

Our Lady of the Assumption School

2141 Walnut Avenue, Carmichael, CA 95608 (916) 489-8958

December 5, 2017



With Hands to Serve and Hearts to Love

NOTE FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Last week, I was visited by two lovely fourth grade girls. They approached me for permission to spread an energy of kindness throughout our community. They had drafted a kindness sketch, and asked for permission to create a large, *Kindness* poster to hang here at OLA. Of course, I said, "Yes!" Today, they brought in a beautiful, large, hand painted sign stating, "Choose Kind." They hung it on campus and wanted to do more. In their words, "Stand up. Don't let people be mean to you or anyone else. Stand up for each other and ourselves. How can we help others to be kind? Spread the word." Well stated, Kindness Ambassadors, Kendra Bird and Jaeya Leavitt! Today, we met to plan for our new Kindness Committee. Keep an eye out for more information to come.

"Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible." - Dalai Lama

I am sure that Kendra and Jaeya agree. I certainly do.

In faith and kindness,

Nicole Grant

THIS WEEK AT OLA: DECEMBER 4 – DECEMBER 10

Grade 2: Please bring food for the Saint Vincent de Paul Food Locker.

Wellspring Collection: Donations for this charity will be welcomed through December 13th. See attached flyer for info.

Santa Grams: Please see the attached flyer for details about this fundraiser for the Saint Vincent de Paul Food Locker.

OLA Christmas Eve Pageant: Please see the attached flyer, which contains important details.

Thursday, December 7th Attire: Spirit wear top with uniform bottom

Thursday, December 7th Dismissal Time: 2:20pm

Friday, December 8th Attire: Full Uniform

Friday, December 8th Mass Time: 8:00am

Friday, December 8th Dismissal Time: 3:00pm

Home & School Connection: Please see the attached December edition of this publication.

Schedule for Advent and Christmas 2017: Please see the attachment for scheduled Penance Services and Masses.

ATTENTION OLA FAMILIES: Please see information in the "Parish Youth Section" regarding the **OLA Youth Choir**

OLA Box Tops: We are having another Box Top competition between the classes from now until December 20th. The winning class will get a special surprise! Please see the attached flyers regarding Box Tops for Education.

Something Extra Program: Please see the "Additional Information" section for explanation.

First Responders and Military Service: Please see the "Additional Information" section for details about this project.

Cougar Socks SALE! Please see the "Additional Information" section for new information.

Hot Lunch Menu, Grades 1-8: Access online here: <http://school.olaparish.net/students/hot-lunch-program>

Hall Family Support: We are collecting gift cards through December 22nd in any amount to grocery stores, gas stations, Target, Amazon, etc. Donations can be left in a basket in the school office.

TOYS NEEDED: The children at OLA Extension and Kinderich would greatly appreciate your donations of toys forgotten, such as games no longer played and small stuffed animals that have been abandoned and need a new loving home.

OLA's Annual Santa Breakfast: Sunday, December 10th, 8:00am-11:30am. Please see attached flyer for details.

NEXT WEEK AT OLA: DECEMBER 11 – DECEMBER 15

Grade 1: Please bring food for the Saint Vincent de Paul Food Locker.

Thursday, December 14th Attire: Spirit wear top with uniform bottom

Thursday, December 14th Dismissal Time: 2:20pm

Grade 1: Christmas Play – Friday, December 15th, at 2:00pm

Friday, December 15th Attire: Full Uniform

Friday, December 15th Mass Time: 8:00am

Friday, December 15th Dismissal Time: 3:00pm

FUTURE EVENTS

Christmas Program: Performances will be Tuesday, December 19th, at 7pm and Wednesday, December 20th, at 9:30am.

Christmas Vacation: Begins after 12:00 noon dismissal on Friday, December 22nd. School resumes on January 8th.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Congratulations!: On behalf of the Jesuit Jr. Marauder football program, two of our 8th graders, Tai Miller and Parker Spellacy, were selected out of 120 players (overall, out of 1400 players in the league) to represent the North in the annual Shrine Bowl this year. After that game, players from both the North and South teams are specially selected to represent California and play against Florida on Saturday in Orlando, Florida. This is a huge honor! The Shrine Bowl is sponsored by the Shriners Hospital. Tai and Parker each completed 40 hours of community service benefitting the hospitals as part of their participation in the Shrine Bowl, Good luck, boys!

