



Our Lady of the Assumption Church

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May 4, 2011

My dear members and future members of Our Lady of the Assumption Catholic School and Parish Pre-K Programs,

I have asked that the Parish verification be utilized as an annual tool to guide me and to enlighten you on your journey as an "*Active Catholic*". OLA is an active and vibrant community – we pride ourselves on the involvement of our families and members. *Active Catholics* are the backbone of the Church. Parents from neighboring parishes are also seen as vital instruments within their own communities and with that said, the Parish Verification tool assists us in realizing who we are as Catholics. I believe most of you, in the annual filling out of this form, will be pleased to see how much you do and how alive your faith is. You are the primary teacher of the Catholic faith to your children.

To offer a Catholic School discount means that I must be able to differentiate those parents who: 1) support their parish financially, 2) actively participate in weekly mass and 3) share their time & talent within their church community.

Support to your parish is not about the amount but rather about the consistent and meaningful giving over time. If you choose to use automated methods to support the parish, I simply ask that you place your envelope into the offertory basket weekly to allow me to know that you are actively participating in worship.

With respect to Time & Talent, I do not require the tracking or logging of involvement hours. However, Ministry leaders are required to report their membership directly to the parish office.

With that said, what you do for your parish should come from the heart, sincerely and with purposeful intent. For the small minority who are lacking in time, talent and treasure, this is not to be taken as a negative, instead, it is a clarion call to act. OLA is here to support you in this effort.

Yours in Mary our Mother,

Very Reverend James D. Duffy, S.M., V.F.
Pastor