

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

25 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

- 25 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
WUMCO Help Food Collection
High School Youth Group, 5:00 pm, Church
- 26 Mon** Mass: 12:00 Noon, Church
Adoration: 11:00 am, Church
- 27 Tue** Mass, 8:30 am and 12 Noon, Church
Adoration, 11:00 am, Church
Faith Formation:
Grades 1-5: 5:00 pm, Founders Hall
- 28 Wed** Mass: 12 Noon and 6:00 pm, Church
Adoration, 11:00 am and 6:30 pm, Church
Scripture Study: 7:30 p.m., Founders Hall
- 29 Thu** Mass, 8:30 am and 12 Noon, Church
No Adoration

March 2024

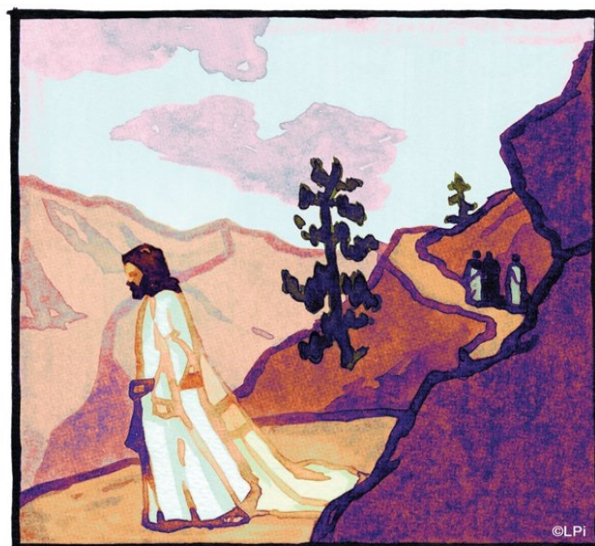
- 01 Fri** Mass: 12 Noon and 6:00 pm, Church
Adoration, 10:00 am thru 6:00 pm, Church
Stations of the Cross, 6:30 pm, Church
Adoration: 7:00 pm, Church
- 02 Sat** Men's Group, 7:30 am, Founders Hall
Daily Mass, 9:00 am, Church
Sodality, 9:30 am, Founders Hall
AA, 12 Noon, St. Anne's Room
Vigil Mass, 5:00 pm, Church
- 03 Sun** Mass: 9:00 am, 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church
Healing Mass, 2:00 pm
Nursery Available at 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

Liturgical Life

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT:

Regular Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the church on Monday and Tuesday from 11:00 am to Noon, and on Wednesday from 11:00 am to Noon and 6:30 to 7:30 pm. **30 for 30 Lenten Adoration** will take place on **Friday from 10 am to 6:00 pm** and after Stations of the Cross at 7:00 pm. There is no Eucharistic Adoration on Thursday. **Note:** Please review the available slots on our website under Volunteer Links **to sign up for 30 minute blocks for Friday Adoration.**

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 con-



Readings for the Week of February 25th, 2024

- Monday:** Dn 9:4b-10/Ps 79:8, 9, 11 and 13/Lk 6:36-38
- Tuesday:** Is 1:10, 16-20/Ps 50:8-9, 16bc-17, 21 and 23/
Mt 23:1-12
- Wednesday:** Jer 18:18-20/Ps 31:5-6, 14, 15-16/Mt 20:17-28
- Thursday:** Jer 17:5-10/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Lk 16:19-31
- Friday:** Gn 37:3-4, 12-13a, 17b-28a/Ps 105:16-17, 18-19, 20-21/Mt 21:33-43, 45-46
- Saturday:** Mi 7:14-15, 18-20/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12/Lk 15:1-3, 11-32
- Sunday:** Ex 20:1-17 or 20:1-3, 7-8, 12-17/Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11 (Jn 6:68c)/1 Cor 1:22-25/Jn 2:13-25
Scrutiny: Ex 17:3-7/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 (8)/
Rom 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42 or 4:5-15, 19b-26, 39a, 40-42

tinues **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.** 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 and **on Good Friday, March 29, 2024.** Self-imposed observance of fasting on all weekdays of Lent is strongly recommended.

Parish Life

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

PASTOR'S PAGE

The 5 Wounds of Christ Heal the 5 Wounds of Original Sin

For each of the five Sundays of Lent before Palm Sunday, I will offer a meditation on the "the beauty and efficacy of the Wounds of Christ Crucified and Risen" as found on opusangelorum.org. The five wounds of Christ are 1) side (heart), 2) right hand, 3) left hand, 4) right foot, and 5) left foot.