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Something Extra Program: Please sign up for the Raleys/Bel Air Supermarkets *Something Extra* program. This program gives a percentage of the amount spent on groceries and prescriptions to Our Lady of the Assumption School. It is truly one of the easiest ways to contribute to OLA without spending more than you would normally. In addition, all your family and friends who shop at Raleys/Bel Air Supermarkets in ANY TOWN can choose Our Lady of the Assumption School to receive a percentage of their dollars spent. <https://www.raleys.com/www>

First Responders and Military Service: If you or your family members are first responders or in the military, we would love to have your name/s, field (ie. Police, Paramedic, Military, etc.) and the grade/s of your OLA relatives. We have a project coming up in which we would like to write letters/make pictures of appreciation. Please email them to Jane Ricci at development@olaparish.net. Thank you for your assistance in this very important project.

Cougar Socks SALE!: We are selling the remainder of the cougar paw socks for the 8th grade fundraiser for \$10. If you want another pair for your kids or if you haven't purchased any and want a good deal, this is the time to buy. We have several Medium size white, 1 pair of Medium size navy, several Large size white and navy socks, and XL navy socks. Please email Anna Ryan at amrjpr@sbcglobal.net if you would like to purchase socks, and submit the order form and check made out to OLA to the school office. First come first served, and thanks to all who have already supported this fundraiser!!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

OLA Little Dribblers Coordinator: We are looking for someone for the upcoming PAL Little Dribblers' basketball league, for grades 1 thru 4. This is a great way to earn service hours. It's a fun job, and you'll be in on all the basketball action! Interested or have questions? Please contact Katie McGuire at khannesson@yahoo.com.

Lunch Volunteers Needed: We are in need of one volunteer per day to assist with hot lunch. Sign-ups are available on School Speak. Please click [here](#) for more information and to sign-up.

PARISH NEWS

Advent Prayer – Thursdays, December 7th, 14th & 21st: Advent is a time to prepare for Jesus' second coming into the world. Although we know not the time and place, we renew our desire for His second coming by sharing in the preparation of His first coming. I invite you to prayer during this season on three Thursdays in Advent: December 7th, 14th and 21st, at 7:00pm, in the church.

These are not evening prayers, rather simple prayer services. I offer this to provide you time and space, to take a breath during the busyness of the days. You can participate in any way you wish, through sharing of prayer, listening to scripture, or sitting quietly in your thoughts for approximately a half hour.

27th Annual OLA Giving Tree: Once again, we have a beautiful opportunity to share Christmas joy and hope with others. Next weekend, the OLA Giving Tree at the back of the church will have gift tags for you to choose. Please purchase an appropriate new gift, wrap it, attach the tag firmly, and return the gift to the tree by Sunday Dec 17, before NOON. The struggling families are extremely grateful for your generosity. For additional information, call Christine 761-4939, Beth 487-2374 or MaryCaye 481-7484.

Pill Bottle Collection, and An Invitation to Help Carmichael's Homeless: Please see the attached flyers for details about these services for those in need in our community.

Sunday Childcare/Nursery Program - 9:30am Mass: Families with young children ages 1-4 years, please note that OLA fingerprinted and Diocesan trained adults along with parish teens are now providing a childcare/nursery program in St. John's Hall on Sundays during the 9:30 am Mass.

This service is in addition to the Children's Liturgy of the Word that also takes place at the 9:30 am Mass each Sunday for children ages 3-10 years.

For additional information or questions, please contact Tracy Urban at 1tracyju@gmail.com.

Upcoming Retreats at The Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos: Please see the attached schedule.

PARISH YOUTH NEWS

Soap for Souls: Please see the attached flyer for details about this service project.

OLA Youth Choir and Music Ensemble for Advent and Christmas: All OLA Parish students in grades 3-12 are invited to participate! Singers and instrumentalists are welcomed. We will be serving at the 9:30 am Mass for the Second Sunday of Advent (December 10) and at the popular 4:00pm Christmas Eve Mass. Rehearsals are from 6:00-6:55 on Wednesday evenings through December 20th. Please contact our Music Director, Casey Oliver, with any questions at 481-5115 or worship@olaparish.net.

