (3 breakfasts and 1 dinner) welcome events in Moylan Hall. We invite and greet new member families at these events. Activities include organizing events, greeting and hosting new member families, informing new member families of ministry opportunities, new member gift assembly, and help with setup and cleanup. *Lynn Sedki and Amber Stewart, newmember@olachurch.org*

Prime Timers

The Prime Timers Ministry welcomes all parishioners 65 and older who enjoy cultivating faith, friendship, and service. We host monthly Friday Lunch & Learns and other events throughout the year. Email us for more information, to receive our monthly email, and/or to become a part of Prime Timers. *Betsie Greiff, primetimers@olachurch.org*

Recreation/Athletics

OLA Parish sponsors elementary school teams during the Catholic Metro League season along with adult athletics. Adult volunteers are what makes this ministry a success. *Rob Aldrich, Director of Recreation, recreation@olachurch.org*

Supper Club

A great way to meet members of the parish, this group meets for dinner on a monthly basis in each other's homes, in groups of four couples, or pairs. We rotate from home to home. A "Dinner of Dinners" is held annually. *Sara Cicero, stutzes@cisco.com*

FOR WOMEN

St. Anne's Circle

The St. Anne's Circle is a ministry for women in our Parish who are in the "middle" season of life. It will provide opportunities to grow in faith and friendship through monthly fellowships at members homes. *Elizabeth Wathen, stannecircle@olachurch.org*

Woman's Circle

The purpose of Women's Circle at OLA is to offer women of all ages quality opportunities for personal growth and service to others. Monthly meetings offer speakers, activities, community outreach, and social gathering. *Liz Santa, Carrie Whitney, and Holly Woodward, olawomenscircle@gmail.com*



FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Boy Scouts

The boy scouts provide a program for young boys that builds character, trains them in the responsibilities of participating citizenship, and develops personal fitness. *Peter Baljet, pbaljet@gmail.com*

Cub Scouts

All local boys in 1st - 5th grades are invited to join OLA's Cub Scout Pack 21. Pack 21 is over 100 boys strong, coming from Montgomery, Ashford Park, OLA, and several other schools. We are a nationally-recognized, Gold Award-winning pack. Cub Scout principles include character development, spiritual growth, good citizenship, sportsmanship, and service. Pack 21 aims to teach those principles through fun and exciting activities: family camping trips, the Pinewood Derby, Space Camp, the Raingutter Regatta, biking, a model rocket launch, hiking in the Smoky Mountains, games, skits, worship, and more. *Jason Lang and Kelly Livingston, cubmaster@cubpack21atl.org*



Girl Scouts

The Girl Scouts ministry strives to serve each girl in the school and parish community through service, commitment, and personal responsibility. With the help of dedicated volunteer leaders and the guidance of the Girl Scouts of Greater Atlanta, we are building strong women of character and leadership. OLA Girl Scouts are part of the Dunwoody Service Unit allowing us to participate in events such as S'Mores Fest, Ornament Extravaganza, Super Swap Saturday, Cadette Skate Night and High Harbour Weekends. Troops are individually run at each grade level and usually meet right after school. *Sarah Walker, sarahwalker1212@yahoo.com*



Recreation/Athletics

OLA's Recreation Ministry sponsors elementary school teams during the Catholic Metro League season. There are also special events for the family throughout the year. *Rob Aldrich, Director of Recreation, recreation@olachurch.org*

Youth Ministry

Please see Page 9.





COMMUNIDAD LATINA

Carlos Vizcaino, Coordinador de La Comunidad Latina

404 261-7181 Ex: 356, cvizcaino@olachurch.org

Ed Patterson, Diácono, epatterson@olachurch.org

MISA: Domingos 3:30pm

CONFESIONE: Domingos 2:30pm

HORAS DE OFICINA: Sábado 3-7pm, Domingos de 10am a 5pm

Sacristán

Sr. Moisés Alvares, 678-206-3773

Elifas Escalante, 770-728-2509

Sergio Escalante Hernandez, 404-549-1118

Ministros de Bienvenida

Dan una cálida bienvenida a quienes llegan a la iglesia. *Gerardo Lopez, 678-992-3592*

Proclamadores de la Palabra

Leen las lecturas y el salmo en la misa dominical. *Mario Roblero, 404-551-6645*

Ministros de Eucaristía

Son especialmente entrenados para administrar la sagrada Comunión, cuando el sacerdote lo requiera, en las misas dominicales. *Fredy Berduo, 678-481-4960*

