

*Our Lady of the Visitation Parish*

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

17 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

14139 Seneca Road, Darnestown, MD 20874

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

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

### September 2023

<b>17 Sun</b>	Mass: 9 am, 11 am, 5 pm Church <b>Adopted Family Collection</b> <b>Sacrament Registration: 12 Noon, Fdrs. Hall</b> H.S. Youth Group, 5:00 pm, Church <b>Baptism Class, 12:15 pm, Founders Hall</b>
<b>18 Mon</b>	Mass, 12 Noon, Church Adoration: 11:00 am, Church
<b>19 Tue</b>	Mass, 8:30 am and 12 Noon, Church Adoration, 11:00 am, Church
<b>20 Wed</b>	Mass, 12 Noon and 6:00 pm, Church Adoration, 11:00 am and 6:30 pm, Church Scripture Study, 7:30 pm, Founders Hall
<b>21 Thu</b>	Mass, 8:30 am and 12 Noon, Church No Adoration
<b>22 Fri</b>	Mass: 12 Noon and 6:00 pm, Church Adoration, 11:00 am and 6:30 pm
<b>23 Sat</b>	Men's Group, 7:30 am, Founders Hall Daily Mass, 9:00 am, Church Women's ENDOW, 9:30 am, Founders Hall AA, 12 Noon, St. Anne's Room CPR/First Aid Training, 1 to 3 pm, Fdrs. Hall Vigil Mass, 5:00 pm, Church
<b>24 Sun</b>	Mass: 9 am, 11 am, 5 pm <b>Nursery Available at 9 and 11 am Masses</b> <b>Cardinal celebrates 11 am Mass and Blesses Stations of the Cross &amp; Grotto</b> <b>Faith Formation Begins:</b> Atrium: 9 am and 11 am sessions Grades 7 & 8: 9:45 am <b>Festival: 12 to 3 pm</b> <b>No High School Youth Group</b>

### *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 12-3 pm.

**ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:** This week, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the church on Monday, 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 Thursday.

### *Parish Life*

**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 17, 2023

Monday:	1 Tm 2:1-8/Ps 28:2, 7, 8-9/Lk 7:1-10
Tuesday:	1 Tm 3:1-13/Ps 101:1b-2ab, 2cd-3ab, 5, 6/Lk 7:11-17
Wednesday:	1 Tm 3:14-16/Ps 111:1-2, 3-4, 5-6/Lk 7:31-35
Thursday:	Eph 4:1-7, 11-13/Ps 19:2-3, 4-5/Mt 9:9-13
Friday:	1 Tm 6:2c-12/Ps 49:6-7, 8-10, 17-18, 19-20/Lk 8:1-3
Saturday:	1 Tm 6:13-16/Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5/Lk 8:4-15
Sunday:	Is 55:6-9/Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 (18a)/Phil 1:20c-24, 27a/Mt 20:1-16a

**WOMEN'S NIGHT OF REFLECTION:** All women are invited to a Women's Night of Reflection on **October 10th** at 7:00 pm, beginning with prayer and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, at St. Andrew Apostle, Silver Spring. Fr. Mark Ivany, Director of Priest Vocations for the Archdiocese of Washington, will provide a reflection, "Mary, Mother of the Eucharist, Mother of Priests." Confessions available. No registration required. Email Lisa Longacre at [lialongacre@yahoo.com](mailto:lialongacre@yahoo.com) if you have questions.

**RESCUE PROJECT:** The Rescue Project proclaims the Gospel in 9 video presentations followed by conversations in a group format held over eight weeks. Developed by Fr. John Riccardo, you are invited to be transported by his narrative stories. All adults and high school teens are invited to join us on Mondays, starting on **October 2nd** through November 20th from 7 pm to 9 pm in Founder's Hall. For questions, call Diana Hurley at 240-353-9542 or email [hurley05@verizon.net](mailto:hurley05@verizon.net).

**BENEFIT FOR SHADY GROVE PREGNANCY CENTER:** All parishioners 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 OLVP parishioners Tuesdays from 11am to 12pm. Vigil location: CARE Abortion Clinic, Wildwood Medical Ctr,

PASTOR'S PAGE

Cardinal Gregory is coming to OLVP next weekend! He will be here to celebrate the 11 am Mass and then bless the Stations of the Cross, Grotto, and Prayer Garden outside. One of the coolest parts will be if he uses a golf cart (generously loaned to us by parishioners) to bless all the Stations and sprinkle them with holy water. He is excited to come here because two weeks ago at the Labor Day cookout for all the bishops and priests of the Archdiocese of Washington, he came right up to me and said enthusiastically, "I'll see you at your parish in a few weeks". Given his busy schedule day to day and as many parishes as he visits, it is impressive that he had the awareness of his visit here and that he identified me as the pastor (out of 140 pastors). It's a sign that he loves Visitation parish!

When we met two years ago for him to name me as pastor, he raved about our parish and the people here. He had just been here to celebrate Mass and Father Ray's retirement. Then he said something I have not forgotten: "you are the luckiest man on earth". It confirmed what was already in my heart, that I am extremely fortunate and blessed to be the pastor at OLVP. But, what an endorsement of our parish from the Archbishop! At that time (and now), I also realized that this is a desired assignment for many pastors. My brother priests remind me regularly how blessed I am because of the area, grounds, people, families, young history, potential, and Mary of Nazareth school.