May you know the peace of Christ,

Fr. Greg

Death and suffering entered the world by (Original) sin (cf. Sir 40,9; Rom 5,12); sin and death were remedied on the Cross by Christ's suffering and death, by His most Sacred wounds, by the shedding of His precious Blood. The damage caused by Original Sin was fivefold; the principal wounds of Christ are five. There is a correspondence here, and this invites us to offer up to the Father the blood and wounds of Christ to purify our blood and heal the several wounds of our soul. To Christ we pray, "Passion of Christ, my comfort be. O good Jesus, listen to me. In Thy wound, I fain would hide, never to be parted from Thy side."

What then are the five wounds of Original Sin? First, death to the soul through the loss of sanctifying grace, and consequently in due time to the body. Second, darkness in the intellect. Third, malice — an inclination to evil — in the will. Fourth, sensuality (disordered desires) in the concupiscible appetite. And fifth, irritability and aggression in the irascible appetite...

Original Sin Caused Darkness

The wound to our intellect is spiritual darkness. Man's two spiritual faculties, his intellect and will, are reflected in his hands because they too can reach out to grasp things. The intellect grasps something when it comprehends. When we want to understand something, we say, "Let me see it," and we take it into our hand in order to grasp it the better. The will grasps at things by reaching out for them in desire. The wound of intellectual darkness may be associated with the wound in Christ's right hand, since the intellect is the principal spiritual faculty. Christ is the WORD, the eternal Wisdom of God, and sits at the right hand of the Father.

CAMPAIGN CORNER



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

\$1.5 M and counting, thanks be to God. We are appreciative of every family's support and generosity according to their means. Please join with your fellow parishioners as we make our Youth Center and Adoration Chapel a reality. See our website for campaign updates and to make your pledge.

"For it is by giving that we receive." -St. Francis of Assisi

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 on **March 17th**, 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.

FIRST PENANCE & RECONCILIATION: The sacrament will be celebrated on **Saturday, March 16th** in the Church, at 10 a.m. Families are encouraged to attend the 9:00 a.m. Mass and to go to Confession as well.

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, **March 16th** from 11-12 noon in Founders Hall.

OLVP PARISH MISSION FOR LENT ON "HOPE." It's common and fruitful for a Catholic parish to have a "mission" during Lent to grow together with a particular theme or focus of one aspect of our life with Christ. Janet Scanlan will be assisting Fr. Greg with talks on "Hope" during our Parish Mission from 7-8 pm on **March 12, 13, and 14** in the church. Mrs. Scanlan is a respected Catholic spiritual leader and speaker who inspires faith in her words and example and helped to start OLVP's women's group, "Endow." Please join us for one or all of the nights!

PARISH LENTEN RETREAT: Please join us for an onsite parish retreat on Saturday, **March 9th** from 9 am to 3 pm. The theme is "Suffering in Grace." We will start with Mass at 9 am and we will offer talks by Fr. Vincent and Deacon Ted. The cost is \$20 per person which includes meals.

SODALITY: All women of the parish are invited to join us on Saturday, **March 2nd** from 9:30 to 11:00 am in Founders Hall for our monthly meeting! Come for Mass at 9:00 am followed by our meeting which includes coffee and fellowship, a calendar of Sodality events and small group discussions!

PARISH BIBLE STUDY: The next Scripture Study session will be on Wednesday, **February 28th** 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. Contact Peter Geiling, pgeiling67@gmail.com for information.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE: Join OLVP on Tuesdays in Lent through March 24th from 11 am to 12 noon to pray outside 966 Hungerford Drive #24 Rockville, MD. We stand on the public sidewalk. Go to www.olvp.org to learn more and sign up to join us.

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, Eva Macak, Crystal Vines, and Samuel Dunton.

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 underseas 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

FOOD COLLECTION: Supporting Western Upper Montgomery County Help (WUMCO Help, this month's



Feeding the Community

collection will be held **today, February 24-25**. Please leave your donations in the alcove area (lower level of the church) by 5:30 pm on Sunday. **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.

CRS: The Catholic Relief Services Collection will be taken in our parish on **March 23-24**. If you prefer, you may go to www.crs.org. The funds from the collection help provide food to the hungry, welcome and support to displaced refugees, and invaluable life skills to those seeking a better life. Please give generously to this Archdiocesan collection.



Human Resources

NEW PARISHIONERS: The following individuals and families recently joined our parish: Mr. Casey Toohill, Ms. Dillon Schoen, and Mr. & Mrs. James Maxwell.

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: 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.