



Guidelines for Our Lady of the Assumption Senior Awards

OLA Senior Recognition Award seeks to recognize youth who have made an outstanding contribution to the life and spirit of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish during his or her high school years.

OLA Senior Service Award seeks to recognize youth who have pursued a notable dedication of service to the parish and wider community during his or her high school years.

Mr. Bill Award is given in cherished memory of Bill Edwards who ministered and served our OLA Parish community in so many ways: Lector, Parish Council, Catechist, Children's Liturgy of the Word and of course – games director for the annual Vacation Bible School (VBS). This award recognizes a particular member of our parish youth whom we feel best demonstrates the qualities of Bill Edwards – giving freely of time and energy, dependable and hopeful.

Alex Stopera Award is given by the Stopera Family in memory of their son & brother, Alex. The Award is given in recognition of the on-going contributions, service and commitment demonstrated by the Youth of OLA Parish. The Stopera Family states: We see the difference that you make in parish life. Knowing that there are dedicated youth who cherish their faith, see the needs of others near and far and give so freely of their time and talents gives our family great joy.

What criteria will be used in selecting the recipients?

To be eligible for Our Lady of the Assumption Senior Awards, youth must be in grade 12, been enrolled in the Faith Formation Program, have celebrated the sacrament of Confirmation, and be an active participant in at least one of the parish ministries. Essay content will contribute to the overall decision.

When will the scholarships be awarded?

Recipients will receive the Awards at Mass on **June 20th at 9:00 am.**

Recipients will be notified on Wednesday June 16th by email.

Each Award is \$300.00.

***There may be multiple award recipients in either category as per the committee's discretion.

What you need to do:

1. Complete the Application.
2. Submit a letter of recommendation. (May not be a family member, or full-time staff member of OLA) Letter must be directed to the content of the scholarships.
3. Submit an essay describing ways in which your faith has inspired you to serve others. Describe the parish ministries you have been, or are

currently involved in, the length of your involvement, and how being a part of that ministry has affected your faith experience. Or write about the how living through a global pandemic inspired you into action to help others, explaining in what ways you responded, and how that work can continue. Add information about your service experiences in the wider community to be considered especially for the Senior Service Award.

Please return your completed applications, essay, and letter of recommendation by **June 6th, 2021 to:**

**Our Lady of the Assumption Church
Senior Awards Committee
498 Watervliet Shaker Road
Latham, NY 12110**