

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

01 August 2021

Sacred Liturgy

Saturday - 4:30 pm

Sunday - 10:30 am

Weekdays - 12 Noon

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown

Sacrament of Penance: Saturday from 3:00-4:30 p.m.
After Weekday and Sunday Masses

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

Deacon

Thaddeus Dmuchowski, (240) 678-3466
Deaconted@olvp.org

Principal of Parish School

Michael Friel, (301) 869-0940

Youth Faith Formation

Erin Clegg, (301) 385-4920
eclegg@olvp.org

Parish Manager

Colleen Enos, (301) 948-5536
cenos@olvp.org

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

WEEKDAY MASS - Noon, CHURCH
SATURDAY MASS - 4:30 pm, Church
SUNDAY MASS - 10:30 am, Church

If you are not receiving *Flocknotes*,
please call the parish office.
301-948-5535

Liturgical Life

SUNDAY MASS OBLIGATION: The obligation to return to full in-person participation in the Sunday Eucharist has been re-instated and is currently in effect. This obligation does not apply to those who are ill; those who have reason to believe that they were recently exposed to the coronavirus, another serious or contagious illness; those who are confined to their home, a hospital, or nursing facility; or those with serious underlying health conditions.



ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place in the church on **weekdays**, Monday through Friday, from 11:00 am to Noon.

ORDINARY TIME: Apart from those seasons having their own distinctive character, there remains in the yearly cycle those weeks (33 or 34) that do not celebrate a specific mystery of Christ. Rather, especially on Sundays, they are devoted to the mystery of Christ in all its fullness. This period is known as Ordinary Time (General Norms, 43). Ordinary Time resumed when the Easter Season ended, that is, on Monday, 24 May 2021, the day following Pentecost.

SALVE REGINA: The Marian antiphon, *Salve Regina*, is sung from Trinity Sunday to the First Sunday of Advent. It was used as a processional chant at Cluny as early as 1135. The text of the antiphon is the familiar prayer, "Hail Holy Queen." At Visitation Parish we use it as a processional chant during the presentation of the gifts.

MASS TIMES IN OTHER AREAS: Vacationers may go to Masstimes.org to find Mass times in other areas.



Readings for the Week of 01 August 2021

Monday: Nm 11:4b-15/Ps 81:12-13, 14-15, 16-17 [2a]/Mt 14:13-21
Tuesday: Nm 12:1-13/Ps 51:3-4, 5-6ab, 6cd-7, 12-13 [cf. 3a]/Mt 14:22-36 or Mt 15:1-2, 10-14
Wednesday: Nm 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29a, 34-35/Ps 106:6-7ab, 13-14, 21-22, 23 [4a]/Mt 15:21-28
Thursday: Nm 20:1-13/Ps 95:1-2, 6-7, 8-9 [8]/Mt 16:13-23
Friday: Dn 7:9-10, 13-14/Ps 97:1-2, 5-6, 9 [1a and 9a]/2 Pt 1:16-19/Mk 9:2-10
Saturday: Dn 6:4-13/Ps 18: 28, 3-4. 47 and 51/Mk 17:14-20
Sunday: 1 Kgs 19:4-8/Ps 34:2-3, 4-5, 6-7, 8-9 [9a]/Eph 4:30—5:2/Jn 6:41-51

Parish Life

PARISH NECROLOGY: On the anniversaries of their death, please keep the following parishioners in your prayers: **Richard A. Weller** (02 August 2013), **Rene D. Zambranna** (03 August 1999), **Samuel Carr** (07 August 1999), **Sister Marcella Marie Missar, SND** (09 August 2019), **Pamela Jean Caell** (11 August 2001), **Cristeta Aquino** (15 August 1999), **Peter H. Plamondon Sr.** (16 August 2020), **Mary Albrano** (18 August 2000), **Patrick Sutton** (18 August 2015), and **Joshua Andrew Kight** (30 August 2004).

PASTOR'S PAGE

In 2006, I wrote a pamphlet on the Eucharist called (C.O.O.L. = Center of our Lives) with a particular focus on John 6. Copies are available in the narthex these Sundays while we hear the Lord's teaching on the Eucharist in John 6. Here is the first section of the pamphlet.

You've seen the crowds grow larger by the day, following one man. You've seen him heal the blind, the deaf, and the mute. You've seen him cure the sick. You've heard his great teachings. You've seen him walk on water. All of the signs are there: Jesus of Nazareth is the one to follow. You've been sure for weeks now. Your heart is pumping. You're talking about him with everyone. You have been reading the Scriptures more frequently, reviewing what Isaiah and the other prophets wrote about the Messiah.

You haven't talked with Jesus yet, but you feel a connection there. The words he uses, the way he speaks, the manner in which he conducts himself. He has such a powerful way about him. But you haven't been able to put your finger on it just yet. You just know you want to be near him and learn from him. He is different, a man set apart from the rest. This man has stirred your heart and mind like no other person has ever done.

