

Our Lady of the Valley Church

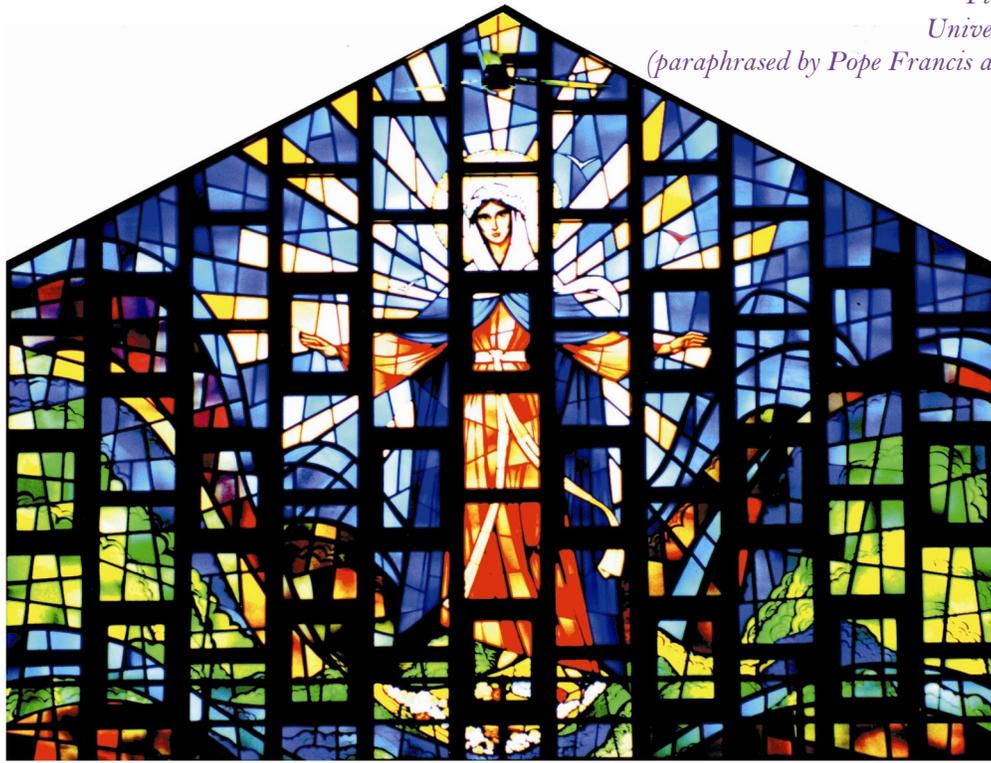
630 Valley Road - Wayne - New Jersey - 07470 - www.olvwayne.org

973-694-4585

**“The Church is Holy, not just because all are welcome.
The Church is Holy, because all belong.”**

*Timothy M. Matovina
University of Notre Dame*

(paraphrased by Pope Francis at General Audience)



Schedule of Masses

Weekdays

Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m.

Weekends

Saturday: 5:00 p.m.

And Online Mass available

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon

Parish Office Hours

Monday through Friday

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

1:00 pm. - 5:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday - 12:00 p.m. in Church
or by appointment

Sacraments of Baptism, Marriage & Personal Appointments

Please call the Parish Office

Remember Our Lady of the Valley Church in Your Will

PARISH SACRAMENTAL & PRAYER LIFE

*"Is anyone among you suffering? They should pray...Is anyone among you sick? They should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord."
(James 5:13,14)*

Pray for the Sick:

<i>Amy Avitio</i>	<i>Joe DeFalco</i>
<i>Kathy Corrao</i>	<i>Linda Greco</i>
<i>Barry Koerber</i>	<i>Maria Guarneri</i>
<i>Jenny Moskal</i>	<i>Rita Rugel</i>
<i>Debbie Sleeman</i>	<i>Gerard Gagliano</i>
<i>Gary VanSteyn</i>	<i>Luke Logan Crawford</i>
<i>Pat VanSteyn</i>	<i>Anthony Spinella</i>
<i>Paul Wilczewski</i>	<i>Debby Ciafaglione</i>
<i>Michael Waldinger</i>	<i>Kimberly Mathisen</i>
<i>Roger Rigolli</i>	<i>Gavin William Pagano</i>
<i>Gloria Dykstra</i>	<i>America Bernarda Paulino</i>
<i>Donald Boman</i>	<i>Amy Avitio</i>
<i>Gloria Keenan</i>	

NOTE: If you would like your loved ones name to remain on our prayer intention list, please contact Alyson in the parish office; otherwise, names will be removed from the next bulletin.