Monaguillos

Sra. Gloria Bartolon, 404-207-2119

Ujieres El grupo de ujieres ayuda con la organización de las misas Dirigen a las personas que entran a la iglesia, se encargan de las colectas y reparten información al final de la misa. *Blas Ramos, 678-268-8017*

Quinceañeras y Bodas

Ayudan a coordinar las ceremonias siguiendo el ritual y catequizando a los participantes. *Cheri Felton, cherifelton@bellsouth.net*

Programa de preparación para tomar el examen GED en español

Las clases de GED ayudan a personas adultas a prepararse para tomar el examen de equivalencia al High School. El examen consta de cinco partes: Lenguaje-Escritura, Lenguaje-Lectura, Ciencias Sociales, Ciencias Naturales y Matemáticas. *Dra. Leticia Valencia, 770-742-9099*

Charlas de Preparacion para Bautizos

Yesenia Garcia, 404-819-8389

Renovación Católica Carismática

Augusto Lopez, 678-927-5279



KOMUNITAS KATOLIK INDONESIA (KKI-ATLANTA)

Komunitas Katolik Indonesia (KKI-Atlanta) serves Indonesian Catholic families and friends around the metropolitan Atlanta area. This active OLA community provides Mass in Indonesian and a variety of programs for children and adults. While preserving the Indonesian culture and tradition for their members, they are integrating to the local community as they grow in faith and understanding of American culture.

Robert Susanto, Coordinator, robertsusanto@gmail.com

Mass: Sunday @ 1:30pm

Family Prayer Meeting: Third Saturday of the month

Weekly Rosary in May and October

Yearly Chinese New Year Celebration

Badminton / Volley Ball: Every second and fourth Sunday of the month after Mass in the Gym Annual

Food / Cultural Festival: Summer / Fall Immigration and Good Citizenship Workshop / Seminar Indonesian Consular Services (by Indonesian Consular General or Indonesian Embassy)

Christmas Eve Homeless Shelter Service: provide Indonesian meals / gifts / children performance

Community Retreat Charismatic Renewal Program



VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS/ SAFE ENVIRONMENT

The mission of the Safe Environment Office of the Archdiocese of Atlanta is to insure that children, young people, and vulnerable individuals who worship, study, or participate in activities sponsored therein can do so in the safest and most secure setting possible. All volunteers who work with vulnerable individuals **MUST** complete Safe Environment Training and be cleared by the Archdiocese PRIOR to any volunteer activity by completing all the following steps:

- Read all Safe Environment Policies,
- Attend a live VIRTUS Protecting God's Children Training, and
- Complete and Submit the required paperwork to Benny Strozier (bstrozier@olachurch.org) in the parish office:
 - a) Volunteer Application,
 - b) Sterling Background Consent Form, and
 - c) Safe Environment Acknowledgement Standards of Conduct.

All of these steps must be completed before you can volunteer with are children, youth, or other vulnerable persons.

ACTIVE PARISHIONER STATUS FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

The Archdiocese of Atlanta requires all families to submit a Parish Verification form to their Catholic School to verify that the family is registered and active in the parish.

The Archdiocese defines "active parishioners" as those registered and worshipping members who contribute of their time, talent and financial resources to support the Parish by the following:

- Regular attendance at liturgy,
- Consistent financial support of the parish, and
- Volunteer involvement within the parish.

