

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



Second Sunday of Advent

09 December 2018

Sacred Liturgy

Saturday • 5:00 p.m.

Sunday • 9:00 a.m. • 11:00 a.m.

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown

Monday - Friday • 9:15 a.m.

Thomas More Chapel • Parish Barn • 14135 Seneca Road

Sacrament of Penance • Saturday • 4:00 p.m. • Or by request

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.

Pastoral Council

Vice-Chair

Deacon Thaddeus Dmuchowski

Liturgical Life Committee

Anita Stiger, (301) 869-8154

Parish Life Committee

Joseph Young, (301) 219-6897

Faith Formation For Life Committee

Robert McDonald, Ph.D. (301) 869-3366

Social Concerns Committee

Kathryn Sutton, (202) 739-5738

At-Large Member

William Bouley (240) 848-0532

At-Large Member

Vacant

Principal of Parish School

Michael Friel (301) 869-0940

Pastor

The Rev. Raymond L. Fecteau, S.T.B., D.Min.
rfecteau@olvp.org

Stewardship Council

Vice-Chair

Stephen Staton, CPA, (240) 988-7818

Human Resources Committee

John Feeney, (301) 762-2116

Facilities Committee

Tony Glander, (301) 460-6404

Fiscal Management Committee

Nick Serenyi, (301) 556-2320

Parish Manager

Colleen Enos (301) 948-5536

Director of Faith Formation

Michele Olewack, (301) 948-5536

Deacons

Robert Fischer, (301) 948-5536
Thaddeus Dmuchowski, (240) 678-3466

In Residence

The Rev. Mathew Punchayil, Ph.D.
matpunchayil@yahoo.com

Mailing Address

14135 Seneca Road, Darnestown, MD 20874

Phone: (301) 948-5536

Fax: (301) 948-7452

Email: parishoffice@olvp.org

Web Site: www.olvp.org

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- 09 Sun** Last Day Tree Sales, 9:00 a.m. to Sold Out Church School, 9:00 a.m.
Men's Club, 9:00 a.m. Mass and Meeting
Religious Retirement Collection
Head Start Food Bags Distributed
Faith Formation:
Grades 6, 7, 8, 6:30 p.m. Founders Hall
- 11 Tue** Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
Faith Formation:
Grades K-5: 4:45 p.m., Founders Hall
Advent Reflection, 7:00 p.m., Founders Hall
- 15 Sat** Baptism Class, 10:00 a.m., Barn
- 16 Sun** Church School, 9:00 a.m.
Sodality Mass and Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
Head Start Food Bags Collected
Christmas Pageant, 6:00 p.m.
Grades K-5, 6-8, and H.S.F.F.
- 18 Tue** Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
Faith Formation:
Grades K-5: 4:45p.m., Founders Hall
Advent Reflection, 7:00 p.m. Founders Hall
- 19 Wed** Ember Day: Voluntary Day of Penance
- 21 Fri** Ember Day: Voluntary Day of Penance
- 22 Sat** Ember Day: Voluntary Day of Penance
- 23 Sun** No Church School
No Faith Formation Classes
- 24 Mon** Office Closes at Noon
Christmas Eve Masses:
Sacred Liturgy, 4:00, 7:00, & 10:00 p.m.
- 25 Tue** Christmas Day
Sacred Liturgy, 11:00 a.m.
Office Closed
- 26 Wed** Office Closed
- 30 Sun** No Church School
No Faith Formation Classes

JANUARY 2019

- 01 Tue** Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
Sacred Liturgy, Noon, Church
No Faith Formation Classes
Office Closed
- 06 Sun** Church School, 9:00 a.m.
Mortgage Collection
Faith Formation:
Grades 6, 7, 8, 6:30 p.m., Founders Hall
- 08 Tue** Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
Faith Formation:
Grades K-5, 4:45 p.m., Founders Hall

SAVE THE DATE:

MAY

- 04 Sat** NIH Concert, 7:00 p.m., Church

JUNE

- 01 Sat** Confirmation, 2:00 p.m., Basilica



Social Concerns

ADOPTED FAMILY COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS: Thank you to all those parishioners who generously donated to our Adopted Family Collection. Your help makes Christmas a little brighter for less fortunate families in our area.

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT COLLECTION: Show your thanks for the senior Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious order priests who made a positive difference in so many lives. This second collection taken up this weekend, **08 - 09 December 2018**, helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous to this national collection.

