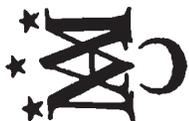


Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



Twenty-First Sunday on Ordinary Time

22 August 2021

Sacred Liturgy

Saturday - 4:30 pm

Sunday - 10:30 am

Weekdays - 12 Noon

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, MD

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.

Starting on the Weekend of September 11th and 12th, 2021

Holy Mass will be celebrated on

Saturdays at 5:00 pm

Sundays at 9:00 am, 11:00 am, and 5:00 pm

Weekday Mass Schedule:

Mon, Wed, Fri at 12 Noon and 6:00 pm

Tue, Thurs at 8:30 am and 12 Noon

Saturday at 9:00 am

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

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 remain 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."

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



Readings for the Week of 22 August 2021

Monday: 1 Thes 1:1-5, 8b-10/Ps 149:1b-2, 3-4, 5-6a and 9b [cf. 4a]/Mt 23:13-22
Tuesday: Rv 21:9b-14/Ps 145:10-11, 12-13, 17-18 [12]/Jn 1:45-51
Wednesday: 1 Thes 2:9-13/Ps 139:7-8, 9-10, 11-12ab [1]/Mt 23:27-32
Thursday: 1 Thes 3:7-13/Ps 90:3-5a, 12-13, 14 and 17 [14]/Mt 24:42-51
Friday: 1 Thes 4:1-8/Ps 97:1 and 2b, 5-6, 10, 11-12 [12a]/Mt 25:1-13
Saturday: 1 Thes 4:9-11/Ps 98:1, 7-8, 9 [9]/Mt 25:14-30
Sunday: Dt 4:1-2, 6-8/Ps 15:2-3, 3-4, 4-5 [1a]/Jas 1:17-18, 21b-22, 27/Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

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

As I wrote in my ("The Eucharist: C.O.O.L.") pamphlet, Peter probably had a dazed and confused look when he said these words in today's Gospel: "where are we going to go? You have the words of eternal life." Peter takes an enormous step forward in faith by saying this. He does not understand in the least what Jesus has just taught in the Bread of Life Discourse. The Church still does not understand! But, with the help of Peter's initial leap of faith, we believe in the Eucharist because of Jesus' teaching. Peter makes his leap forward while so many around him are taking a major step back in faith. The crowds in John 6 heard the Lord's teaching clearly, they just chose not to believe. So, they walked away from Him.

If you are reading this, then you, too, are taking a step in faith while others around you have taken a step back. You either came to Mass today and picked up a bulletin or are physically unable to attend and are reading it online. There are many, many Catholics who have walked away from the Bread of Life and the Church, and most of those did it before the pandemic. Do they know about the Eucharist like the crowds who left Jesus over the "hard teaching?" No, I don't think so. Studies past (30 years ago) and present have found that 70% of Catholics say they don't believe in the Real Presence. It's because they don't know the teaching of the Lord in John 6, St. Paul's re-iteration of the teaching in 1 Corinthians 10 and 11, Acts 2:42, of the affirmation of the Council of Trent (1545) in the "real, true, and substantial" presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. One of the reasons why I talk about the Eucharist so much is so that people will know the teaching and believe.

Regarding the current situation of the pandemic, one thing I have been saying for over a year is, "Be safe. Be not afraid". Everybody has been saying "Be safe". It's absolutely critical to be safe and follow the proper guidelines. Just as everyone around us wishes us to be safe in a pandemic, I have been wishing people to be not afraid in the midst of fear. A priest friend used to say, "evil is all around us". In the midst of this pandemic, fear is all around us. Fear is the opposite of faith. It is a lack of faith.

The latest round of fear is with the delta variant. I spoke with the Archdiocese of Washington last week about it. They have been monitoring it closely and seen a spike in COVID cases in our area. But, the rate of infection overall is still very low. As I wrote to our Faith Formation staff, fear is being perpetrated on us even though the situation is similar now to the flu or other illnesses. We have always freely lived our lives while taking proper precautions against illnesses. As Jeremiah reaffirmed the faith of the people in the first reading, I ask you to reaffirm your faith and hope by being safe and being not afraid to live your lives.

