

*Our Lady of the Visitation Parish*

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



## FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

05 February 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 Hensch, (301) 969-4963  
jhensch@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

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Phone: (301) 948-5536  
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Email: [parishoffice@olvp.org](mailto:parishoffice@olvp.org)  
Web Site: [www.olvp.org](http://www.olvp.org)

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY 2023

- 05 Sun** Mass, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church  
**Healing Mass, 2:00 pm, Church**  
 Faith Formation:  
 CGS: 9 to 10 am, Atrium, Pre-school, K  
 Grades 6-8: 9:45 to 10:45 am, Church  
 H.S. Youth Group: 5 pm, Church
- 06 Mon** Mass, 12 Noon  
 Adoration, 11:00 am
- 07 Tue** Mass, 8:30 am, 12:00 Noon  
 Adoration: 11:00 am  
 Faith Formation:  
 Grades 1-5: 5-6:00 pm, Founders Hall
- 08 Wed** Mass, 12 Noon and 6 pm, Church  
 Adoration, 11:00 am and 6:30 pm  
 Scripture Study, 7:30 pm, Fdrs. Hall
- 09 Thu** Mass: 8:30 am and 12 noon, Church
- 10 Fri** Mass: 12 noon and 6:00 pm, Church  
 Adoration: 11 am, 6:30 pm, Church
- 11 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
- 12 Sun** Mass, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church  
**Baptism Class: 12:15 pm, Fdrs. Hall**  
 Faith Formation:  
 CGS: 9 to 10 am, Atrium, Pre-school, K  
 Grades 6-8: 9:45 to 10:45 am, Church  
 No Youth Group Session  
**Superbowl Party, 6 pm, Founders Hall**

### Liturgical Life

#### 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.

**CHILDREN'S MASS:** Our next **Children's Mass** will be on **February 12th at 9:00 a.m.** We will invite the children present to gather in the sanctuary so as to include them in our celebration in a special way.

**MASS SETTING:** Since we are now in Ordinary Time, we have returned to singing the Mass of Renewal, found at #875-883 in the *Breaking Bread* hymnal.

### Parish Life

**PARISH NECROLOGY:** On the anniversary of their death, please keep the following parishioners in your prayers: **Joan Gossett** (02 February 2018), **Jerome John Podojil** (04 February 1997), **Julianne Copenhaver** (05 February 1999), **Claudia Hughes** (07 February 1999), **Frederick William Whalen** (09 February 1998), **Joseph E. Gaffney** (13 February 1996), **Daniel Stack O'Connor** (16 February 2015), **Paul Emile Fecteau** (18 February 2016), and **Luco Fierro** (26 February 2015).



### Readings for the Week of February 5, 2023

- Monday:** Gn 1:1-19/Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10 and 12, 24 and 35c/Mk 6:53-56
- Tuesday:** Gn 1:20—2:4a/Ps 8:4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mk 7:1-13
- Wednesday:** Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17/Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30/Mk 7:14-23
- Thursday:** Gn 2:18-25/Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5/Mk 7:24-30
- Friday:** Gn 3:1-8/Ps 32:1-2, 5, 6, 7/Mk 7:31-37
- Saturday:** Gn 3:9-24/Ps 90:2, 3-4abc, 5-6, 12-13/Mk 8:1-10
- Sunday:** Sir 15:15-20/Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-4 (1b)/1 Cor 2:6-10/Mt 5:17-37 or 5:20-22a, 27-28, 33-34a, 37

**ECCE QUAM BONUM:** Last weekend, **Benjamin Daniel Shapiro** celebrated Baptism.

**BEREAVEMENT MINISTRY:** "*Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted*" (Matthew 5:4) Mindful of Christ's Beatitude and aware that the loss of a loved one is one of life's most painful and difficult experiences, Father Greg has initiated plans for a Bereavement Ministry program at OLVP. The purpose of the program is to provide parishioners who have lost a loved one the comfort, support, and help they need to navigate through a difficult time. To learn more about the Bereavement Ministry and how you can help, please contact Father Greg at [gshaffer@olvp.org](mailto:gshaffer@olvp.org) or Elizabeth Verzariu at [e.verzariu@gmail.com](mailto:e.verzariu@gmail.com).