ADVENT FOOD COLLECTION FOR HEAD START: Grocery bags for our Head Start program will be distributed this weekend, **08-09 December 2018**. Bags are to be returned on the weekend of **15-16 December 2018**. Please be sure to include only non-perishable items in non-breakable containers.

Liturgical Life

ADVENT: The Advent Season is a four week period of preparation for the great feast of Christmas. It is a "mini-Lent" in the sense that it is a time for us to properly prepare ourselves by praying, by fasting, and by performing works of mercy. St. Bernard of Clairvaux reminds us that in Advent, we celebrate the three-fold coming of Christ: 1) Jesus came to us once in flesh and human frailty (Incarnation); 2) Jesus comes to us now in Sacred Word and Sacramental Mystery (Each Liturgical Year); 3) Jesus will come again in great glory and majesty (Second Coming). St. Bernard also reminds us that Advent is a most appropriate time to honor Mary—patroness of our Country, our Archdiocese and our Parish. Advent began on **Sunday 02 December 2018**.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: 15-16 December 2018, PRESIDERS:

5:00 p.m. Fr. Mathew Punchayil
9:00 a.m. Fr. Mathew Punchayil
11:00 a.m. Fr. Raymond Fecteau

LOVING MOTHER OF THE REDEEMER: One of the four traditional Marian antiphons, *Alma Redemptoris Mater*, is sung from the First Sunday of Advent until the end of the Christmas season. Hermanus Contractus, a monk of Reichenau (1013-1054) is believed to have composed both the words and the music. At Visitation Parish, the traditional Marian antiphon is sung during the presentation of the gifts.

Readings for the Week of 09 December 2018

Monday: Is 35:1-10/Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14 [Is 35:4f]/Lk 5:17-26
 Tuesday: Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13 [Is 40:10ab]/Mt 18:12-14
 Wednesday: Zec 2:14-17 or Rv 11:19a; 12:1-6a, 10ab/Jdt 13:18bcde, 19 [15:9d]/Lk 1:26-38 or Lk 1:39-47
 Thursday: Is 41:13-20/Ps 145:1 and 9, 10-11, 12-13ab [8]/Mt 11:11-15
 Friday: Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6 [Jn 8:12]/Mt 11:16-19
 Saturday: Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19 [4]/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
 Sunday: Zep 3:14-18a/Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6 [6]/Phil 4:4-7/Lk 3:10-18

IN/OUT OF FLU SEASON: No one is ever under an obligation to shake hands during the Sign of Peace (a statement of peace, bow or other gesture is appropriate) or to receive from the chalice. Christ is fully present in each species when the bread and wine have been consecrated into His Body and Blood. Anyone who is ill, or suspects he or she is ill, should refrain from receiving from the chalice out of good will. Also, he or she may wish to receive the host in the hand rather than by mouth. Common sense dictates that you remain at home, if feeling unwell.

CHRISTMAS MANGER: Our Lady of the Visitation Parish sets up our Christmas Manger scene early to reflect the spiritual side of Advent and to balance the various secular traditions of tree lightings, shopping, etc. The Infant Jesus will not be placed in our manger until Christmas Eve.



ADVENT WREATH: The season of Advent prepares us not only for Christmas/Epiphany, but also for the whole church year. The revised Roman ritual of

1989 states that four purple or four white candles may be used for the Advent wreath in the church or home. In our parish, we use an evergreen wreath, white candles and purple bows.

CHRISTMAS EVE PASSES are not required for the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve liturgy. However please be aware that you need to get here **EARLY**. The Fire Marshall reminds us that we must obey occupancy regulations.

Parish Life

ECCE QUAM BONUM: Liam Chubiyo-Ojo Ocheni celebrated Baptism last week.

PARISH NECROLOGY: On the anniversary of their death, please keep the following parishioners in your prayers: **Nicanor Aquino** (3 December 2005), **Winifred Donnellan** (4 December 1991), **Stefano Zanello** (7 December 2010), **Filomena Picciano** (08 December 1993), **Mary Palko** (13 December 2015), **Steven Pindell** (18 December 1994), **Anna Giattino** (20 December 2011), **Nicholas Toran** (27 December 1993), and **Matthew Todd Wolff** (27 December 1997).