And, now, he is introducing a brand new teaching. *"The bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world"* (John 6:51). He is telling everyone that the bread to which he is referring is his flesh. While you begin to process this, those around you quarrel. People are outraged but are mainly confused. So, Jesus gets more specific and emphatic. *"Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life... My flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink"* (53, 55). Whoa! Jesus of Nazareth wants to give his flesh and blood as food and drink.

This realization spreads through the crowd. It is such a large gathering, and it takes a while for everyone to hear what's been said. Slowly, people start to leave. *"This is a hard teaching...who can accept it?"* (60) is what you hear some of them say as they turn away from Jesus. And, you agree, this is a hard teaching. But, you haven't moved, and aren't planning on leaving just yet.

You look over at Jesus' closest disciples. You notice a very perplexed Peter. Jesus asks them if they are leaving, too. Peter says, with probably a dazed and confused look, *"Lord, where are we going to go? You have the words of eternal life"* (68). When you hear these words come from Peter's lips, your heart skips a beat. You are thinking, 'Has Jesus just been speaking the words of eternal life? Is this, in fact, a message from heaven? Could this be true? Is he really going to give us his flesh to eat? And, will it get us to heaven? Is this the newest, most radical teaching from God? Do I believe what I am hearing?'

May you know the peace of Christ. *Fr. Greg*

FLOCKNOTE: As recommended by Wilton Cardinal Gregory, Our Lady of the Visitation Parish is using *Flocknote* to communicate quickly and efficiently with the parish membership. This application is paid for by the Archdiocese of Washington and nearly all parishes are using it during the pandemic restrictions. To function as intended, *Flocknote* is based on the Parish Office having up-to-date email addresses for the members. To receive a copy, please email cenos@olvp.org.

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 **Saturday 28 August** at 10:00 a.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.



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: Following the policy of the Archdiocese of Washington, 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 a Priest/Deacon.** Please email Father Greg Shaffer (gshaffer@olvp.org), or Deacon Ted Dmuchowski (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 parish office to arrange for visitation and Communion in your home.

DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A CATHOLIC?

If you have heard the call of God to become a Catholic, please email Father Greg at gshaffer@olvp.org.

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. Feel free to call Fr. Greg (240) 463-9960, as well.

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

REGISTRATION FOR 2021-2022 FAITH FORMATION IS OPEN! Our Lady of the Visitation Parish is returning to the “classroom model” with children attending in-person classes with modifications in place to comply with Covid safety protocols. **Pre-K and Kindergarten** will meet on Sunday mornings beginning on **26 September** from 9 to 10 am. **Grades 1-5** will meet on Tuesday afternoons from 4:45 pm to 6:00 pm. starting on **28 September**; fee is \$175.00. **Grades 6-8** will meet on Sunday nights starting on **26 September** from 6 to 7:30 pm; fee is \$175.00. Scholarships are available. Contact Fr. Greg at gshaffer@olvp.org. Register on-line through our website www.olvp.org or you may email Erin Clegg at eclegg@olvp.org.

FORMED.ORG: OLVP provides this service for free to all parishioners. We strongly urge you to take advantage of this resource. Click the formed.org link on the www.olvp.org website and follow the prompts.

Social Concerns

ST. MARTIN’S FOOD PANTRY COLLECTION: The Social Concerns Committee is sponsoring our monthly collection for St. Martin’s Food Pantry this weekend, **Saturday 31 July 2021 after the 4:30 p.m. Mass** and on **Sunday 01 July 2021 after the 10:30 a.m. Mass**. Needed items include: meals in a can, cereal, canned soup, Similac Blue Formula, baby wipes, baby diapers sizes 2, 5 and 6 and adult diapers. Please place your bags of donations **in the church, downstairs in the alcove outside of Founders Hall**.

2021 ARCHDIOCESAN APPEAL: Thank you to all of our parishioners who have made their gift to the 2021 ADW Annual Appeal. Our Lady of the Visitation Parish has reached **76.0%** towards our parish goal of \$92,900. If you have not yet made your commitment to the Appeal, it is not too late to help OLVP meet our goal by visiting appeal.adw.org to learn more and donate! In supporting the Appeal you join with others in nurturing the faith throughout the Church of Washington.

Human Resources

NEW PARISHIONERS: The following families recently joined our parish: **Andrew and Christina Saavedra**, and **Mrs. Teresita Estoque-Myint**.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Regular office hours are Monday through Friday between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm.

PARISH RECORD KEEPING: Have you changed your address, telephone number or email? Are you planning to move out of the area? If so, please advise the parish office, at cenos@olvp.org, so that the records may be updated. Thank you.

DEPRESSED: If you or someone you know needs help, call **1-800-273-8255 (TALK)**. The number is staffed 24 hours a day. You can also text HOME to 741-741 for free, 24-hour support from the Crisis Text Line.

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

THANK YOU: We wish to extend our very sincere **thanks** to all those parishioners who faithfully mail their Offertory Contributions as well as to those who are using **Faith Direct**. Please **enroll online at www.faithdirect.net**. Our **Church Code is MD114**.

OFFERTORY COLLECTION: If you are not using Faith Direct please **mail your Offertory Envelopes to the parish office at 14135 Seneca Road in Darnestown, MD 20874**.