

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

03 September 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

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

September 2023

03 Sun	Mass: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church Healing Mass: 2:00 pm, Church Final Produce Collection, 9:00 am to Noon
04 Mon	Labor Day: Office Closed Mass: 10 am, Church No Adoration
05 Tue	Mass, 8:30 am and 12 Noon, Church Adoration, 11:00 am, Church
06 Wed	Mass, 12 Noon and 6:00 pm, Church Adoration, 11:00 am and 6:30 pm, Church Scripture Study, 7:30 pm, Founders Hall
07 Thu	Mass, 8:30 am and 12 Noon, Church No Adoration
08 Fri	Mass: 12 Noon and 6:00 pm, Church Adoration, 11:00 am and 6:30 pm
09 Sat	Men's Group, 7:30 am, Founders Hall Daily Mass, 9:00 am, Church Sodality, 9:30 am, Founders Hall AA, 12 Noon, St. Anne's Room Vigil Mass, 5:00 pm, Church
10 Sun	Mass: 9 am Children, 11 am 5 pm Church Catholic University Collection H.S. Youth Kick-Off, 5 pm, Church

Liturgical Life

CARDINAL GREGORY: Cardinal Gregory is coming to OLVP! He will be here to celebrate the 11:00 am Mass on Sunday, **September 24th**, and bless the Stations of the Cross. Hopefully, he will stop by our parish festival which is on the same day from 12-3pm.

CHILDREN'S MASS: Children's Mass will resume on **September 10th at 9:00 a.m.** and continue on the second Sunday of each month thereafter. We will invite the children present to gather in the sanctuary so as to include them in our celebration in a special way.

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

Parish Life

R.I.P.: It is with sadness that we announce the death of **Mary Ellen Rosia**, mother of Craig (Lori) Rosia. We commend her and her family to God in our prayers.

PARISH NECROLOGY: On the anniversary of their deaths, please keep the following parishioners in your prayers: **Agnes F. Kelly** (2 September 2002), **Richard J. Gordon** (03 September 2012), **Harry T. Lackey, Jr.** (10 September 2002), **Vincent Burns** (10 September 1994), **Heidi Titus** (17 September 2021), **Andrew Garde** (22 September 1994), and **Mabel Rebecca Offutt** (30 September 2015).



Readings for the Week of September 3, 2023

Monday:	1 Thes 4:13-18/Ps 96:1 and 3, 4-5, 11-12, 13/Lk 4:16-30
Tuesday:	1 Thes 5:1-6, 9-11/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14/Lk 4:31-37
Wednesday:	Col 1:1-8/Ps 52:10, 11/Lk 4:38-44
Thursday:	Col 1:9-14/Ps 98:2-3ab, 3cd-4, 5-6/Lk 5:1-11
Friday:	Mi 5:1-4a or Rom 8:28-30/Ps 13:6ab, 6c/Mt 1:1-16, 18-23 or 1:18-23
Saturday:	Col 1:21-23/Ps 54:3-4, 6 and 8/Lk 6:1-5
Sunday:	Ez 33:7-9/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/Rom 13:8-10/Mt 18:15-2

BENEFIT FOR SHADY GROVE PREGNANCY CENTER: All parishioners supporting the pro-life movement are invited to attend Shady Grove Pregnancy Center's 40th Annual Banquet at 6:30 pm on Thursday, October 26, 2023 at the Rockville Hilton Hotel. The keynote speaker is Abby Johnson. OLVP will have our own table but you must **register** at the following link by **October 1**. <http://forms.gle/4WmVbBteB1mfkywy5> (Under 'Are you interested in hosting a table?' please select "No, because someone else is hosting my table." Any questions, contact OLVP for Life Chair, Alison Rascher at 240-832-4508.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE; September 27-November 5: Join fellow OLVP parishioners Tuesdays from 11am to 12pm. You can protect mothers and children by joining this worldwide mobilization to pray and fast for an end to abortion! Vigil location: CARE Abortion Clinic, Wildwood Medical Center, 10401 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD. We stand on the public sidewalk along the white fence. To sign up, contact Alison Rascher at a.rascher@olvp.org.

SAVE THE DATE
FALL FESTIVAL
September 24
12 Noon -3:00 p.m.



