

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



Third Sunday of Advent

12 December 2021

Sacred Liturgy

Saturday – 5:00 pm

Sunday – 9:00 am, 11:00 am, and 5:00 pm

Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

12 Noon and 6:00 pm

Tuesday and Thursday

8:30 am and 12 Noon

Saturday

9:00 am

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday from 3:00-4:30 p.m.
After Weekday and Sunday Masses
Mon., Wed., Fri. 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Anointing of the Sick / Emergencies

In case of an emergency and immediate need of a priest,
please call **240-463-9960**.

VISION STATEMENT

“Guided by the Light of Christ, we are building a vibrant, welcoming community
of *fellowship, grace, love* of God and one another.”

MARY

We honor Mary as our mother in faith and pattern of holiness in daily life.

CHARISM

The name of our parish reminds us to make the
corporate and spiritual works of mercy a personal priority.

STEWARDSHIP

We accept our responsibility to properly use the time, talent and treasure God has
entrusted to us: as graced individuals, as a gifted parish, and as a blessed nation.

MINISTRY

We are called by our baptism to worship the Father, to build community in the Spirit,
to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ, and to serve all those in need.

TRADITION

We are proud to live our Christian faith as members of the Roman Catholic Church
and as a parish of the Archdiocese of Washington.

Pastor

Fr. Greg Shaffer
gshaffer@olvp.org
(240) 463-9960

Deacon

Thaddeus Dmuchowski, (240) 678-3466
Deaconated@olvp.org

Principal of Parish School

Michael Friel, (301) 869-0940

Youth Faith Formation

Erin Clegg, (240) 240-2114
eclegg@olvp.org

Youth Minister

Julia Jordan, (240) 750-5104
julijordan@olvp.org

Parish Manager

Colleen Enos, (301) 948-5536
cenos@olvp.org

Mailing Address

14139 Seneca Road, Darnestown, MD 20874

Phone: (301) 948-5536
Fax: (240) 780-5134

Email: parishoffice@olvp.org
Web Site: www.olvp.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DECEMBER 2021

- 12 Sun. Mass, 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m., Church
Faith Formation:
Pre-K, K: 9 a.m., Church
Grades 6, 7, 8: 6 p.m. Fdrs. Hall
H.S. Youth Group, 6 p.m., Pavilion
Final Day of Tree Sales, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- 13 Mon Adoration, 11:00 a.m., Church
Mass, 12 Noon, 6:00 p.m., Church
- 14 Tue Mass, 8:30 a.m., 12 Noon, Church
Adoration, 11:00 a.m., Church
Faith Formation:
Grades 1-5: 4:45 p.m., Fdrs. Hall
- 15 Wed **Ember Day: Voluntary Day of Penance**
Adoration, 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m., Church
Mass, 12 Noon, 6:00 p.m., Church
Bible Study, 7:30 p.m., Fdrs. Hall
- 16 Thu Mass, 8:30 a.m., 12 Noon, Church
Adoration, 11:00 a.m., Church
- 17 Fri **Ember Day: Voluntary Day of Penance**
Mass, 12 Noon, 6:00 p.m., Church
Adoration, 11:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Church
- 18 Sat. **Ember Day: Voluntary Day of Penance**
Mass, 9:00 a.m.
Pageant Rehearsal, 10 -Noon, Fdrs. Hall
Vigil Mass: 5:00 p.m.
Drive-In Movie Night: 6 and 8:15 pm
- 19 Sun. Mass, 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 5:00 p.m., Church
St. Martin's Food Collection
Adopted Family Collection
Faith Formation:
Pre-K, K: 9 a.m., Church
Grades 6, 7, 8: 6 p.m. Fdrs. Hall
H.S. Youth Group, 6 p.m., Pavilion
Christmas Pageant, 6:30 pm, Church
Nativity Display Fdrs. Hall, 6:30 to 9p.m.



Readings for the Week of December 12, 2021

- Monday: Nm 24:2-7, 15-17a/Ps 25:4-5ab, 6 and 7bc, 8-9 [4]/Mt 21:23-27
- Tuesday: Zep 3:1-2, 9-13/Ps 34:2-3, 6-7, 17-18, 19 and 23 [7a]/Mt 21:28-32
- Wednesday: Is 45:6b-8, 18, 21c-25/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 45:8]/Lk 7:18b-23
- Thursday: Is 54:1-10/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a, and 13b [2a]/Lk 7:24-30
- Friday: Gn 49:2, 8-10/Ps 72:1-2, 3-4ab, 7-8, 17 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:1-17
- Saturday: Jer 23:5-8/Ps 72:1-2, 12-13, 18-19 [cf. 7]/Mt 1:18-25
- Sunday: Mi 5:1-4a/Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Heb 10:5-10/Lk 1:39-45