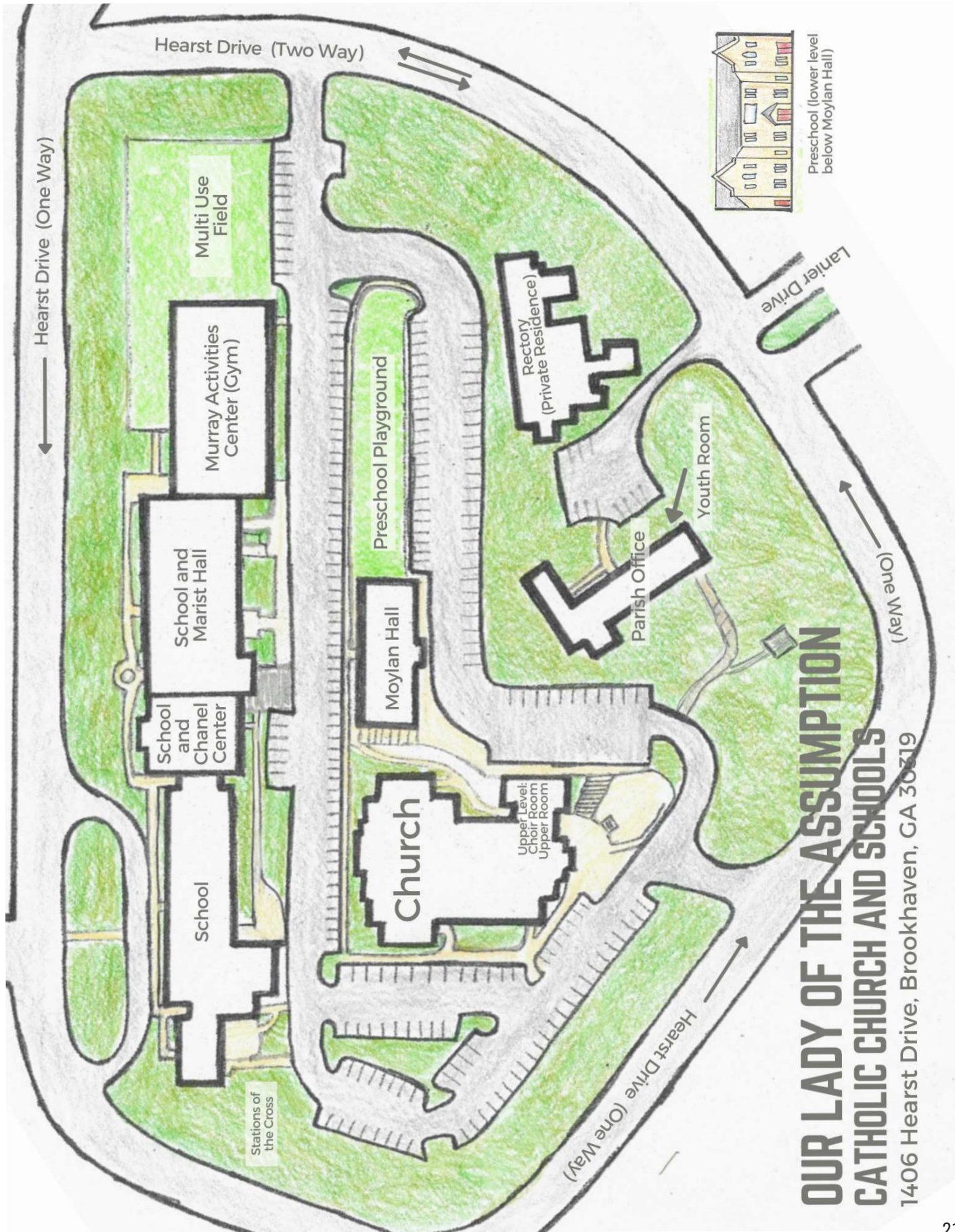
Volunteer involvement within the parish **does not include attendance at events**, but requires active membership and frequent participation in one or more of our many ministries. Also, active status in the parish **does not include volunteering in the school or other non-parish service**.

While we encourage children to be active in ministry to the parish, **status is dependent on the involvement of the parents**.