WEEKLY REMEMBRANCE

This week the Sanctuary Lamp which burns as a reminder of the Lord's presence in the Blessed Sacrament and the bread and wine offered at the Altar, which become the Body and Blood of Christ, are given in honor of:

John Ricciardi

From Anna & Cindy Ricciardi

SUSTAINABILITY IN EL SALVADOR

Drought has become a big problem across El Salvador, making it difficult for farmers to produce enough crops to support their families. But new farming techniques – and a new generation of young farmers – are making a difference. What would you do if your livelihood was threatened? How can you support young people in your community and around the world? Visit crsricebowl.org to learn more.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

The next Confirmation I and Confirmation II classes are scheduled for next Sunday, March 14.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

On the Fridays of Lent (March 12, 19, 26), the Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Valley Church.

Sometimes referred to as the 'Way of the Cross,' it is also sometimes called the 'Way of Sorrows' or the 'Via Crucis.' The stations grew out of the imitations of the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem which is believed to be the actual path Jesus walked to Mount Calvary. People hoped that at least once during their lifetime they would be able to make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem to make a journey along this path. In the seventeenth century the stations began to be erected in churches for those who could not physically travel to Jerusalem but could now make a spiritual journey in their church. Originally a series of seven scenes, the number varied throughout the years following, but was fixed at fourteen in 1731.

WELCOME HOME TO HEALING

Once again, this year, the parishes of our Diocese of Paterson will take part in the 'Welcome Home to Healing' Reconciliation Initiative. On the Mondays of Lent (March 8, 15, 22) the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated at Our Lady of the Valley from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

This is a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with Christ and the Church during Lent. Maybe you have been away from the sacrament for many years. Come and experience the gracious mercy of God. Further information can be found at WelcomeHomeToHealing.org.

Please Note: due to the coronavirus diocesan guidelines, the reconciliation rooms at the rear of the church cannot be used. Chairs will be placed in the sanctuary area. Masks, covering your nose and mouth, must be worn.

OFFERTORY STATEMENT

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of your 2020 donations, please call the Parish Office at (973) 694-4585 Ext. 100. Thank you for your support to our parish.

FAITH FORMATION CLASSES 1-8

Faith Formation Classes Grades 1-8, don't forget to check into your class on time and complete the work in the time allocated.

Upcoming class dates:

TODAY: March 7

Sunday, March 14, 21

FISCAL YEAR 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

Dear Fellow Parishioners of Our Lady of the Valley Church:

We are pleased to present a Condensed Financial Report for Our Lady of the Valley Parish for the fiscal year July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. Due to the current pandemic, Finance Council members will not be presenting the full report to our Parishioners during Sunday Masses.

During the fiscal year, the total income for our parish was \$1,434,539.76 and our total expenses were \$1,665,235.95 for a net loss of \$230,696.19 (compared to last year which was a net loss of \$43,307.00). We are up to date with all bills, and our ministries are all operating within their respective budgets and COVID-19 protocols.

Parish Sunday, Easter and Holy Day offerings were significantly impacted (down about 40%) during the last six months of fiscal 2020 due to the pandemic and the necessary restrictions on in person attendance. This decline continues in the current fiscal year making us even more dependent on income from the rental of our school to Benway. We estimate that 20% of our operating budget was funded by our rental income. Without our school rental income, we would not be able to meet our current obligations.

On a positive note, we are thankful for the many Parishioners who have continued to make weekly contributions via drop-off of envelopes, mail, or electronic giving. We have experienced a meaningful increase in our Parish Pay program and we encourage continued participation. Although our weekly attendance is limited to about 25% capacity, we are encouraged by the excellent Parishioner response to our weekly virtual Mass on our website.