OLA Youth Groups - 7th/8th Grades: Meetings are on Wednesdays, from 7:00-8:30pm, in Seton Hall. Please contact Johann Rubia-Miller for more information at 488-4626 or youth@olaparish.net.

Youth Ministry Dinner and Mass Fellowship Night: Every 3rd Sunday of the month, come and break bread in the youth room. Then, attend Mass together and experience our faith through prayers and worship. There will be a light dinner in the youth room from 6:30pm to 7:15pm followed by attendance at the 7:30pm Mass. Help to participate in the Mass by greeting, ushering, bringing up the gifts, and Reading. This evening is for youth in grades 7–12. RSVP is not required. If you have any questions please contact OLA Youth Minister, Johann Miller, at 486-4626 or youth@olaparish.net

**** Please note that all Tuesday Bulletin submissions must be received by 3:00pm on the Monday prior to bulletin inclusion date :) Access the submission form in the “Announcements” area of SchoolSpeak by clicking here.**

Home & School

Working Together for School Success

CONNECTION®

December 2017



Diocese of Sacramento
Catholic School Department

SHORT NOTES

"I heard that!"

Good listening skills will help your child do well in every subject. Here's an active way to practice. Choose a common word (*also*, *because*), and read a newspaper or magazine article aloud to her. She has to listen closely for the word—and do a jumping jack each time she hears it.

The importance of loyalty

It may seem easier for your youngster to stay quiet when others say unkind things about a friend. But explain that speaking up shows loyalty, and it's the right thing to do. Help him brainstorm what to say, such as "That would really hurt his feelings" or "You'd be upset if someone said that about you."

Let's wash our hands

Hand washing is one of the best ways for your child to stay healthy—and to avoid spreading germs. She could make a poster by writing and illustrating the steps: 1. Wet. 2. Lather. 3. Rub 30 seconds. 4. Rinse. 5. Dry. Have her hang her poster in the bathroom to remind herself, and other family members, to wash properly.

Worth quoting

"A problem is a chance for you to do your best." Duke Ellington

JUST FOR FUN

Q: What goes through towns and over hills but doesn't move?

A: A road.



Winter reading

Does your youngster prefer to read alone, with family members, or in the company of friends? With these ideas, he can do all three this winter.

Choose themes

Encourage your child to read more by coming up with wintry themes for choosing books. For example, he might name "ice-skating" or "penguins" and pick out a biography of an Olympic skater or an adventure tale set in Antarctica. After he finishes each book, he can write the title on a paper snowflake and tape it to a wall. How many snowflakes can he hang up?

Discuss poetry

On a snowy day—or any day—read winter poetry together. Get a volume like *It's Snowing! It's Snowing!* (Jack Prelutsky) or *Winter Bees & Other Poems of the Cold* (Joyce Sidman). Boost your youngster's reading comprehension by talking about the poets' word choices.



Why did Prelutsky write "the air is a silvery blur"? What did Sidman mean by "the sun's pale wafer"?

Read with friends

Your child can see friends over winter break and practice reading at the same time by forming a book club. They might pick a chapter book to read, then meet to discuss it and enjoy a related snack, craft, or game. Or they could each bring a different picture book and take turns reading aloud. *Idea:* Suggest that they keep their club going all year long!♥

Coping with stress

Whether your child is stressed about a test or worried about a disagreement with a friend, try these strategies for helping her cope.

● **Name it.** Have her say what, specifically, is making her feel stressed. Maybe she's afraid she'll forget everything she studied or she doesn't know what to say to her friend.

● **Focus on solutions.** Help your youngster think of ways she could relieve some pressure. She might review her study guide one last time the morning of the test or write a note to her friend saying she misses her and wants to play.

● **Think positive.** Remind your child of tests she did well on or ways she resolved problems with friends in the past. Suggest inspiring phrases she could say to herself, such as, "I know I can do it!"♥



~ OLA's ~

Santa Breakfast



Sunday, December 10th

From 8:00am to 11:30am

\$5.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children, & \$17.00 for a family

Photos with Santa will be offered for \$4-\$10

The Shoppe will be open for the children

If you come for the fun, please bring breakfast food items to donate to the St. Vincent de Paul Food Locker.

