

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11 February 2024

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

February 2024

- 11 Sun** Mass: 9:00 am (Children) 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church
Nursery Available at 9 and 11 am Masses
Donuts after 9 and 11 am Masses
Faith Formation:
Atrium: 9 am and 11 am sessions
Grades 6, 7 & 8: 9:45 am
High School Youth Group, 5:00 pm, Church
Super Bowl Party, 6:00 pm, Founders Hall
- 12 Mon** Mass, 12 Noon, Church
Adoration, 11:00 am, Church
- 13 Tue** Mass, 8:30 am and 12 Noon, Church
Adoration, 11:00 am, Church
Children's Choir: 4:15 pm, Church
Faith Formation:
Grades 1-5: 5:00 pm, Founders Hall
Pancake Dinner, 6:00 pm, Founders Hall
- 14 Wed** **Ash Wednesday**
Mass, 7:00 am, 12 Noon, 6:00 pm, Church
Collection for Church in the Developing World
Adoration, 11:00 am and 6:30 pm, Church
Ecumenical Service, 7:30 pm, Fairhaven United Methodist Church, Darnestown
- 15 Thu** Mass, 8:30 am and 12 Noon, Church
No Adoration
- 16 Fri** Mass: 12 Noon and 6:00 pm, Church
Adoration, 10:00 am thru 6:00 pm, Church
Stations of the Cross, 6:30 pm, Church
Adoration: 7:00 pm, Church
- 17 Sat** Men's Group, 7:30 am, Founders Hall
Daily Mass, 9:00 am, Church
Endow, 9:30 am, Founders Hall
AA, 12 Noon, St. Anne's Room
Lifeline Meeting, 11:00 am, Founders Hall
Vigil Mass, 5:00 pm, Church
- 18 Sun** Mass: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church
Nursery Available at 9 and 11 am Masses
Faith Formation:
Atrium: 9 am and 11 am sessions
Grades 6, 7 & 8: 9:45 am
Baptism Class, 1:15 pm, Founders Hall
Bl. Carlos Acutis Exhibit, Founders Hall
High School Youth Group, 5:00 pm, Church
- 19 Mon** **Office Closed, President's Day**
Mass: 10:00 am, Church
No Adoration

Liturgical Life

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the church on Monday and 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 from 10 am to 6:00 pm and from 7:00 to 8:00 pm after Stations of the Cross at 6:30 pm. There is no Eucharistic Adoration on Thursdays.

LENT: The Lenten season has a double character, namely, to prepare both prospective Catholics and parishioners to celebrate the paschal mystery. The prospective Catholics,



Readings for the Week of February 11th, 2024

- Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Ps 119:67, 68, 71, 72, 75, 76/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20—6:2/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 12-13, 14 and 17/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 9:8-15/Ps 25:4-5, 6-7, 8-9 (see 10)/1 Pt 3:18-22/Mk 1:12-15

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 (14 February 2024) until the beginning of the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday (28 March 2024).**

FAST AND ABSTINENCE: Abstinence from meat is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on **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 14, 2024 and on Good Friday, March 29, 2024.** 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

ECCE QUAM BONUM: Last weekend, **William Vanderhorst Brumby** celebrated Baptism.

PARISH NECROLOGY: On the anniversary of their deaths, please keep the following parishioners in your

PASTOR'S PAGE

Lent starts this Wednesday. Here are some ideas for the three disciplines of Lent that we gave to our Youth Group via Life Teen. Words in parentheses are what the ideas counter. Be holy this Lent!

May you know the peace of Christ.

Fr. Greg

1. Prayer

- * Litany of Humility (sinful pride).
- * Rosary (laziness / excessive TV or phone).
- * Ephesians 4:29 (cursing).
- * Adoration (too busy to pray).
- * Chaplet of Divine Mercy (distrust of God).

2. Almsgiving

- * Give away something every single day, be it time, money, or something you own (selfishness).
- * Write 40 affirmation notes (gossip).
- * Volunteer at soup kitchen (wastefulness).
- * Smiling at others (unfriendliness).

3. Fasting

- * Wishing for someone else's life, relationship, or possessions.
- * Complaining.
- * Greed. Don't buy anything besides the essentials during Lent. Bare minimums.
- * Pornography. Sign up for CovenantEyes.com.
- * Drinking more than one cup of coffee a day.
- * Snacking and sweets. Train your body to be obedient to your will against impure thoughts and actions.
- * Pulling the victim card when things go wrong.
- * Being embarrassed when you need help from a therapist in order to live a happy, full life.

CAMPAIGN CORNER



Watch this corner for updates on Our Lady's Next Step Campaign!

We are so blessed that Our Lady's Next Step Campaign has exceeded \$1.5 Million. We encourage every parish family to prayerfully consider a one-time gift or multi-year pledge. Please visit OLVP's website for more information and to make your commitment. God bless you for your generosity in supporting this extraordinary initiative.

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), **Betty Ann McCarthy** (25 February 2023) and **Luco Fierro** (26 February 2015).

PARISH BIBLE STUDY: The next Scripture Study session will be on **Wednesday, February 21st** at 7:30 pm. in Founders Hall.

UPPER ROOM MEN'S GROUP: The Upper Room Men's Group meets regularly every **Saturday at 7:30 am** in Founders Hall. All men of the parish are invited. In addition, the OLVP Men's Speakers series is hosting Kevin Warne, Georgetown University Men's Lacrosse Coach, on Tuesday, **February 20th** at 7:30 pm. He will be presenting on the Virtue of Perseverance. Contact Peter Geiling, pgeiling67@gmail.com for details.