This past year we continued with our commitment to assist in funding of Catholic education in the Wayne area in the amount of \$56,000.00 which was disbursed to Immaculate Heart of Mary School, Wayne, Holy Spirit School, Pequannock, Bergen Catholic High School, Oradell, and Immaculate Heart Academy, Washington Township. Our budget to support Catholic education in the current year is also \$56,000.00.

While we were unable to have our annual Festival this past year, we recently conducted a successful raffle that generated income of \$18,000.00. We offer our most sincere and heartfelt thanks to the Raffle Committee.

Looking Forward: As mentioned last year, we have developed a Master Plan addressing our Parish's long-term capital needs. This Master Plan will help us prioritize, through a multi-phased approach, some of the long-term needed repairs and reconstruction necessary to enhance the living and meeting spaces for our community. Phase I of the Master Plan was the construction of a new priests' residence which was recently completed and has been occupied by our priests. Phase 2 projects include upgrades to our church entrances specifically focusing on handicap access and expanding our Parish Center. Due to current financial uncertainties, we have tabled projects for Phase 2 for the immediate future and will revisit when things improve financially.

Finally, and most importantly, we wish to thank you, the parishioners of Our Lady of the Valley, who have continually supported the efforts of the parish staff and the many different ministries here. Stay safe and let us pray and hope for the end to this heart wrenching pandemic.

Prayerfully yours,

Our Lady of the Valley Finance Council

William Murphy, Chairperson
Ben DeLuca
Carlos Ferreira
Gary Seminara

Marie Armenio, Trustee
Mark Peischl, Trustee
Father Wells, Pastor
Father Duberney Villamizar, Parochial Vicar
Irene Luberto, Parish Financial Administrator

SPIRITUAL REFLECTION

Why so Upset?

The Gospel for this Third Sunday of Lent gives us a shocking picture of Jesus. Our gentle savior has turned violent. He erupts as he sees merchants vend oxen, sheep and doves in the temple, sees money-changers doing base commerce in God's house.

Not only is this unlike the Jesus we know, but doesn't it violate the holy temple? These trades-people were selling animals because living creatures were needed for burnt offerings. People had to buy them somewhere. And they had to get their money changed, since so many of them came from lands with different currencies. Sounds quite reasonable doesn't it?

Not to Jesus. He yells, "you are desecrating my Father's temple!" He grabs some dividing cords, yanking them into a knot, and whips the vendors. Whips them! Quite a terrible sight. He heaves the carefully sorted coins into an unholy mess on the floor and finishes up by hurtling the tables into this chaos he has created.

How in the world does such fury coincide with the quiet, humble Jesus we will see in Holy Week? There he will barely say a word, even though his enemies will be violating the Father's holiest temple of all, Jesus' very self.

What is going on here?

Some external reasons for his vehemence are evident.

Vendors were allowed only in the courtyard of the temple, not inside where they now had established themselves. And perhaps the dishonest practices of outdoor market-places had stolen their way into the temple. The thumb on the scale, the inflated prices, all of that.

There is another, internal reason which is much more important. Jesus knew with blessed certainty what human beings were created to be. We are made to be filled with God's presence, to be beloved by God personally and to love God in return. We are most ourselves when we are not entrapped by riches honor and pride. We are designed to "let go and let God." Jesus must have been overwhelmed when he saw merchants winking at these Godly values, preferring cold cash and cheating for it at the dead center of sacred space.

Everything was upside down.

Why did he react so very differently during Holy Week? Why was he silent then? Because by then Jesus had come to understand the depths of his mission: not just to do social action—that's what the temple scene was—not just to cure the people miraculously, not to preach from the hillsides. He saw that he must become one with our death as well as our life, must unite with us in the terrible hurts we get from each other. Only then could he show how very close God is.

Wrath for sure can be an understandable and just reaction to selfishness and greed. The merchants were seeking short-term profit at the expense of freedom, holiness, truth, and completion of the human spirit. Worse, they were foisting all this upon the people Jesus had come to save.

No wonder he hurled himself against these blind money grubbers. His emotion was real and quite impressive. But by contrast, on the cross he would empty himself out. He would surrender everything, including his fury, a surrender that would cancel out the grubbing of the money changers.

John Foley, SJ