PARISH EMBER DAYS: Responding to the Gospel and following Church tradition, Visitation parishioners are encouraged to voluntarily set aside **Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 19, 21, and 22 December 2018** as special days of fasting, prayer and works of charity.

INFANT BAPTISM CLASS: 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 **Saturday 15 December 2018** at 10:00 a.m. in the Barn. 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.

SAINTS/WINDOWS: 12 December, Our Lady of Guadalupe: Mary appeared as an Aztec Princess to Juan Diego in 1531 in Mexico. Castilian roses bloomed miraculously and were used as proof of her appearance (lower panel). Her visitation prevented an impending war between the native peoples and the Spanish military. Mary has been declared patroness of all the Americas (upper panel).

ADVENT REFLECTION SERIES: Join Deacon Ted as he facilitates our OLVP Advent Reflections. Sessions will continue on Tuesdays from **7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on 11 and 18 December**. The reflections are focused on the "New Beginning," starting out on the right path with a review of prayer and devotions, and reviewing the Gospel of Luke which will be read

all year on Sundays.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: Following the policy of Donald Cardinal Wuerl, the Sacramental Programs for Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist and Penance are parish and family based. For youth, Confirmation is a three-year program that begins in the sixth grade; Eucharist/Penance is a two-year program that begins in the first grade. Throughout this period of preparation, children are to be participating in a formal religious education program in our parish or in a Catholic school. Registration in our parish Faith Formation Program is separate from registration in our Sacramental Preparation Program. For information, call the parish office, (301) 948-5536.

MATRIMONY POLICY: It is Archdiocesan and parish policy that 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 the Priest/Deacon.** Please email Father Raymond Fecteau (rfecteau@olvp.org), Father Mathew Punchayil (matpunchayil@yahoo.com), Deacon Ted Dmuchowski (thaddeus.dmuchowski@gmail.com) or Deacon Robert Fischer (olvpdeacon@gmail.com).

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 parish office to arrange for visitation and Communion in your home.

ALL HOSPITALS AND NURSING HOMES have Catholic Chaplains to care for Catholic patients and residents. On admission, be sure to notify the staff of your desire to receive the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and/or the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC? If you have heard the call of God to become a Catholic, please call the parish office (301) 948-5536.

PRAYER CHAIN: If you would like to have a special intention remembered in our prayers, please email the parish office at parishoffice@olvp.org.

Faith Formation for Life

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: Parents, grandparents, siblings, invited guests and all parishioners are welcome to attend our annual Christmas Pageant on **Sunday 16 December 2018 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church.** Please email Michele Olewack at molewack@olvp.org for more information.

SCRIPTURE STUDY: A study of the readings for the Third Sunday of Advent will be held on **Tuesday 11 December 2018, at 10:00 a.m.** in the Barn.

Finance

Re\$erve\$ FUND: To address the ongoing repairs and replacements needed for the church (e.g. update security), the barn (e.g. new phone system), and the rectory (e.g. update heat/AC system), a much needed budget line item has been added. For now and for the future, please make checks payable to OLVP, and please note: "Re\$erve\$ Fund" on the memo line.

WHY FAITH DIRECT?: With the arrival of the Season of Advent, enrolling in *Faith Direct* today is a great way to ensure your gifts of treasure to Our Lady of the Visitation Parish are received even if you may be out of town. Please pick up an enrollment form from the parish office today or enroll online at www.faithdirect.net—our Church Code is **MD114**.

Human Resources



CHRISTMAS TREE SALES AND KITCHEN HELP: Trees will be on sale through today, **Sunday 09 December** or until they sell out.

NEW PARISHIONERS: The following families have recently joined our parish: Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Malay, and the Ocheni Family.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: The parish office will close at noon on Monday 24 December 2018 and will reopen on Thursday 27 December 2018 to celebrate the Christmas holiday. Regular office hours are **Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Facilities

INCLEMENT WEATHER: Parishioners are not obliged to physically attend Sunday Mass if dangerous travel or road conditions exist. Those who cannot safely attend Mass in person are encouraged to watch the Sunday TV Mass, which airs at 10:30 a.m. on CW50.

Liturgy on Sundays and on Holy Days of Obligation, including their vigils, is not cancelled because of weather. Weekday liturgy is held if there is a delay in the opening of schools. If schools are closed, there is no daily liturgy.

PARISH REPAIRS: 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 fix it.