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 **February 18th** at 1:15 p.m. 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.

EUCCHARISTIC MIRACLES (BLESSED CARLOS ACUTIS): Please come downstairs to Founders Hall after one of the Mass on the First Sunday of Lent, **February 17-18**, to visit an exhibit of Eucharistic Miracles put together by Blessed Carlos Acutis. Carlos Acutis, a model of holiness in a digital age, was a Catholic teenager from Italy born in 1991, who died in 2006 and was beatified in 2020. He was an avid gamer, computer programmer, and soccer player who loved the Eucharist. The exhibit showcases his work gathering information about Eucharistic miracles over the centuries. Students in the Mary of Nazareth Service Club will be available to answer questions. Don't miss this opportunity!

OLVP SUPPORT GROUP FOR PARENTS (Lifeline): Parents with children dealing with struggles in their lives including physical illness, mental illness, addiction, incarceration, family, academic stress, etc. are invited for discussion, resource sharing (books, videos, etc.), occasional speakers and prayer on Saturday, **February 17th**, from 11-12 noon in Founders Hall.

PANCAKE DINNER: Join us on Tuesday, **February 13th** at 6 pm in Founders Hall as we usher in Lent with a Pancake Dinner following Faith Formation classes! We'll be serving up free pancakes, bacon, fruit, etc. All are welcome!

SUPER BOWL 2024: OLVP will be hosting a Super Bowl Party in Founders Hall on Sunday, **February 11th**

at 6 pm. We will provide subs, pizzas and soft drinks. Feel free to bring a side dish or dessert! We will also be hosting the **Super Bowl Square** contest! It is a fundraiser for OLVP youth programs. For more information and to select your squares go to <https://superbowlpoolsite.com/contest/515145?p=OLVP> To pay for your square(s), you can bring cash or check to the office or give directly to Fr. Greg. If using a credit card this year go to <https://square.link/N4g4zsta>

NOTE: You CANNOT pay on the site where you select the squares!! If it asks you for a credit card, you have clicked on an ad!! For any questions or concerns, contact Tony Glander (301) 460-6404 or tglander@olvp.org

SUPER BOWL ITALIAN SUBS: Plan to pick up your previously ordered subs after Saturday/Sunday Masses on this weekend, **February 10/11.**

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: **Nino, Olga, Viola Bradshaw, Cordelia Vogel, Joshua Watson, Christian, Bob, Damianus Christie, David Shoemaker, Ted, Robert Heath, Jose, Sherie Crawford Shaffer, William Parrish, Andre Avendano, Kathryn, Baby Parker Cantero, Monisha Stalin, Lisa Snevely, Mark Goralski, Judy Valentine Andrade & Family, Griffin Snyder, Nolan Davidson, Claudia, Sean, Cameron, and Eva Macak.**

Faith Formation for Life

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: Scuba VBS is coming soon to OLVP! Register at <https://olvp.org/summer-2024-vbs> by **June 1st!** We'll be offering an amazing under-



seas adventure with Scuba VBS at OLVP June 17th-21st from 9-12 Noon for ages 3 through 5th grade. Together, we'll experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God and be immersed in the Word and discover what living water is really all about. The cost is \$150 per youth including a camper shirt plus a daily snack/drink. Families with more than one child registering can use SCUBA25 to receive \$25 off their registration. Interested VBS volunteers (8th grade and older) can reach out to Erin Clegg at eclegg@olvp.org.

YOUTH FAITH FORMATION: Information about the 2023-2024 school year may be found on our website www.olvp.org under the Faith Formation heading.

Social Concerns

2024 ANNUAL CATHOLIC SERVICES APPEAL: The theme for 2024 is "United in Purpose". serving as a poignant reminder that together, in the spirit of Christ, we can enable the charitable works of our Church through its many ministries and services." Please be as generous as your means allow.

FOOD COLLECTION...now supporting Western Upper Montgomery County Help (WUMCO Help). This month's collection will be held on **February 24th – 25th**. Please leave your donations in the alcove area (lower level of the church) by 5:30 pm on Sunday of the collection weekend. **All non-perishable food items are appreciated. MOST NEEDED this month...CEREAL, DRIED BLACK OR PINTO BEANS, COFFEE (GROUND), WHITE RICE, OIL (OLIVE, CANOLA OR ANY VEGETABLE OIL) & SUGAR (BAG).** The Social Concerns Committee is thankful for your generosity & support of our monthly food collections.

Human Resources

NEW PARISHIONERS: The following families recently joined our parish: Mr. & Mrs. Brian Barrett and Ms. Angeline Taderera.

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 is closed on Monday, **February 19th** 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

FAITH DIRECT: Please consider enrolling in *Faith Direct* to ensure your gifts of treasure to Our Lady of the Visitation Parish are received even if you may be out of town. To sign up, visit faith.direct/MD114, or text **"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 CHARITABLE DISTRIBUTIONS: For those who are age 70 1/2 or older, please consider a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from your IRA to support our Youth Center and Adoration Chapel. For those who are age 73 and older, the QCD can count towards your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) for the year. QCDs save you from paying income taxes on that amount and will not push you into a higher Medicare tax bracket. If you have any questions, please call the office.