CARE PACKAGES FOR OLVP COLLEGE STUDENTS: Once again, the parish would like to send a box of goodies to each of our college students so that they have OLVP love with them. Parents, please send the name,

PASTOR'S PAGE

Hopefully, it's been a good and enjoyable summer for all of us filled with long-awaited trips away as families. This week takes us in another direction which is basically "back to work". We start the week with Labor Day, ironically a day off from work. Then, it's back to school and back to work fully. While this may be unfortunate for some, it is exciting and rewarding to others. As a Church, we celebrate work. It starts in the beginning when God worked – and worked very hard – during the six days of creation. Please don't forget that God rested on the seventh day! We need to follow His lead in working hard and well for six days, and resting on the seventh day. Work is very important but it is just what we do. It is not who we are. Think about the essence or identity of God: we don't define Him as "hard worker". He is that, but He is so much more. It's the same with us.

Please enjoy the following reflections on human labor by Pope Francis years ago, courtesy of Catholic News Agency:

Labor is an essential reality for society, for families and for individuals. Labor, in fact, directly regards the person, his life, his liberty and his happiness...The primary value of labor is the good of the human person, as it allows the person to be fully realized as such, with his attitudes and intellectual, creative and manual capacities. Therefore, it follows that labor has not only the economic objective of profit, but above all a purpose that regards man and his dignity...the dignity of man is connected to labor...

The unemployed and underemployed, in fact, risk being relegated to the margins of society, becoming victims of social exclusion. Often it happens that persons without work – I think especially of the many young people unemployed today – slip into chronic discouragement, or worse, apathy... Labor is a good for all, and must be available to all...

This great challenge requires the involvement of the entire Christian community...to revive the roots of faith and of our adherence to Jesus Christ. This is the inspiring principle in the choices of a Christian: his faith. Christian faith is able to enrich society through the concrete element of brotherhood it embodies. A faith accompanied by joy, lived fully and with generosity can give a humanizing force to society. Therefore, we are all called to seek new ways to give testimony with courage to a faith both living and live-giving...

Dear brothers and sisters, never cease to hope for a better future. If everyone does what is proper to him, if all of us always put at the center the human person, and his dignity, not money; if we consolidate an attitude of solidarity and fraternal sharing, inspired by the Gospel, we can emerge from the swamp of this difficult and burdensome period of economic turmoil.

May you know the peace of Christ,

Fr. Greg

school address, and year in college of your son or daughter to cenos@olvp.org by Monday, **September 18th**.

BABY BLANKETS: Many thanks to those parishioners who knitted, crocheted or sewed baby blankets for the Shady Grove Pregnancy Center. What talent in our parish! The blankets were beautiful!! Fr. Greg blessed the blankets and they were delivered to SGPC where they were so touched to see the assortment of 17 gorgeous blankets. The OLVP for Life Committee thanks you for sharing your time & talent in support of others. We plan to have another collection of baby blankets this fall; check upcoming bulletins for details.

REGISTRATION FOR SACRAMENTS: Our parish will hold registration in our sacramental programs for First Eucharist/Reconciliation and Confirmation on Sunday, **September 17th, at 12:00 noon in Founders Hall**.

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 will be offered on Sunday, **September 17th** 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 GROUP: Beginning on **September 16th** the OLVP Women's Group will explore "*On the Dignity of Women: Mulieris Dignitatem*", a study program offered by **Endow (Educating on the Nature and Dignity of Women)**. All women of the parish are invited. There is no preparation and no homework required! Two sessions a month, 9:30-11:30am. Contact Mary Lynda Harrigan (mharr15009@aol.com) for additional details and the full schedule.

MOVIE NIGHTS AT OLVP: Gather in Founders' Hall "Theater" on Monday, **September 11th** at 7:00 pm to watch *Padre Pio Miracle Man* (Part 2) (2000) and on September 25th to watch *Saint Anthony: The Miracle Worker of Padua*. Plenty of seating is available or bring your sports chair if you'd like. Bring friends, family or neighbors to enjoy a free evening with movie & popcorn provided!

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: It's a new year with new ideas and new faces! Come and meet or catch up with old friends at our first gathering on Sunday, **September 10th at 5:00 p.m.** in church for Mass and at the rectory afterwards for our kick-off party and games.