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

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS:

Are you or someone you know, thinking about becoming Catholic? Is there a restlessness that you would like to understand? OLVP will be offering the Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (**RCIA**) this fall. There will be an initial coffee and donut reception after the 11:00am Mass on **Sunday 19 September 2021** in the church hall. Please bring your questions, or call Deacon Ted at (240) 678-3466.

CARE PACKAGES FOR OLVP COLLEGE STUDENTS:

The parish would like to send a box of goodies to each of our college students so that they have OLVP love with them. Parents, send the name and school address of your son or daughter to 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.

OLVP 9TH—12TH GRADERS:

Flag Football on **Sundays from 3:30 to 4:45 pm** on the OLVP field below the lower parking lot. This will be a lead-in to our Youth Group which will meet every Sunday from 6 to 7:30 pm starting September 12th. It's a ton of fun and a great way to meet fellow High School students in the parish. Please join us!

SHAWL MINISTRY:

Did you know that OLVP has a Shawl Ministry? This group of dedicated individuals has worked behind the scenes at our parish for many years – knitting shawls and lap rugs that are distributed to parishioners who become ill or hospitalized. These hand-made items provide a tangible source of comfort to people who may feel isolated by their situation and serve to quietly remind them that OLVP is praying for their recovery. The group is in need of new members to carry on this fine tradition. If you have yarn, some time, and a desire to share compassion with the sick, please call Cindy Kokinda 240-477-7513 or email cynthiakokinda@comcast.net.

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 Pro-

gram is separate from registration in our Sacramental Preparation Program. For information, call the parish office, (301) 948-5536.

FLOCKNOTE: Our Lady of the Visitation Parish is using *Flocknote* to communicate quickly and efficiently with the parish membership. 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.

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 (Deaconed@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.

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.

MARY OF NAZARETH COTILLION PROGRAM: The Mary of Nazareth School Cotillion Program offers an introduction to ballroom dancing and social grace training for eighth grade boys and girls. Students enjoy the opportunity to learn basic dance steps and etiquette skills from professional instructors. The program consists of five Saturday sessions from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30

p.m. that include 18 and 25 September, and 02, 09 and 16 October. Sessions are held at the School. The fee for the series is \$160 for Mary of Nazareth students and \$210 for non-students. Appropriate attire is required. To register, please visit www.maryofnazareth.org/student-life/cotillion/ Note: current health protocols will be followed.

Social Concerns

SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTION: Our parish is supporting the Interfaith Works Clothing Center school supplies program that supplies low-income families with goods free of charge. Their goal this year is to collect and distribute 3,000 backpacks filled with binders, dividers, filler lined paper, 2-pocket folders, blue or black pens, colored pencils, pencil pouches, scissors, markers, erasers and index cards. Please drop off your donations to the alcove outside Founders Hall before or after Masses from **Monday 16 August through today, Sunday, 22 August.** Contact Liesel Flaig at flaig@verizon.net if you have any questions.

SHADY GROVE PREGNANCY CENTER: Do you have a heart for women and babies? The Shady Grove Pregnancy Center is seeking a full-time Community Outreach Coordinator. This paid position will focus on marketing, advertising, fundraising projects and events, digital and social media communications, website management and community activities that advance our name and services in the community. Interested candidates, please send resume to execdirector@pregnancy-options.org

Human Resources

NEW PARISHIONERS: The following family has recently joined our parish: **Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Wolfe.**

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Regular office hours are Monday through Friday between 10:00 am and 4:00 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: Summer is almost over – have you made the switch to eGiving? Please enroll on-line at www.faithdirect.net. Our Church Code is **MD114**. Your gifts help sustain our parish in the “dog days” of summer and throughout the year.