

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

08 January 2023

Sacred Liturgy

Saturday – 5:00 pm

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

Monday, 12 Noon

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 3:30-4:30 p.m.
After Weekday and Sunday Masses
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
corporal 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
Deaconted@olvp.org

Principal of Parish School

Michael Friel, (301) 869-0940

Director of Music

Dr. Jyoti Hench, (301) 969-4963
jhench@olvp.org

Director of Religious Education

Erin Clegg, (240) 240-2114
eclegg@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

JANUARY 2023

| | |
|---------------|---|
| 08 Sun | Mass, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church Healing Mass, 2:00 pm, Church Archdiocese of the Military Collection Faith Formation: CGS: 9 to 10 am, Atrium, Pre-school, K Grades 6-8: 9:45 to 10:45 am, Church |
| 09 Mon | Mass, 12 Noon |
| 10 Tue | Mass, 8:30 am, 12:00 Noon Adoration: 11:00 am Faith Formation: Grades 1-5: 5 - 6:00 p.m., Founders Hall Shawl Ministry: 6:30 p.m., Founders Hall |
| 11 Wed | Mass, 12 Noon and 6 pm, Church Adoration, 11:00 am and 6:30 pm Scripture Study, 7:30 pm, Fdrs. Hall |
| 12 Thu | Mass: 8:30 am and 12 noon, Church |
| 13 Fri | Mass, 12 Noon and 6:00 pm, Church Adoration: 11:00 am and 6:30 pm, Church |
| 14 Sat | Daily Mass, 9:00 am, Church Women's Group, 9:30 am, Founders Hall AA, 12 Noon, St. Anne's Room Vigil Mass, 5:00 pm, Church |
| 15 Sun | Mass, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church No Faith Formation Sessions St. Martin's Food Pantry Collection |

Liturgical Life

EASTER SUNDAY 2023: Easter Sunday is a moveable feast; it is an ancient custom to announce the date of Easter on the *Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord*. Therefore we joyfully announce that this year, **Easter Sunday, the Sunday of Sundays, will be celebrated on April 9, 2023**; the Season of Easter ends on Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the church on **weekdays**, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, from 11:00 am to Noon and on Wednesday and Friday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. There is no Eucharistic Adoration on Thursdays.

ORDINARY TIME: Apart from those seasons having their own distinctive character, there remains in the yearly cycle those weeks (33 or 34) that do not celebrate a specific mystery of Christ. Rather, especially on Sundays, they are devoted to the mystery of Christ in all its fullness. This period, known as Ordinary Time, begins on **Tuesday, January 10**, and continues through Tuesday, February 21, the day before Ash Wednesday.

MASS SETTING: During the Christmas Season we are singing the Mass of Spirit and Grace, found at #924-932 in the *Breaking Bread* hymnal. When we return to Ordinary Time, we will return to singing the Mass of Renewal, found at #875-883 in the *Breaking Bread* hymnal. *"He who sings prays twice."* -St. Augustine



Readings for the Week of January 8, 2023

| | |
|------------|---|
| Monday: | Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38/Ps 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10 (11b)/Mt 3:13-17 |
| Tuesday: | Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8:2ab and 5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 1:21-28 or Heb 1:1-6 and 2:5-12/Mk 1:14-20 and 1:21-28 |
| Wednesday: | Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105:1-2, 3-4, 6-7, 8-9// Mk 1:29-39 |
| Thursday: | Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11/Mk 1:40-45 |
| Friday: | Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78:3 and 4bc, 6c-7, 8/Mk 2:1-12 |
| Saturday: | Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 15/Mk 2:13-17 |
| Sunday: | Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40:2, 4, 7-8, 8-9, 10/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34 |

Parish Life

PARISH NECROLOGY: On the anniversary of their deaths, please keep the following parishioners in your prayers: **Frances DeSales Zobel** (01 January 2002), **Virginia Crim** (10 January 2006), **Edward Gubish** (10 January 2007), **Robert J. Diethrich** (10 January 2020), **Jane Gordon** (12 January 2010), **Edward Charles Dolan** (12 January 2022), **Audrey Lazzari** (15 January 1996), **James R. Schillinger** (16 January 2008), **Sheila DiDuca** (18 January 2002), **David B. Anderson** (21 January 1995), **Josephine Marini** (21 January 2000), **Jo-Ellen K. Domalski** (23 January 2013), **Stuart Meister** (28 January 2020), and **Stella Bahry** (31 January 2013).

DAY OF PRAYER: All dioceses of the United States will observe a Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children on **Friday, January 20th, 2023**.

PASTOR'S PAGE

Happy Feast of the Epiphany! As the article below from loyolapress.com says, this feast is about the baby Jesus being manifested as the Christ. The three wise men represent us and all people from around the world who have come to see Jesus as the Savior of the world.

Christ is born!

Fr Greg

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts. The Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a savior. Because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship. Frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple. Myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana.



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. The next class is scheduled for **Sunday, January 29th at 12:15pm** in Founders Hall. 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.