**VOLUNTEER PARTY:** Calling all OLVP volunteers!! If you have helped the parish in any form, the parish would like to thank you for your help at the annual Volunteer Party. This year's party will take place on **Saturday, February 25th** from 6-9 pm in Founders Hall. Come enjoy dinner and dancing with your fellow volunteers. Scroll down to the **News and Events** section at [olvp.org](http://olvp.org) to sign up. Contact Tony Glander with any questions [tglander@olvp.org](mailto:tglander@olvp.org) or (301) 460-6404.

## PASTOR'S PAGE

“Lavish your food on the hungry  
and satisfy the afflicted”

With this verse (Isaiah 58:10) from today's first reading and following up on what I wrote last weekend about the Youth Center and Adoration Chapel project, an additional goal is to open up the lower level of the church as a parish Outreach Center. At my last parish (Assumption in southeast DC), I worked regularly at the Pope Francis Outreach Center attached to the parish. Assumption lavished food on 300-400 hungry families of Ward 8 who came to the Center once a month to pick up a bag of groceries. It was a hot spot from 9 am – 12 noon every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday! I enjoyed getting to know the neighbors of our parish and to be a part of such a beautiful service to the community.

I would love to do the same thing here in terms of an Outreach Center. Parishioners and neighbors could come in during the week either to give materially to others or to receive spiritually, emotionally, or personally themselves. We have information on the set-up of this on displays in the Gathering Space and outside of Founders Hall as well as in a video on our parish website. The hope would be to move all of the Faith Formation classes into the new Youth Center and thus free up the existing classrooms on the lower level. The large room (St. Anne) could be used for community service events like clothing drives, food drives, letter-writing to the afflicted in Haiti, nursing homes, prisons or elsewhere, and other ways to serve the poor collectively and remotely. The other rooms (St. Cecelia and St. John) could be used for counseling, healing, and support groups for parishioners and neighbors.

We are still working on the design and scope of the Youth Center project, and we don't know if all of the lower level classrooms will be freed up as a result. The rooms are being utilized now by a few discussion and support groups, but are mostly free during the week. To utilize the rooms for both Faith Formation classes and an Outreach Center is possible, but it would take continuous effort and coordination. If you are interested in supporting the Outreach Center here, please consider a pledge for the Youth Center. The latter leads to the former. I am open to discussing the different options involved and to increase the opportunities we have here to more fully and regularly lavish food on the hungry and satisfy the afflicted.

May you know the peace of Christ, *Fr. Greg*

**PANCAKE DINNER:** Visitation Parish is having a Pancake Dinner on **Tuesday, February 21st**, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm in Founders Hall. Come join us for this Shrove Tuesday tradition, and it is free to all! Questions or to sign up to volunteer—contact Tony Glander (301)460-6404 or [tglander@olv.org](mailto:tglander@olv.org).



**FAMILY BINGO: Sunday, February 19th, 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in Founders Hall.** Bring the entire family to play Bingo and enjoy refreshments. Prizes will be awarded for each game. Admission is \$3.00 for a 3-card sheet. Families with last names beginning with A-H, please bring savory snacks to share; I-P, please bring desserts to share; Q-Z, please bring beverages to share.



**SUPER BOWL ITALIAN SUBS:** The Knights of Columbus are once again offering their super bowl deal of Italian Subs for \$7.00 each, ordered by **today**, Sunday, February 5th. Pre-ordered subs may be picked up after Saturday/Sunday Masses on **February 11th/12th**. To place your order, call Tom Moschella (240) 988-1599 or Dave Bivans (301) 977-4734.

**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 next **Sunday, February 12th 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.