Contact Jill Rockenstein <jspeace@usa.net> or Stephanie Bill <stephaniebbill@gmail.com> if you have any questions.

Santa's Secret Shop

December 10



Santa's Helpers Need You!

It's time to clean out those closets and garages for Santa's Secret Shop. We are looking for gently used treasures and trinkets, toys, games, etc. We need gifts for Moms, Dads, Grandparents, and siblings. We also appreciate any new or used Christmas gift bags, trimmings, and sticker gift tags.

Just drop off your items in the school office, and we'll stock the shop.

Thank you for your generosity. Please contact **Shane de La Chapelle** at 489-9173 if you have any questions.



SANTA GRAMS

Beginning Monday, December 4 through Friday, December 15, the Eighth Grade will be selling Santa Grams. The proceeds will benefit the OLA St. Vincent de Paul Food Locker.

“The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) is an international organization of Catholic lay persons who respond to the needs of the poor living within the OLA Parish boundaries. These needs are met through the operation of a twice-weekly food locker and home visitation teams who provide temporary assistance with rent, utilities, clothing, furniture, etc. Volunteers are always welcome.”

Santa Grams are Christmas wishes which can be sent to friends, a sister, a brother, a cousin, or any school staff member. Parents may also want to send some to their children. Fr. Eduino may enjoy receiving a Santa Gram, too!

Each Santa Gram will have a candy cane attached to it and will be delivered on Monday, December 18. The cost is \$.50 for each Santa Gram.

The Santa Grams will be sold outside during morning and lunch recesses, in the office or in the eighth grade classroom.

**Thank you for supporting SVdP!
Mrs. Smith and the Eighth Grade Class**

Bring in money for

Wellspring **!!!**



**Help a child like
you today!!!**

**Please help OLA raise
\$1,200 for
Wellspring. Thank
you for your support!**

**Wednesday December 6th to
Wednesday December 13th**

Dear Parents,

Sunday is the beginning of our Advent Season – our preparation for the coming of Jesus. Most years Advent has 4 weeks; however, this year with the way Christmas falls, we have only 3 Sundays with the 4th Sunday also being Christmas Eve. The 4th week of Advent will end after the last morning mass on Dec. 24th and Christmas Eve begins with the 4PM mass.



On Christmas Eve, OLA School and OLA Faith Formation will be having the annual **OLA Christmas Eve Pageant** during the 4:00 P.M. Masses. Students will be acting out the Nativity story during the Liturgy of the Word. **We are looking for teens and children to be a part of this pageant.** There are 13 actors needed and 10 additional little angels (grades 1, 2, and 3) needed to come up to the altar at the end of the story. **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED.** If you will be attending the 4PM mass on Christmas Eve and your child can participate, please sign below. This will be a great experience for your children and for the parish!

We are in need of parent volunteers to help at rehearsals and on the day of the Mass. **Because of the limited time we have, I will need to begin rehearsals this next week, preferably Wednesday (Dec 6), beginning at 6PM in the church and finish by 7-7:30PM. The following week will be Monday, (Dec. 11th) 6PM-7PM and on Wed. (Dec. 20th), dress rehearsal from 6PM-7:15PM.** Please indicate below if you can help.

Little Angels will only be needed at the last rehearsal.

Sunday, December 24: Arrive at St. John's Hall 45 minutes before Mass to get your costume. This is a crowded Mass so parents and family members will want to secure their seats early.

Please sign below to indicate that you are giving permission for your child to perform in the Christmas Pageant and to attend ALL of the rehearsals.

Thank you, and Merry Christmas!

Joan Cotton and Nicole Grant

(Joan-Contact #849-2282 or 484-1587)

Child's Name and Grade: _____

Contact Email: _____

Parent's Signature: _____

I am willing to help as a volunteer for rehearsals and at the Mass. __Yes __ No

Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic Church

Schedule for Advent and Christmas 2017

Sacrament of Penance

Confessing your sins is one of the best ways to prepare yourself spiritually for Christmas.

Our Lady of the Assumption's Penance Service:

There will be half an hour of music beforehand.