Parish Life

Liturgical Life

Christmas Liturgy Schedule

Christmas Eve

Friday, 24 December 2021

4:00 p.m. – Church

7:00 p.m. – Church

10:00 p.m. – Church

Christmas Day

Saturday, 25 December 2021

No Confessions

11:00 a.m. – Church

No 5:00 p.m. Mass

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

Sunday, 26 December 2021

9 and 11 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. – Church

R.I.P.: It is with sadness that we announce the death of **Manny Madeiros**, father of Anita (Scott) Stiger. We commend him and his family in our prayers to God.

PARISH NECROLOGY: On the anniversary of their death, please keep the following parishioners in your prayers: **Anne Allera** (2 December 2020), **Nicanor Aquino** (3 December 2005), **Winifred Donnellan** (4 December 1991), **Stefano Zanello** (7 December 2010), **Filomena Picciano** (08 December 1993), **Mary Palko** (13 December 2015), **Steven Pindell** (18 December 1994), **Anna Giattino** (20 December 2011), **Nicholas Toran** (27 December 1993), and **Matthew Todd Wolff** (27 December 1997).

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the church on **weekdays**, Monday through Friday, from **11:00 am to Noon** and on **Wednesday and Friday evenings** from **6:30 to 7:30 p.m.**

PASTOR'S PAGE

A major thank you to all who participated in last weekend's Christmas tree sale. What a weekend! First, thanks to all of the many volunteers who helped sell and load trees on the cars, decorate and sell the wreaths, and prepare food and drink in the hall all weekend and into this past week. Second, we are grateful to all who purchased trees and wreaths. This event has been our largest fundraiser every year and this year is not an exception, thanks be to God. We were worried that it wouldn't happen this year because of the shortage of trees, but God provided. And as He usually does, He provided in abundance!

The atmosphere was electric and festive all weekend. It was so much fun to be here throughout to see the steady flow of cars into our lot each hour, our men delighted to greet and help people select and load up their trees, our women joyfully and carefully crafting beautiful designs on the wreaths, and the helpers in the "Christmas kitchen" making and preparing amazingly tasty and plentiful foods. Christmas cheer was ubiquitous here. It was simply a spectacular experience!

The funds raised from this event come at a critical time. We are working to publish the annual parish financial report as soon as possible. The general summary is that things have been tight lately but we should be in better financial shape starting the new calendar year, pray God. The sale of Christmas trees and wreaths, Christmas collections, and end-of-the-year contributions will help significantly for us to meet and hopefully exceed our budget projections. In the past few months, we have made investments in staff, community events, and programs as well as improvements to our facilities. The necessary move out of the Barn will help the parish considerably with costs going forward. We are filled with great hope and excitement that God will provide in abundance through your generosity in the New Year.

May you know the peace of Christ,

Fr Greg



*Thank
you*

MARCH FOR LIFE! OLVP is getting a 55-passenger bus for one of the greatest days of the year, the March for Life, on **January 21**. Mass for Life here (OLVP) at 9 am, bus leaves at 10 am, drops us off at the National Mall for our participation in a celebration of life and peaceful protest of abortion, and brings us back here between 4-5 pm. Lunch included. Thanks to the generosity of a donor, no costs for participants (other than tip for bus driver). Let's fill the bus! Please register with Colleen at cenos@olv.org.

SAINTS/WINDOWS: December 12, Our Lady of Guadalupe: Mary appeared as an Aztec Princess to Juan Diego in 1531 in Mexico. Castilian roses bloomed miraculously and were used as proof of her appearance (lower panel). Her visitation prevented an impending war between the native peoples and the Spanish military. Mary has been declared patroness of all the Americas (upper panel).

NATIVITY DISPLAY: Our parish will display some of the Nativity Sets from the Sam and Carol Raines Collection in Founders Hall from Sunday, **December 19** through Wednesday, **December 22nd**, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The Raines' spent their lives collecting nativities from around the world. Bring the family and come to enjoy this rare display.

PARISH EMBER DAYS: Responding to the Gospel and following Church tradition, Visitation parishioners are encouraged to voluntarily set aside **Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 15, 17, and 18 December 2021** as special days of fasting, prayer and works of charity.

DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT: Join us for a festive holiday drive-in movie on **Saturday, December 18th** (Home Alone) in the OLVP Parking Lot. There will be shows starting at 6 and 8:15 pm. Pizza, popcorn and treats will be sold from Founders Hall. Register with Eventbrite ahead of time. <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/olv-fun-drive-in-movie-night-tickets-1933654244057>. Please share the link with others in our parish and surrounding community!