MARCH FOR LIFE: Join OLVP For Life on Friday **January 20, 2023** for the 50th annual March for Life as we celebrate the overturn of Roe v. Wade. Let's fill OLVP's bus! A Mass for Life will be celebrated at OLVP at 9 am and the bus will leave at 10 am. Return to OLVP will be between 4 and 5 pm. The cost of the bus AND lunch will be \$50.00. **NEW THIS YEAR:** Purchase an OLVP for Life reversible scarf online for \$20.00. Register on the OLVP website now! www.olvp.org/olvp-for-life

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: This year Bishop Roy E. Campbell will celebrate the Annual Wedding Anniversary Mass to Celebrate the Vocation of Marriage on Saturday, February 11, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. This celebration is to highlight the witness to the Catholic vocation of marriage. Couples must register with the parish office to attend the Mass and/or to receive a certificate from Cardinal Wilton Gregory in honor of their anniversary year by **Friday, January 20th, 2023.**

PARISH BIBLE STUDY: Continuing on **Wednesday, January 11th at 7:30 pm**, Fr. Greg will offer the weekly Scripture Study session to discuss the upcoming Sunday's readings.

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.

PRAYER REQUESTS: Prayer is powerful! If you would like to have our community pray for yourself or for someone else, please enter your request on our website: <https://www.olvp.org/prayer-request>. If you mark the request 'public', we will list it on the website and in the bulletin. Fr. Greg will pray for those re-

quests marked 'private'. Please pray for: **Vince Orgovon, Lorraine, Steve, Jackie, Joseph, Maureen, Philip, Cheri, Julian, Rita-Ann, Linda, Anil, Jay, Anna Jean Mercanti, Marianne, and Joseph** (in hospice care), **Magdalena Lovejoy, David Bird, Pauline Lowe, Neil Young, and Ted Bany.**

Faith Formation for Life

SMALL BIBLE STUDY GROUPS FORMING: As part of our Adult Faith Formation, we invite you to join a men's or women's small group for Bible Study led by pairs of OLVP parishioners. They have been in small Bible Study groups for the past year and are equipped with resources to lead groups. **If you have not already been invited by them and are interested in joining a group, please submit your name to Cheryl at chw@olvp.org.** The groups will meet in parishioners' homes, and we will match you with a group in your neighborhood, if possible. Your leaders will contact you with info and invite you to join. Any question in general, please email Fr. Greg at gshaffer@olvp.org.

Social Concerns

BABY ITEM COLLECTION: OLVP's Baby Item Collection supporting Shady Grove Pregnancy Center will be held from **January 16th–22nd**. Join us in celebrating the gift of life by donating the following needed **NEW** items: sleepers, tops & bottoms, pajamas & jackets (sizes 6 months to 18 months) and baby formula (Enfamil Regular, Enfamil NeuroPro or Similac Blue liquid or powder). Items may be placed in the crib located in the gathering space. Contact Alison Rascher with questions (250) 832-4508. With gratitude from the OLVP for Life Committee.



ST. MARTIN'S FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION: Our monthly food collection will be held **Saturday, January 14th** and **Sunday, January 15th**. Most needed items include: dry unsweetened cereal, mac & cheese, dry rice/beans, canned fruit, "meals in a can", pasta, pasta sauce, canned beans, canned soup, *Ensure* for adults, *Pediasure*, diapers (all sizes) & baby wipes. The pantry could also use paper and plastic grocery bags as well as egg cartons (12 egg size). Items may be placed in the alcove in the lower level of the church outside Founders Hall by noon on Sunday. Donations will be picked up at noon to be delivered directly to the Food Pantry. **Let's help meet their needs!**

COLLECTION FOR THE ARCHDIOCESE OF THE MILITARY: Our parish will take up the Collection for the Archdiocese for the Military Services, USA (AMS), on **January 7 and 8**. Approved by the USCCB, this collection is taken every three years. The AMS provides pastoral care to Catholic men and women serving in the U.S. Armed Forces, enrolled at a U.S. Military Acade-

my, being treated as a patient at any of the 153 U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Centers, or who work for the federal government beyond U.S. borders.

GABRIEL PROJECT: The Gabriel Project serves mothers and their families in crisis pregnancies. During the past 6 months, 181 mothers have requested assistance. Please help provide maternity clothes and winter clothing for newborns and older children of our client families. **Especially needed items include: girl/boy 0-3 months, girls' size 6 everything, long-sleeve boys' size 5-16.** Go to www.gpmoco.org, click on Amazon *wish list* and choose from any number of items. Women volunteers are needed to serve as Angel Friends, to stay in touch with client mothers during their pregnancies. A volunteer photographer is also needed. Contact Natalie Ray at natalieanneray@gmail.com. For more information.

Human Resources

NEW PARISHIONERS: The following families have recently joined our parish: **Mr. & Mrs. Corey Hassett and Mrs. Melissa Canaviri.**

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 DIRECTORY: Starting in the New Year, OLVP will be compiling an updated Parish Directory. It will be available to parishioners on-line, by password, and contain family pictures and names only. No personal information will be listed. Emails will be sent out at the beginning of the year with more information requesting family pictures. You may submit your family picture at any time to tglander@olvp.org to be included in the directory. Pictures can be from vacations, holidays or families being creative! Starting in the New Year, you will also have the opportunity to have your picture taken at the church at no cost. If you have any questions, please contact **Tony Glander, 301-460-6404** or tglander@olvp.org.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Regular office hours are Monday through Friday between 8 am and 4 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

BEQUESTS AND WILLS: Please consider OLVP in your estate planning. A meeting with an estate planning attorney and one sentence in your will can help our parish ministries be there for your children and grandchildren!

FAITH DIRECT: Please consider setting up recurring donations or a one-time gift through Faith Direct. Just text **"Enroll" to 301-701-3032**, or enroll on-line at www.faithdirect.net. Our Church Code is **MD114**.