

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

19 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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Email: parishoffice@olvp.org

Web Site: www.olvp.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2023

19 Sun	Mass, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church St. Martin's Food Pantry Collection No Faith Formation Family Bingo: 2:00 pm, Founders Hall
20 Mon	Mass, 10 am Presidents' Day: Office Closed No Adoration — No Water —
21 Tue	Mass, 8:30 am, 12:00 Noon Adoration: 11:00 am Faith Formation: Grades 1-5: 5-6:00 pm, Founders Hall Pancake Dinner: 6-8 pm, Founders Hall
22 Wed	Ash Wednesday Mass, 7 am, 12 Noon and 6 pm, Church Collection for Church in Developing World Adoration, 11:00 am and 6:30 pm Scripture Study, 7:30 pm, Fdrs. Hall
23 Thu	Mass: 8:30 am and 12 noon, Church
24 Fri	Mass: 12 noon and 6:00 pm, Church Adoration: 11 am, 7:00 pm, Church Stations of the Cross, 6:30 pm
25 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 Volunteer Party, 6 to 9 pm, Founders Hall
26 Sun	Mass, 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church Faith Formation: CGS: 9 to 10 am, Atrium, Pre-school, K Grades 6-8: 9:45 to 10:45 am, Church

Liturgical Life

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: This week, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the church on Tuesday from 11 am to noon, on Ash Wednesday from 11:00 am to Noon, and 6:30 to 7:30 pm and on **Friday evening from 7:00 to 8:00 pm** after Stations of the Cross at 6:30 pm. There is no Eucharistic Adoration on Thursdays.

MASS SETTING: During Lent, we will sing the **Mass of Creation**, found at 885-888 in the *Breaking Bread* hymnal. The Glory to God is not sung during Lent.

LENT: The Lenten season has a double character, namely, to prepare both prospective Catholics and parishioners to celebrate the paschal mystery. The prospective Catholics, both with the Rite of Election and Scrutinies, and by catechesis, are prepared for the celebration of the sacraments of Christian initiation; the parishioners, ever more attentive to the word of God and prayer, prepare themselves by penance for the renewal of their baptismal promises. Lent runs from **Ash Wednesday (22 February 2023) until the beginning of the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday (06 April 2023).**

FAST AND ABSTINENCE: Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on



Readings for the Week of February 19, 2023

Monday:	Sir 1:1-10/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	Sir 2:1-11/Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40/Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 18-19/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14/Ps 86:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 5:27-32
Sunday:	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 17 (see 3a)/Rom 5:12-19 or 5:12, 17-19/Mt 4:1-11

all Fridays of Lent. This obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products, or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat. Fasting means limiting oneself to one full meal on a given fast day. Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59 are obliged to fast and abstain from meat on **Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023 and on Good Friday, April 7, 2023.** On fast days, two additional smaller meals are permitted, if necessary, to maintain strength. However, the two smaller meals together may not equal one full meal. Moreover, eating solid foods between meals on fast days is not permitted. However, liquids, including milk and fruit juices, are allowed. Self-imposed observance of fasting on all weekdays of Lent is strongly recommended.

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 Copenhagen** (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).

PASTOR'S PAGE

*Jesus said to his disciples:
"You have heard that it was said,
An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.
But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil.
When someone strikes you on your right cheek,
turn the other one as well. - Mt 5:38-39*

Bishop Robert Barron has the best explanation of "turning the other cheek" that I've seen. According to him, Jesus's famous saying does not mean that you allow someone to strike you again. Rather, the Lord is saying to stand firm against the evil of being struck on the right cheek. To turn the other cheek, then, means to prevent being struck on the right cheek again. Bishop Barron's explication is below, courtesy of www.wordonfire.org.

Friends, today, in the Sermon on the Mount, the Lord exhorts us to nonresistance to evil. Martin Luther King Jr. was deeply influenced by Mahatma Gandhi's techniques, and Gandhi learned them, largely, from the Sermon on the Mount.

