

*Our Lady of the Visitation Parish*

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



## SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY)

16 April 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

April 2023

- 16 Sun Divine Mercy Sunday**  
Mass: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church  
**St. Martin's Food Pantry Collection**  
Faith Formation:  
CGS: 9 to 10 am, Atrium, Pre-school, K  
Grades 6-8: 9:45 to 10:45 am, Church  
**Confessions: 12 Noon to 3:00 pm, Church**  
**Chaplet of Divine Mercy, 3:00 pm**  
Youth Group, 5:00 pm, Church
- 17 Mon**  
Mass, 12 noon, Church  
Adoration, 11:00 am, Church  
**RCIA: Spring Session Begins, 4 to 5 pm, Founders Hall**
- 18 Tue**  
Mass, 8:30 am, 12:00 Noon  
Adoration: 11:00 am, Church  
**Faith Formation:**  
**Grades 1-5: 5-6:00 pm, Founders Hall**
- 19 Wed**  
Mass, 12 Noon and 6 pm, Church  
Adoration, 11:00 am and 6:30 pm, Church  
Scripture Study, 7:30 p.m., Founders Hall
- 20 Thu**  
Mass: 8:30 am and 12 Noon, Church  
No Adoration
- 21 Fri**  
Mass: 12 Noon and 6:00 pm, Church  
Adoration: 11 am and 6:30 pm, Church
- 22 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
- 23 Sun**  
Mass: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church  
**Catholic Home Missions Collection**  
**Adopted Family Collection**  
Faith Formation:  
CGS: 9 to 10 am, Atrium, Pre-school, K  
Grades 6-8: 9:45 to 10:45 am, Church  
Youth Group, 5:00 pm, Church

### Liturgical Life

#### ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

This week, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the church on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 11 am to noon, and on Wednesday and Friday evenings from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. There is no Adoration on Thursday.

**EASTER SEASON:** The fifty days from Easter Sunday to Pentecost are celebrated in joyful exultation as one feast day, or better, as one "Great Sunday" (Athanasius, *Epist. Fest.*). These, above all others, are the days for the singing of the *Alleluia* (General Norms, 22). The days of the Easter Octave form the "early hours" of this "Great Sunday," with accounts of the Lord who rose early in the morning, and the early preaching of the disciples who were witnesses to His resurrection.

**ALTAR SERVERS NEEDED:** Altar Servers assist the Priest in the procession, handling the Roman Missal for the prayers on the altar and assist with setting the chalices and



### Readings for the Week of April 16, 2023

- Monday: Acts 4:23-31/Ps 2:1-3, 4-7a, 7b-9/Jn 3:1-8
- Tuesday: Acts 4:32-37/Ps 93:1ab, 1cd-2, 5/Jn 3:7b-15
- Wednesday: Acts 5:17-26/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9/Jn 3:16-21
- Thursday: Acts 5:27-33/Ps 34:2 and 9, 17-18, 19-20/Jn 3:31-36
- Friday: Acts 5:34-42/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Jn 6:1-15
- Saturday: Acts 6:1-7/Ps 33:1-2, 4-5, 18-19/Jn 6:16-21
- Sunday: Acts 2:14, 22-33/Ps 16:1-2, 5, 7-8, 9-10, 11 (11a)/1 Pt 1:17-21/Lk 24:13-35

ciborium on the altar. If you have made your First Communion and have not yet graduated from high school, we can use your help. Please contact Deacon Ted to arrange for training. DeaconTed@olvp.org or call the office to leave a message (301) 948-5536.

### Parish Life

**ECCE QUAM BONUM:** Last week, **Jamie Santos Gamouf**, **Jake Sankal** and **Timothy Mueller** celebrated Confirmation and First Eucharist; **Erica Gamouf** celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.

**R.I.P.:** It is with sadness that we announce the death of **James Flanigan**, brother-in-law of Stephen (Debbie) Waechter. 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: **Daisy M. Masterson** (01 April 1996), **Ann Marie Majchrzak** (01 April 2019), **Walter Zolkiewicz** (02 April 2004), **Nello Mario Lavorini** (06 April 2022), **Pope St. John Paul II** (02 April 2005), **John G. Gill Jr.** (07 April 2017), **Eugene Pitman** (10 April 1995), **John H.**

## PASTOR'S PAGE

In 2000, Pope John Paul II canonized St. Faustina to whom Jesus had appeared in the 1800s in Poland and revealed His divine mercy to the modern world. The Holy Father declared the Second Sunday of Easter to be Divine Mercy Sunday, and the Church has been celebrating it ever since. "Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska" contains all of the striking revelations that Jesus gives to us through her. They are so specific and generous! Below are some of the most pertinent, but I recommend reading her diary to capture the whole message of our Lord. It is so needed and welcome in our world.

I will be offering confessions today (April 16) from 12 noon – 3 pm in the church in order to gain the plenary indulgence that this Feast offers and is described below.

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

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I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (plenary indulgence). On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. (Diary 699)

[Let] the greatest sinners place their trust in My mercy. They have the right before others to trust in the abyss of My mercy. My daughter, write about My mercy towards tormented souls. Souls that make an appeal to My mercy delight Me. To such souls I grant even more graces than they ask. I cannot punish even the greatest sinner if he makes an appeal to My compassion, but on the contrary, I justify him in My unfathomable and inscrutable mercy. (1146)

I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy. (1109)

I demand the worship of My mercy through the solemn celebration of the Feast and through the veneration of the image which is painted. By means of this image (with the signature: "Jesus, I trust in You." 327) I shall grant many graces to souls. It is to be a reminder of the demands of My mercy, because even the strongest faith is of no avail without works. (742)

**Zobel** (12 April 1996), **Rita Lorraine Carlisi** (16 April 2022), **Gabrielle P. Scanio** (20 April 2013), **Peter Gordon** (24 April 2017), **Mary F. Vassallo** (26 April 1995), **William Connors** (26 April 2021), and **George C. Vitelli** (29 April 2012).