Cardinal Gregory stepped into a challenging situation when he became our Archbishop a few years ago. Immediately, a big priority for him was the priests of Washington. He called multiple sessions of discussion to hear from us and to get to know us. He has probably visited all of us at least once and maybe more in our parishes. He has played golf with us and had fun with us. He has been a spiritual father to us. Even priests need a shepherd! My biggest takeaway from our brief meeting two years ago and the thing for which I will always be grateful to Cardinal Gregory was how fatherly he was to me.

May you know the peace of Christ,

Fr. Greg



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](mailto:a.rascher@olvp.org).

**MOVIE NIGHTS AT OLVP:** Gather in Founders' Hall "Theater" on Monday, **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!

**PARISH FESTIVAL:** Plan to come on **September 24th** for fall fun and games. Connect with friends while enjoying great food and music. Free from noon to 3:00 pm on the parish grounds.

**ADULT & CHILD FIRST AID/CPR/AED TRAINING:** OLVP will host a training for anyone interested, on Saturday, **September 23rd** from 1-3 pm. Our training will be facilitated by Amanda Williams, BSN, RN. To register, go to our website at [www.olvp.org](http://www.olvp.org), scroll down to the News Section, and click on the link to the flyer.

**PARISH BIBLE STUDY:** Continuing on **Wednesday, September 20th at 7:30 pm**, Fr. Greg will offer the weekly Scripture Study to discuss the upcoming Sunday's readings.

**CARE PACKAGES FOR OLVP COLLEGE STUDENTS:** Once again, the parish is mailing a box of goodies to each of our college students so that they have OLVP love with them. Parents, please send the name, school address, and year in college of your son or daughter to [cenos@olvp.org](mailto:cenos@olvp.org) by Monday, **September 18th**.

**REGISTRATION FOR SACRAMENTS:** Our parish will hold registration in our sacramental programs for First Eucharist/Reconciliation and Confirmation **today, 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. Class will be offered today, **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.

**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](mailto: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](mailto:gshaffer@olvp.org))/Deacon Ted ([DeaconTed@olvp.org](mailto: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, 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](http://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](mailto:eclegg@olvp.org).

**OLVP NURSERY:** We are thrilled to be opening a nursery that will be operational during the 9 and 11 am Mass times beginning on **September 24th**. We are seeking VIRTUS trained volunteers to help care for children from 6 months to 3 years old. Let Erin Clegg at [eclegg@olvp.org](mailto:eclegg@olvp.org) know if you can help. Thank you for your generosity of time, talent and treasure!

### *Social Concerns*

**THANK YOU** to all those parishioners who donated to this Archdiocesan collection taken last weekend.

**A BIG THANK YOU** to all parishioners who donated produce over the past 8 weeks! We delivered 1,828 pounds of fresh produce to St. Martin's Food Pantry which equates to about 1,524 meal's worth of produce! Week after week, the wonderful folks at the Food Pantry commented on the freshness and variety of the beautiful produce that our parish was donating. *"He who has a bountiful eye will be blessed; for he shares his bread with the poor"*. Proverbs 22:9 The Social Concerns Committee is grateful for all of the volunteers that donated their time to make this such a successful ministry.

**GABRIEL PROJECT:** Want to put your pro-life beliefs into action? Women need to know, before they get pregnant, about the help that the Gabriel Project provides. You can help in several ways. Fall and winter, gently used or new maternity, infant, and children's clothes and shoes are all appreciated. Women volunteers are needed to assist client mothers. Men are needed to set up cribs or to pick up donations twice per month. Please visit [www.gpmoco.org](http://www.gpmoco.org) for more information or contact Sarah Scherer at [schererfamily6@gmail.com](mailto:schererfamily6@gmail.com).

**ADOPTED FAMILY COLLECTION:** Please visit [olvp.org](http://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 today, **September 17th**; instructions are at the top of the SignUpGenius.

### *Human Resources*

**NEW PARISHIONERS:** The following families have recently joined our parish: **Ms. Monique Jackson, Mrs. Colleen Adams, Mr. & Mrs. Mark Schofield, Mr. Law Cordoba, and Mr. Gabriel Van Roie.**

**CHILDREN'S CHOIR:** We are excited to announce the start of the OLVP Children's Choir for singers in 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades! Rehearsals begin on **September 26<sup>th</sup>** 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](http://www.olvp.org/childrens-choir). You may also contact Jyoti Hench at [jhench@olvp.org](mailto: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 9<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.olvp.org/music) or contact Jyoti Hench at [jhench@olvp.org](mailto: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](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*

**FAITH DIRECT:** With the arrival of autumn, we'd like to invite you to join Faith Direct, our parish's electronic giving program. Our to-do lists can get lengthy during this season, but Faith Direct's eGiving program will give you one less thing to remember each week — no more envelopes to find before you go to Mass. Getting started with eGiving is easy. Here are the ways to sign up. Visit [faith.direct/MD114](http://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.