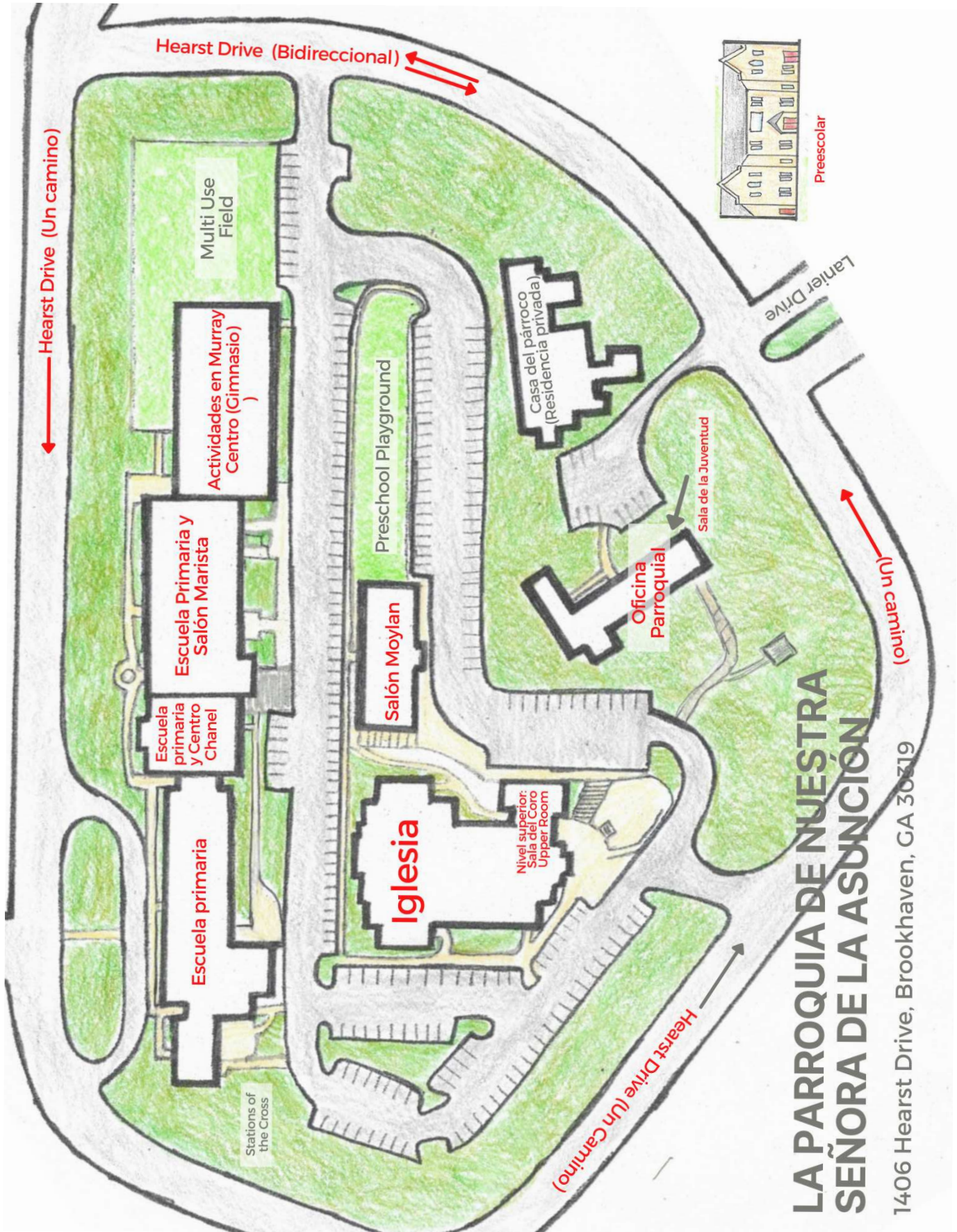
Financial Support and Volunteer Involvement is **only considered for the CURRENT SCHOOL CALENDAR YEAR**, not previous years.

Families must adhere to the requirements above to receive "active parishioner" status.

CAMPUS MAP



MAPA DEL CAMPUS



PARISH PRIESTS

OLA is served by priests of the Society of Mary (Marists).



Fr. Jim Duffy, SM
Pastor
jduffy@olachurch.org



Fr. Kevin Duggan, SM
Parochial Vicar
kduggan@olachurch.org



Fr. John Ulrich, SM
Parochial Vicar
julrich@olachurch.org



Fr. Ed Sheehan, SM
Senior Marist
julrich@olachurch.org

PARISH DEACONS



Dc. Antonius Anugerah
antonius.anugerah@gmail.com



Dc. Terry Biglow
terry.biglow@cdhpartners.com



Dc. Bill Kester
bkester@olachurch.org



Dc. Ed Patterson
epatterson@olachurch.org



Mat Mathews
In Formation
Ordination: February 2023



Carlos Vizcaino
In Formation
Ordination: February 2025

PARISH STAFF

Karen Kotara, Pastor's Secretary, Ext. 128
kkotara@olachurch.org

OLA School Principle, office@olaschool.org

Debbie Kehoe, Preschool Director, Ext. 112
dkehoe@olachurch.org

Gregg Codelli, Director of Music
grcodelli@mindspring.com

Natalie Codelli, Director of the Children's Choir
codelli@olachurch.org

Gretchen Heath, Parish Administration and Sacraments Secretary
Ext. 122, gheath@olachurch.org

Andrew Knuckles, Director of Youth Ministry
Ext. 113, aknuckles@olachurch.org

Jon Mangiaracina, Facilities Manager
jmangiaracina@olachurch.org

Elizabeth Piper, Director of Faith Formation, ext. 126,
epiper@olachurch.org

Jim Schweizer, Parish Accountant, Ext. 130,
jschweizer@olachurch.org

Anne Stephens, Communications Director, Ext. 172,
astevens@olachurch.org

Adrian Stevens, Facilities, astevens@olachurch.org

Benny Strozier, Business Manager, Ext. 132,
bstrozier@olachurch.org

Carlos Vizcaino, Latino Community Coordinator
cvizcaino@olachurch.org



Our Lady of the Assumption

Catholic Church

1406 Hearst Drive | Brookhaven, GA 30319
404-261-7181 | www.olachurch.org

Our Mission

*Through Worship, Education, and Service we continue to grow
in our relationship with God and one another
through Jesus Christ, in the spirit of Mary, our Patroness.*