INFANT BAPTISM: Parents presenting their children for Baptism must be registered in our parish and are required to attend a Baptism Preparation Class prior to scheduling the Baptism. We encourage Sponsors/Godparents, including parishioners who will be Sponsors/Godparents elsewhere, to attend this Baptism Preparation Class. Attendance during pregnancy is advised. For information and/or to register, call the parish office, (301) 948-5536.

PARISH BIBLE STUDY: On Wednesday, **December 15th at 7:30 pm**, Fr. Greg will offer a Scripture Study session to discuss the upcoming Sunday's readings.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORERS NEEDED: Text your email to 240-353-9542 or email John and Diana at hurley05@verizon.net to sign-up for Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

MATRIMONY POLICY: It is Archdiocesan and parish policy that couples seeking to be married in the Church are to make arrangements with a Priest or Deacon a minimum of six months prior to setting a wedding date. **Do not plan the reception until you meet with a Priest/Deacon.** Please email Father Greg Shaffer (gshaffer@olvp.org), or Deacon Ted Dmuchowski (Deaconted@olvp.org).

ANointing OF THE SICK: If you are planning to undergo major surgery, please notify our parish office. If illness or age prevent you from attending Mass, call the parish office to arrange for visitation and Communion in your home.

ALL HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES have Catholic Chaplains to care for Catholic patients and residents. On admission, be sure to notify the staff of your desire to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and/or the Sacrament of the Eucharist. Feel free to call Fr. Greg (240) 463-9960, as well.

Faith Formation for Life

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: Parents, grandparents siblings, invited guests and all parishioners are welcome to attend our annual Christmas Pageant on **Sunday, December 19th at 6:30 p.m.** in the Church. Rehearsal is on Saturday, December 18 from 10 a.m. to Noon. Please check www.olvp.org for information.

2021-2022 FAITH FORMATION: Faith Formation sessions will continue on **Sundays** for Pre-K and Kindergarten from 9 to 10 am. and for Grades 6, 7, and 8 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. in the lower level of the church. Children in Grades 1 through 5 will continue to meet on **Tuesdays** from 4:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., also in the lower level of the church.

Social Concerns

ADVENT ADOPTED FAMILY COLLECTION 2021: Please consider donating a new item to a child or parent from the four families that OLVP has "adopted" this year. Visit www.olvp.org to view the SignUpGenius or **stop by the tree** at the back of the church to see how you may be able to support these families in our community. Drop-off donations the weekend of **December 18th/19th**, before or after Masses, directly to the delivery car or to the alcove in the lower level of the church. Thank you for your generosity!

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT COLLECTION: Show your thanks for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. This collection, taken up **today, 11/12 December**, helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous to this national collection.

ST. NICHOLAS CHRISTMAS CATALOG: Give a gift and help a charity of your choice by placing an order from the St. Nicholas Christmas Catalog, available on our website (www.olvp.org). Orders must be received by **Friday, December 17th**.

GABRIEL PROJECT: The project is in dire need of gifts and essential items for the families in crisis pregnancies that they serve. Choose from options on the Amazon wish list at www.gpmoco.org. Or contact Natalie Rae at natalieanneray@gmail.com if you have questions.

Human Resources

NEW PARISHIONERS: The following families have recently joined our parish: **Mr. & Mrs. John Tani Jr., Mrs. Melanie Black, and Ms. Diane Rose.**

THANK YOU to all those involved in the tree and wreath sale this year. This FUNraiser was a TREEmendous success. Thank you, also, to our parishioners who bought their trees and wreaths from us.

HOW TO JOIN OUR PARISH: A warm welcome to Our Lady of the Visitation Catholic Church! Registration forms are available on the shelf in the vestibule of the church or you may register online at: www.olvp.org

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: The parish office will be closed on Wednesday, December 8th for the Feast of The Immaculate Conception of Mary. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm.

Facilities

PARISH REPAIR: If you see a needed repair around the parish, please call the office at (301) 948-5536 and report the problem so that we may get it fixed.

Finance

THANK YOU to those parishioners who took advantage of "Giving Tuesday." We raised \$650.00 !!!

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS: To receive credit in 2021, your contributions must be dated December 31, 2021. If you are mailing a contribution, it must be received in the parish Office on or before Monday, January 3, 2022.

FAITH DIRECT: With no added cost to you and great benefit for our parish, please consider enrolling in e-giving. Easier than ever, just **text "Enroll" to 301-701-3032**, or enroll on-line at www.faithdirect.net. Our Church Code is MD114.