Tuesday, December 12th at 7:00pm

Other Deanery Penance Services:

Wednesday, December 6th

Presentation: 6:30pm

Wednesday, December 13th

St. Ignatius: 7:00pm

Thursday, December 14th

St. Lawrence: 7:00pm

Friday, December 15th

St. Mel: 7:00pm

Monday, December 18th

Our Lady of Lourdes: 7:00pm

Tuesday, December 19th

St. John the Evangelist: 7:00pm

St. Philomene: 7:00pm

Individual Confession at OLA:

Saturday, December 16th beginning at 3:30pm

Saturday, December 23rd beginning at 3:30pm

Please call 481-5115 if you wish to schedule a personal confession.

Christmas Masses

The Nativity of the Lord

Since many people come home for Christmas and join us, Masses are likely to be crowded. You may wish to plan to come early.

There will be half an hour of music before EVERY Mass.

Christmas Eve – Sunday, Dec. 24th

4:00pm

Family Mass

6:00pm

Christmas Eve Mass

12:00am

Midnight Mass

Children of the parish will celebrate the Christmas Pageant at the 4:00 Mass only

Christmas Day - Monday, Dec. 25th

9:00am

Morning Mass

11:00am

Daytime Mass

Octave of Christmas

Solemnity of Mary

***NOT a Holy Day of Obligation

New Year's Day – Monday, Jan. 1st

8:00am



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It's easy to find Box Tops. In fact, you may have some in your home right now. Clip Box Tops from your favorite products and turn them in to your child's school today! Box Tops are each worth 10¢ and they add up fast!

Encontrar Box Tops es fácil. De hecho, tal vez tengas algunos en tu casa en este momento. Recorta Box Tops de cientos de tus productos favoritos. Cada cupón de Box Tops tiene un valor de 10¢ para tu escuela y esas cantidades se suman rápido!

BAKING & BAKEWARE HORNEADO Y PRODUCTOS PARA HORNEAR

- Annie's® Baking Mixes
- Fiber One™ Mixes
- Reynolds® Genuine Parchment Paper
- Reynolds® Non-Stick Baking Pans
- Reynolds® StayBright Baking Cups

CEREAL CERALES

- Annie's®
- Apple Cinnamon Toast Crunch™
- Batman™ Chocolate Strawberry
- Basic 4™
- Blueberry Chex™
- Blueberry Toast Crunch™
- Cascadian Farm™
- Cascadian Farm™ Farm Stand Harvest Granola
- Cheerios™
- Chex™
- Cinnamon Toast Crunch™
- Cocoa Puffs™
- Cookie Crisp™
- Fiber One™
- French Toast Crunch™
- Girl Scouts Thin Mint® Cereal
- Girl Scouts Caramel Crunch® Cereal
- Golden Grahams™
- Kix™
- Lucky Charms™
- Nature Valley™ Oat Cereals
- Nature Valley™ Protein Crunchy Granola
- Oatmeal Crisp™
- Raisin Nut Bran
- Reese's Puffs®
- Strawberry Toast Crunch™
- Total™
- Trix™
- Wheaties™

FOOD STORAGE CONTENEDORES PARA ALIMENTOS

- Ziploc® brand Big Bags XL (4 ct.)
- Ziploc® brand Freezer Bags
- Ziploc® brand Smart Snap Containers
- Ziploc® brand Storage Bags
- Ziploc® brand Twist 'n Lock® Containers
- Ziploc® brand VersaGlass® Containers
- Ziploc® brand Vacuum Freezer System
- Ziploc® brand Zip 'n Steam™ Bags

FROZEN CONGELADOS

- Annie's® Frozen Snacks
- Green Giant™ Vegetables
- Pillsbury™ Toaster Strudel™
- Totino's™ Party Pizza® & Pizza Rolls® Snacks

HOUSEHOLD CLEANING LIMPIEZA DEL HOGAR

- Finish® Dishwashing Detergent
- Lysol® Bathroom Cleaners
- Lysol® Disinfectant Spray & Wipes

MEALS & SIDES COMIDAS Y GUARNICIONES

- Annie's® Mac & Cheese
- Annie's® Microwaveable Mac & Cheese Cups
- Annie's® Soups
- Betty Crocker™ Specialty Potatoes & Potato Buds
- Betty Crocker™ Suddenly Salad
- Green Giant™ Canned Vegetables
- Hamburger Helper™
- Old El Paso™ Bold Stand n' Stuff Shells
- Old El Paso™ Dinner Kits
- Old El Paso™ Rice & Beans
- Old El Paso™ Shells & Seasonings
- Old El Paso™ Soft Tortilla Taco Boats
- Old El Paso™ Stand n' Stuff Shells

