

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

10 March 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

March 2024

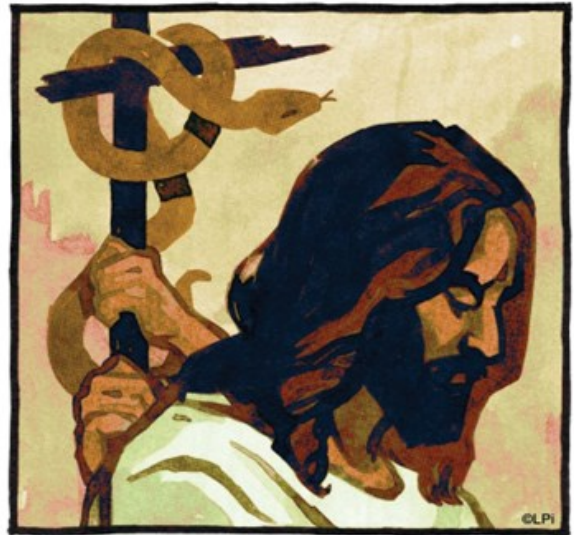
10 Sun	Mass: 9:00 am (Children) , 11:00 am, 5:00 pm, Church Nursery Available at 9 and 11 am Masses Donuts after 9 and 11 am Masses Faith Formation: Atrium: 9 am and 11 am sessions Grades 6 & 8: 9:45 am Getting Ready Day, Gr. 7, 6:00 pm, Fdrs. Hall No High School Youth Group
11 Mon	Mass: 12:00 Noon, Church Adoration: 11:00 am, Church
12 Tue	Mass, 8:30 am and 12 Noon, Church Adoration, 11:00 am, Church Faith Formation: Grades 1-5: 5:00 pm, Founders Hall Parish Mission, 7:00 pm, Church
13 Wed	Mass: 12 Noon and 6:00 pm, Church Adoration, 11:00 am and 6:30 pm, Church Parish Mission, 7:00 pm, Church No Scripture Study
14 Thu	Mass, 8:30 am and 12 Noon, Church No Adoration Parish Mission, 7:00 pm, Church
15 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
16 Sat	Men's Group, 7:30 am, Founders Hall Daily Mass, 9:00 am, Church First Reconciliation, 10:00 am, Church Lifeline Meeting, 11:00 am, Founders Hall AA, 12 Noon, St. Anne's Room Vigil Mass, 5:00 pm, Church
17 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 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. Lent continues **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**



Readings for the Week of March 10, 2024

Monday:	Is 65:17-21/Ps 30:2 and 4, 5-6, 11-12a and 13b/Jn 4:43-54
Tuesday:	Ez 47:1-9, 12/Ps 46:2-3, 5-6, 8-9/Jn 5:1-16
Wednesday:	Is 49:8-15/Ps 145:8-9, 13cd-14, 17-18/Jn 5:17-30
Thursday:	Ex 32:7-14/Ps 106:19-20, 21-22, 23/Jn 5:31-47
Friday:	Wis 2:1a, 12-22/Ps 34:17-18, 19-20, 21 and 23/Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30
Saturday:	Jer 11:18-20/Ps 7:2-3, 9bc-10, 11-12/Jn 7:40-53
Sunday:	Jer 31:31-34/Ps 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15 (12a)/Heb 5:7-9/Jn 12:20-33 Scrutiny: Ez 37:12-14/Ps 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 (7)/Rom 8:8-11/Jn 11:1-45 or 11:3-7, 17, 20-27, 33b-45

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: **Carmen Rochester** (02 March 2021), **Paul Vincent Stack** (03 March 2018), **Victoria Ann Parks Martin** (04 March 2011), **Elizabeth Bonfils** (05 March 2008), **William Vanderhorst Brumby** (07 March 2011), **Patrick James McGinty** (08 March 2018), **Alex Martin** (16 March 2006), **Mario Marini** (17 March 2002), **Paul DiDuca** (17 March 2006), **Robert Majchrzak** (22 March 2010), **Sue Ann Baluta** (23 March 2003), **Mary Louise Mayer** (25 March 2013), **Eugenio Cantero** (25 March 2021), **Richard J. Marcinko** (29 March 1992), and **Alfred Alex Soltesz** (29 March 1996).

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 Irascibility

The lower appetites are the earthly side of man's willing and desiring which are all earth bound. Hence they are well represented by the feet and may be associated to the foot wounds of Jesus. The wound in the irascible appetite is our aggressivity and proclivity to anger. Many evils issue from this festering wound in man's soul, major among them is war! Anger, according to the wisdom of the desert father's is called the ‘ape of reason’, since it is always marshaling arguments to justify its aggression, and because in its disordered passion it preempts reason. Now, since the right foot is the foot of strength and violence, whether we kick out, or leap forward, it follows that the sins of anger and aggression may be associated with the wound in Christ's right foot.

CAMPAIGN CORNER



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

We are grateful for the support you have shown to our Campaign. We've surpassed \$1.5M. God is good! It is not too late to make a pledge or one-time gift to our Youth Center and Adoration Chapel. God bless you for your generosity!

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.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: The Stations of the Cross commemorate Jesus's passion and death. There are 14 stations that each depict a moment on his journey to Calvary. Praying the Stations of the Cross began as pious pilgrims traced Christ's path through Jerusalem on the Via Dolorosa and continues to be a traditional practice especially during Lent. Please join us on the remaining Friday evenings in Lent, **March 15 and 22**, for Stations of the Cross at 6:30 pm in the Church.

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 on 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 has helped to start OLVP's women's group, “Endow.” Please join us for one or all of the nights!

PARISH BIBLE STUDY: The next Scripture Study session will be on Wednesday, **March 20th** at 7:30 pm. in Founders Hall. There is no Scripture Study on March 13th.

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 19th from 11 am to 12 noon to pray out-

side 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: **Viola Bradshaw, Cordelia Vogel, Joshua Watson, Christian, 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, Cameron, Eva Macak, Crystal Vines, Samuel Dunton, Bunny Kniesler, Daranee Teeptong, and Dorothy.**

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

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.

FOOD COLLECTION: This month's collection (supporting WUMCO) will be held on **March 16-17**. Please leave your donations in the alcove area (lower level of the church) by 5:30 p.m. on the collection weekend Sunday. **All non-perishable food items are appreciated. MOST NEEDED** this month...Cereal & Breakfast Items, Rice, Cooking Oil, Pasta Sauce, Herbs & Spices, and Canned Vegetables (**NOT GREEN BEANS**). The Social Concerns Committee is thankful for your generosity and support of our monthly food collections.

GABRIEL PROJECT: Women volunteers are urgently needed to assist struggling pregnant mothers. This includes keeping in touch with them via text, phone, or e-mail during their pregnancy; bringing them needed items, such as diapers, baby clothes, formula, etc., that are provided by the project; and praying for them. The average time commitment is 60 minutes or less per week. Men are also needed to set up cribs or to pick up donations once or twice per month. Please visit the website for more information at www.gpmoco.org or contact Sarah Scherer at schererfamily6@gmail.com.

Human Resources

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.