**MEN'S DISCERNMENT RETREAT:** Men (ages 18-55) who are interested in learning about the priesthood, are invited to attend the 2023 Retreat, **February 10-12**. This is an opportunity to pray and reflect on God's call, and to meet seminarians and priests to hear their stories. Register at [depriest.org](http://depriest.org) or call Fr. Mark Ivany at (202) 636-9020.

**PARISH BIBLE STUDY:** Continuing on **Wednesday, February 8th at 7:30 pm**, Fr. Greg will offer the weekly Scripture Study session to discuss the upcoming Sunday's readings.

**PARISH DIRECTORY:** OLVP is 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 have been sent out with more information requesting family pictures. You may submit your family picture at any time to [tglander@olv.org](mailto:tglander@olv.org) to be included in the directory. Pictures can be from vacations, holidays or families being creative! 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@olv.org](mailto:tglander@olv.org).



**MATRIMONY POLICY:** 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 (Deaconated@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:** If you would like to have our community pray for yourself or for someone else, please enter your request on our website: <http://www.olvp.org/prayer-request>. Please pray for: **Ted Bany, Jack, and Sang Sang & Family, Viola Bradshaw, Sabah, Sandy, Kate and Donna.**

### *Faith Formation for Life*

**SMALL BIBLE STUDY GROUPS:** 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. **If you have not already been invited and are interested in joining a group, please submit your name to Cheryl at [chw@olvp.org](mailto:chw@olvp.org).** The groups will meet in parishioners' homes, and we will match you with a group in your neighborhood, if possible. Any questions in general, please email Fr. Greg at [gshaffer@olvp.org](mailto:gshaffer@olvp.org).

**MARY OF NAZARETH FAMILIES:** Please submit Pastoral Recommendation forms to the Parish Office no later than Monday, **February 20th**. Forms can be emailed to [chw@olvp.org](mailto:chw@olvp.org) or mailed to the parish office. Be sure to include your family photo. Signed forms will be returned directly to the school; the school will notify you when your form has been received.

### *Social Concerns*

**2023 ANNUAL APPEAL:** This year's theme is "Many Ministries, One Church," a reminder that each of us is an essential member of the Body of Christ that is our Church. Cardinal Wilton Gregory said, "Our charitable works are strengthened when we work together and when we work toward heaven."

Please make a pledge or donate to the in-pew collection to be taken on **February 12**.

**GENTLY USED CLOTHING COLLECTION:** Donations are to be delivered to Interfaith Works' Clothing Center! Drop off your donations in bags on **February 11-12** to the alcove in the lower level of the church. Donations do not need to be sorted in any way. Men's, women's & children's clothing needed! Let's "donate with dignity" - no stains or torn clothing. Not ready to clean out your closets yet? We'll be having another collection in May.

**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](http://www.gpmoco.org), click on Amazon *wish list* and choose from any number of items.

**SHADY GROVE PREGNANCY CENTER:** If you have a heart for ministry, are a good listener, and fluent in English and Spanish, the Center is in need of a volunteer bilingual counselor. Commitment: one 4-hour shift once a week for a year. Training is provided. Contact Susan Veirs, Counseling Services Manager, at (301) 963-6223.

### *Human Resources*

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** The following families recently joined our parish: **Ms. Christine Powers & Mr. Enrico Pevero, and Mrs. Claudette Eader.**

**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](http://www.olvp.org)

**CHOIR NEEDS:** Are you a tenor, baritone or bass singer? Please consider joining the 11 am choir! The choir is open to experienced singers in ninth grade and above. Contact Jyoti Hench at [jhench@olvp.org](mailto:jhench@olvp.org) or fill out the form at [www.olvp.org/music](http://www.olvp.org/music) for more information.

**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*

**2022 STATEMENTS:** All 2022 statements will be mailed to parishioners by January 31, 2023. If you have not received your statement by **February 6<sup>th</sup>**, please notify the office (301) 948-5536.

**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](http://www.faithdirect.net). Our Church Code is **MD114**.