SODALITY: All women of the parish are invited to join us on Saturday, **September 9th** from 9:30 to 11:00 am in Founder's Hall as we begin our Sodality year! Join us for Mass at 9:00 am followed by our meeting which includes coffee and fellowship, calendar of Sodality events and small group discussions!

PARISH BIBLE STUDY: On **Wednesday, September 6th at 7:30 pm**, Fr. Greg will offer the weekly Scripture Study to discuss the upcoming Sunday's readings.

UPPER ROOM MEN'S GROUP: The Upper Room Men's Group invites all parish men to join "A Call to Faith and Fellowship." The Group meets every **Saturday** morning between **7:30 am** and 8:50 am in Founder's Hall. For more information, please contact Peter Geiling, pgeiling67@gmail.com.

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 (gshaffer@olvp.org)/Deacon Ted (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: **Lorraine, Lynn Meister, Josephin, Nino, Olga, Viola Cleo Bradshaw, Cordelia Vogel, Joshua Watson, Christian, Seowan Park, Laura, Bob, Damianus Aditya Christie, David Shoemaker, Ted, Jake, Sam, Robert Heath, Lonnie Luther, Cherie Buhl, J.A., and Jose.**

Faith Formation for Life

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION: Information about the 2023-2024 school year may be found on our website www.olvp.org under the Faith Formation heading. Register now and check for current developments. If you are new to the parish, registration is on-going. If you would like information about our Faith Formation programs, please email Erin Clegg at eclegg@olvp.org.

OLVP NURSERY COMING SOON: We are thrilled to be opening a nursery that will be operational during the 9 and 11 am Mass times beginning in mid-September. We are seeking VIRTUS trained volunteers to help care for children of all ages starting at 6 months and also gently used toys and nursery items to fill the room. Let Erin Clegg at eclegg@olvp.org know if you can help. Thank you for your generosity of time, talent and treasure!

Social Concerns

ADOPTED FAMILY COLLECTION: Please visit olvp.org-Ministries-Social Concerns and simply click "sign up to donate items" under Adopted Family Collections to view the SignUpGenius list of needed items for our "adopted families". Please consider helping us to support these families in our community by donating a "new" item to a child or parent. More info can be found on our website. Donations can be dropped off the weekend of **September 16-17**; instructions are at the top of the SignUpGenius. Contact Marianne Beattie at olvp-socialconcerns@gmail.com with any questions.

FRESH PRODUCE COLLECTIONS: Our last collection of fresh produce is today, **September 3rd**, from 9:00 am to 12 noon. Place donations in the coolers in the low-

er level of the church. The produce will be delivered to St. Martin's Food Pantry.

Human Resources

NEW PARISHIONERS: The following families have recently joined our parish: **Mr. & Mrs. Paul Lepeonka, and Ms. Laure Soro.**

CHILDREN'S CHOIR: We are excited to announce the start of the OLVP Children's Choir for singers in 3rd-8th grades! Rehearsals begin on September 26th and are held twice a month on Tuesdays from 4:15-5:00 pm.



The Children's Choir sings at the monthly 9 am Children's Mass, Christmas Pageant, and 4pm Christmas Eve Mass. Please register your child online at www.olvp.org/childrens-choir. You may also contact Jyoti Hench at jhench@olvp.org.

ADULT CHOIR: The 11am choir invites singers in the parish to join us as we start up again this fall! The choir is open to adults and teens in 9th grade and above. We would especially love to grow our tenor and bass sections. Rehearsals are held every Tuesday, 6:30-7:30 pm, with an alternative daytime option available for those who need it. Please fill out the interest form at www.olvp.org/music or contact Jyoti Hench at jhench@olvp.org.

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 **Monday, September 4th** to celebrate Labor 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

FAITH DIRECT: Did you miss a weekly offering while on summer vacation? eGiving through Faith Direct is the easiest and most convenient way for our parish to receive your weekly offering and other Church support. We ask that you sign up today by visiting faith.direct/MD114, or by texting "ENROLL" to 301-701-3032. You may also enroll by calling Faith Direct customer service at 866-507-8757. Our Church Code is **MD114**. **Thank you** for your continued support.

IRA CONTRIBUTIONS: Those who are over age 70 1/2 must take a Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) from an IRA. Please consider a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) to support our Youth Center and Adoration Chapel. As one parishioner learned, QCD saves you from paying income taxes on the RMD amount and will not push you into a higher Medicare tax bracket.