PAPER PRODUCTS PRODUCTOS DE PAPEL

- Select Kleenex® Tissue bundles
- Scott® Bath Tissue
- Scott® Paper Towels
- Scott Naturals™ Flushable Cleansing Cloths

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- Green Giant™ Fresh Herbs
- Green Giant™ Fresh Vegetables

REFRIGERATED & DAIRY REFRIGERADOS Y LÁCTEOS

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- Annie's® Yogurt Tubes
- Go-Gurt® Multipacks
- Land O'Lakes® Cheese Products
- Land O'Lakes® Fresh Buttery Taste® Spread (Sticks and Tubs)
- Land O'Lakes® Margarine (Sticks and Tubs)
- Land O'Lakes® Sauté Express® Sauté Starter
- Land O'Lakes® Stick Butter or Spreadable Butter Products
- Pillsbury™ Refrigerated Cookies
- Yoplait® Original and Yoplait® Light Fridge Packs

SCHOOL & OFFICE SUPPLIES ARTÍCULOS PARA ESCUELA Y OFICINA

- Boise POLARIS® Premium Paper
- Boise FIREWORX® Premium Colored Paper

SNACKS BOCADILLOS

- Annie's® Cookies
- Annie's® Crackers
- Annie's® Fruit Snacks
- Annie's® Granola Bars
- Annie's® Organic Popcorn
- Annie's® Organic Puffs
- Annie's® Snack Mix
- Betty Crocker™ Fruit Flavored Snacks
- Bugles™
- Cascadian Farm™ Granola Bars
- Cereal Treat Bars
- Chex Mix™
- Fiber One™ Bars, Brownies, Cookies, and Streusel
- Food Should Taste Good™ Snacks
- Gardetto's™ Snacks
- LARABAR™ (multipacks)
- Larabar™ RENOLA Grain Free Granola
- Mott's® Medleys Fruit Flavored Snacks
- Nature Valley™ Backpacker Chewy Oatmeal Bites
- Nature Valley™ Baked Oat Bites
- Nature Valley™ Bars
- Nature Valley™ Biscuit Sandwiches
- Nature Valley™ Clusters
- Nature Valley™ Granola Bites
- Nature Valley™ Granola Cups
- Nature Valley™ Protein Soft Baked Granola Bites
- Nature Valley™ XL Sweet & Salty Bars

TABLEWARE MANTELERIA

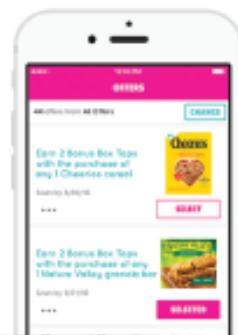
- Hefty® Deluxe™ Plates and Platters
- Hefty® Easy Grip® Cups
- Hefty® Everyday™ Cups
- Hefty® Everyday™ Soak Proof Plates and Bowls
- Hefty® Printed Cups
- Hefty® Style Plates
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WASTE BAGS BOLSAS DE BASURA

- Hefty® Blackout Tall Kitchen Drawstring Bags
- Hefty® Cinch Sak Large Trash Bags and Lawn & Leaf Bags
- Hefty® Easy Flaps® Tall Kitchen Bags and Large Trash Bags
- Hefty® OdorBlock® Tall Kitchen Drawstring Bags
- Hefty® Renew® Tall Kitchen Bags and Trash Bags
- Hefty® SteelSak® Trash Bags
- Hefty® Twist Tie Tall Kitchen Bags and Trash and Lawn & Leaf Bags
- Hefty® Ultimate
- Hefty® Ultra Flex® Trash Bags

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BUNDLE UP WITH BOX TOPS



Thank you for helping! Clipped Box Tops are each worth 10¢ for your child's school.
Bonus certificates should not be attached to this sheet – please submit them separately.
To see more ways to earn cash for your child's school, go to **BTFE.com**.