Both Gandhi and King appreciated that the text dealing with the nonresistance to evil has nothing to do with passivity in the face of injustice, but rather with a new and distinctive type of resistance.

Consider the Lord's injunction, "When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one to him as well." I realize that this sounds like mere passivity, fleeing before evil, but the truth is anything but. In Jesus' time, you would not have used your left hand for any type of social interaction, since it was considered unclean. Therefore, to strike someone on the right cheek is to strike him with the back of your hand, the way a master might treat a slave.

By turning the other cheek, one neither fights back directly nor flees, but rather stands his ground and declares, "You will not treat me that way again." It thereby effectively mirrors back to the aggressor his aggression. It is the declaration that the aggressed person refuses to cooperate with the world of the aggressor.

May you know the peace of Christ,

Fr. Greg

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@olv.org or Elizabeth Verzariu at e.verzariu@gmail.com.

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 **today, Sunday, March 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.

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 olv.org to sign up. Contact Tony Glander with any questions: tglander@olv.org or (301) 460-6404.

PARISH BIBLE STUDY: Continuing on **Wednesday, February 22nd at 7:30 pm**, Fr. Greg will offer the weekly Scripture Study session to discuss the upcoming Sunday's readings.

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.



FAMILY BINGO: **Today, 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.

VOCATIONS TREE COMING SOON: Here's something simple you and your family can do for Lent. Next weekend, you will see a "Vocations Tree" in the church vestibule with cards hanging on it. Each card has information about a seminarian of the Archdiocese of Washington. Choose a card (or more than one) and pray for that seminarian each day during Lent.

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, Sang Sang & Family, Viola Bradshaw, Sabah, Sandy, Kate, Donna, Terry, Elizabeth Bannerman, Antonio, Peter-ton, Francisca, Ana, Anabel and Angelo Abuzo, Cita Abugaa, and Paploy.**

Faith Formation for Life

VACATION BIBLE CAMP: OLVP will launch our Stellar VBS June 19 thru 23, from 9 am to noon, with youth from 4 years old to rising 5th graders. Middle/High School youth and adults are needed to help as well. Register on-line at www.olvp.org. Contact Erin Clegg (eclegg@olvp.org) to volunteer.

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.**

Social Concerns

COLLECTION FOR THE CHURCH IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD: On Ash Wednesday, **February 22nd**, we will take up this collection to support the needs of the Church in Latin America, Africa, and Eastern Europe. Please help these struggling churches by being generous according to your means.

THE LORD'S TABLE (TLT) SOUP KITCHEN: TLT serves hot meals (soup, main dish, salad, bread, dessert) every Monday through Friday at 3:30 pm at Epworth United Methodist Church at 9008 Rosemont Avenue in Gaithersburg. OLVP and many other groups provide volunteers for this important ministry. Volunteers may work in two shifts. From 1-3pm, a team prepares the meal. From 3-5pm, a team serves and cleans the kitchen. The Lord's Table staff of kitchen coordinators sets the menu and provides guidance/instruction to volunteers. TLT is an approved MCPS volunteer organization. High school students may help serve, and middle schoolers may help serve

provided that they have an adult with them. Students can receive SSL hours for serving and clean-up. **Interested in becoming part of this ministry either as a substitute or a monthly crew member?** Please email parishioner Sue Rambo at smmahn@aol.com.

ST. MARTIN'S FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION: Our monthly food collection will be held **this weekend**, Saturday and Sunday, **February 18-19**. 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 & 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 12 noon on Sunday. Donations will be picked up at noon to be delivered directly to the Food Pantry. **The Pantry needs our help so that they can help those in need!**

Human Resources

NEW PARISHIONERS: The following families recently joined our parish: **Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Warne**, and **Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Paguntalan**.

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

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 or fill out the form at www.olvp.org/music for more information.



PARISH OFFICE HOURS: The parish office will be closed on **Monday, February 20th** to celebrate Presidents' Day. 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**.