**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, **May 21st at 12:15 pm** 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.

**WOMEN'S SODALITY:** Our Saturday, **May 13th** meeting will offer **Child Care** beginning before the 9:00 am Mass, from 8:55 am to 11:00 am. Enjoy coffee, treats and the meeting while your little ones are being cared for in the adjacent room. Small group discussion will include Mary's Visitation to Elizabeth. Interested in attending, but need childcare? Call Bernadette Smith @ 301-928-5870.

**OLVP FOR LIFE:** We are blessed to announce that our **Memorial Garden** construction is about to begin! Located near the Stations of the Cross, this memorial garden will be a special place where OLVP parents, family and friends can remember babies who died in the womb or at birth. Polished brass plaques to memorialize a baby may be purchased for \$450. Deadline for spring orders has been extended to **April 30th**. For more information and to order a plaque, go to: <https://olvp.org/olvp-for-life>.

**PARISH BIBLE STUDY:** Continuing on **Wednesday, April 19th at 7:30 pm**, Fr. Greg will offer the weekly Scripture Study session to discuss the upcoming Sunday's readings.

**RCIA:** Are you interested in becoming Catholic later this spring? Or want to learn more about your Catholic faith? Father Greg will be leading Spring RCIA, a 10-week study of Catholic teachings and practices, on **Mondays from 4 to 5 pm starting on April 17**. Please contact Father at [gshaffer@olvp.org](mailto:gshaffer@olvp.org).

**THE CHOSEN AT OLVP!** Gather in Founder's Hall "Theater" on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm to watch this wonderfully engaging production that so many are talking about! Mondays in April will be Season 2 and Mondays in May will be Season 3—showing 2 episodes per evening. Join for some or all episodes. Plenty of seating is available or bring your sports chair if you'd like. Bring friends, family or neighbors! Free evening & popcorn provided!

**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](mailto: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 office to arrange for visitation and Communion.

**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, Viola Bradshaw, Sabah, Donna, Terry, Elizabeth Bannerman, Antonio, Peterton, Francisca, Ana, Anabel and Angelo Abuzo, Cita Abugaa, Paploy, Samuel, Kristen Conrad, Kate, Sarah, Sandy Sachs, Alexia, Patricia Rossomondo Bulla, Tina, for the friend of Jessica Beckwith, Shashini Chameli, for Yatague Soro, Lorraine, and for Phil Chaverz and his family.**

### *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](http://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](mailto:chw@olvp.org).**

**2023 CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL FAIR:** Is your middle schooler considering a Catholic high school? Designed for rising 7th and 8th grade students, the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington hosts a High School Fair each year to help families plan for the future. The event features exhibits from all of the Catholic high schools in the Archdiocese. Come and learn more about the admissions process, scholarship opportunities, and financial aid. The fair is on Saturday, **April 22, 2023** from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at The Catholic University of America—Heritage Hall. Visit [www.adwcatholichighschools.org](http://www.adwcatholichighschools.org) for more information and to reserve your space. Registration is free.

### *Social Concerns*

**CATHOLIC HOME MISSIONS APPEAL: CHURCH MISSIONS IN THE UNITED STATES:** The national collection to support the needs of the Catholic Home Missions and Black & Indian Missions in the United States will be taken on **April 22-23**. Please help these struggling Churches by being generous according to your means.

**SPRING ADOPTED FAMILY COLLECTION:** OLVP's Social Concerns Committee asks you to consider helping us support families in our community by donating a "NEW" item to a child or parent. Donations can be dropped off the weekend of **April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Contact Ma-

rianne Beattie at [olvpocialconcerns@gmail.com](mailto:olvpocialconcerns@gmail.com) with any questions.

### *Human Resources*

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** The following family recently joined our parish: **Mr. & Mrs. Ben Jamieson.**

**OLVP DIRECTORY:** The new directory is available online. To view the directory, go to **members.InstantChurchDirectory.com** and follow the prompts under "Sign In" to "Create a login now." Please remember, you will need to use your email address **as listed in our directory** to create a log-in the first time you use the directory online and via the mobile app. There is also a free mobile app available for download at the Apple® App store in iTunes®, Google Play™ store and Amazon Fire App Store. Simply search for "**Instant Church Directory**" to get the download. If you need help or would like to submit your family's picture for the directory, please contact Tony Glander: [tglander@olvp.org](mailto:tglander@olvp.org) or (301) 460-6404.

**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)

**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*

**EASTER GIFT:** We are grateful to those parishioners who make an extra donation to the parish at Easter. The contribution is exempt from Archdiocesan assessment and is needed to help balance our parish budget.

**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:** He is risen! To ensure that we continue to spread the good news of Christ's Resurrection, we ask that you sign up today by visiting Faith Direct/MD114, or by texting "**ENROLL**" to **301-701-3032**. You may enroll on-line at [www.faithdirect.net](http://www.faithdirect.net) or by calling Faith Direct customer service at 866-507-8757. Our Church Code is **MD114**. **Thank you** for your continued support of our parish family.