Pill Bottle Donations - Matthew 25 Ministries

Matthew 25: Ministries accepts donations of empty plastic pill bottles for inclusion in shipments of medical supplies and for shredding and recycling. The solid white pill bottles are also accepted. Our pill bottle program fulfills the dual needs of improving medical care in developing countries and caring...

One of our amazing parishioners is coordinating our parish's participation in the medicine bottle project for developing countries administered through Matthew 25: Ministries. You are encouraged to participate by saving empty medicine bottles and depositing them in the collection boxes at the back of church or in the school office. This will be an ongoing project for our parish.

Thank you very much for donating your medicine bottles! For more info, check out this Website: ***m25m.org***.



SOAP for SOULS

Our Lady of the Assumption's Youth Group is collecting toiletry products of any size which they put together in kits and donate to our St. Vincent de Paul clients. Here are some of the items needed: Soap, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, etc. We are unable to accept any type of mouthwash or product that contains alcohol. You can place these in the marked boxes in the back of church or in our school office.

Thank you very much for your gracious donation!



Invitation to Help Carmichael's Homeless

"There but for the grace of God go I."

Between 150 – 300 fellow residents are homeless in Carmichael. Many of them were born and raised in our area, but have fallen on hard times. Our Lady of the Assumption does much to help the poor and those in material need. Yet, homelessness remains a formidable challenge.

At the beginning of the New Year, our parish has the opportunity to help the homeless even more, in a very simple but profound way. Throughout seven weeks in January and February, the Carmichael Homeless Assistance Resource Team (composed of faith communities, the public and private sectors, and concerned individuals) will feed and provide shelter for the homeless at various local churches. Our Catholic neighbor, Saint John the Evangelist, will host one of the seven weeks of Winter Sanctuary, from December 31 to January 6. With the support of Father Eduino, the Pastoral Council, and the Strategic Planning Committee, **Our Lady of the Assumption parish has offered to assist St. John by staffing their Winter Sanctuary for fourteen hours, from 4:30pm Wednesday January 3rd through 6:30am Thursday, January 4th.** St. John will host 20-25 guests that have been screened and bussed to their church. **OLA will need a minimum of 20 volunteers to sign up for various shifts. We will need additional volunteers to cook a simple dinner and pack a light breakfast, as the guests leave in the morning.** In addition to the preparation of meals, we will minimally need volunteers to cover the following shifts:

Wednesday, January 3rd

4:30pm – 7:30 pm: 5 volunteers for Dinner and Clean Up

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm: 4 volunteers for Hospitality and Serving

7:00 pm – 12:00 am: 2 males and 2 females for the Night Shift

Thursday, January 4th

12:00 am – 6:00 am: 2 males and 2 females for the Overnight Shift

5:15 am – 6:30 am: 3 volunteers for Wake-up and Boarding of the Busses

Last year, approximately 10 of our parishioners volunteered for Winter Sanctuary. We received a good lesson on how the Holy Spirit works in our lives. Ostensibly, we were there to help the homeless. In reality, we were humbled by their humility and thankful spirit. In addition, we saw first-hand how homelessness makes people weary to the bone.

If you are interested in volunteering to help OLA help the homeless, please contact Juan Yñiguez (jcyniguez@att.net or 916.207.9512). This is also a good opportunity for our parish ministries to volunteer. Teens are welcome to participate, but they must be accompanied by their parent or guardian. Please feel free to learn more about Carmichael HART (<https://carmichaelhart.org>)

Upcoming Retreat Schedule The Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos

Men's Recovery Retreat

Fri, Dec 8 – 4:00pm through Sun, Dec 10 – 2:00pm
Fr. Tim McCabe, S.J.

From Grief to Healing

Fri, Dec 15 – 4pm through Sun, Dec 17 – 2pm
Fr. Andrew Rodriguez, S.J., Ms. Farelyn Lehane, and Ms. Naomi Mayer

New Year Recovery Retreat

Sat, Dec 30 – 4pm through Mon, Jan 1 – 2pm
Fr. Tom Weston, S.J.

For a complete list of retreats and detailed information about each one, please click on the following link: <https://jrc.retreatportal.com/calendar/events.aspx>

**The Jesuit Retreat Center of Los Altos
300 Manresa Way, Los Altos, CA 94022
(650) 917-4000
www.jrclosaltos.org**