

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016

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

Will Flaig (301) 869-2830

At-Large Member

Timothy J. Hahn, (301) 926-7980

Principal of Parish School

Michael Friel (301) 869-0940

Pastor, Ext. 109

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, Ext. 103

Colleen Enos (301) 948-5536

Director of Faith Formation, Ext. 107

Michele Olewack, (301) 948-5536

Deacons

Robert Fischer, (301) 948-5536

Thaddeus Dmuchowski, (240) 678-3466

Parochial Vicar, Ext. 101

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



Liturgical Life

Readings for the Week of December 18, 2016

Monday: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6b, 16-17/Lk 1:5-15
Tuesday: Is 7:10-14/Ps 24:1-6/Lk 1:26-38
Wednesday: Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a/Ps 33:2-3, 11-12, 20-21/Lk 1:39-45
Thursday: 1 Sm 1:24-28/(Ps) 1 Sm 2:1, 4-8/Lk 1:46-56
Friday: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24/Ps 25:4bc-5ab, 8-10, 14/Lk 1:57-66
Saturday: 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16/Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29/Lk 1:67-79
Night: Is 9:1-6/Ps 96:1-3, 11-13/Ti 2:11-14 Lk 2:1-14
Sunday:
Dawn: 15: Is 62:11-12/Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: 16: Is 52:7-10/Ps 98:1-6/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14

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. Hermartues Contractus, a monk of Reichenau (1013-1054) is believed to have composed both the words and the music. At Visitation Parish, a traditional Marian antiphon is sung during the presentation of the gifts.

CHRISTMAS MANGER: The national Christmas Tree at The Ellipse was lit on Thursday, 01 December 2016. Our Lady of the Visitation Parish set up our Christmas Manger scene for the weekend of **03-04 December** to reflect the spiritual side of Christmas and to balance the various secular traditions of tree lightings, shopping, etc. Of course the Infant Jesus will not be placed in the manger until Christmas Eve.

CHRISTMAS EVE PASSES are required for the **4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve liturgy**. Passes have been mailed. If you are not able to use your requested passes, please contact the parish office at (301) 948-5536 to return them as soon as possible.

Feast of the Nativity of the Lord

Saturday, 24 December 2016, Presiders:

4:00 p.m. Fr. Raymond Fecteau (**Passes Needed**)
7:00 p.m. Fr. Mathew PUNCHAYIL
10:00 p.m. Fr. Raymond Fecteau (**Midnight Mass**)

Sunday, 25 December 2016, Presiders:

9:00 a.m. Fr. Mathew PUNCHAYIL
11:00 a.m. Fr. Raymond Fecteau (**Family Liturgy**)

CHRISTMAS SEASON: Next to the yearly celebration of the Paschal Mystery, the Church holds most sacred the memorial of Christ's birth and early manifestations. This is the purpose of the Christmas season, which extends from Christmas Eve through the Baptism of the Lord, Monday, 09 January 2017.

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD LITURGY: The *Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God* will be celebrated at the regularly scheduled weekend Masses on 31 December 2016 and 01 January 2017.

EPIPHANY FAMILY LITURGY: On the *Solemnity of the Epiphany of The Lord*, 08 January 2017, a special liturgy for families with children will be celebrated at 9:00 a.m.

Parish Life

REQUIESCANT IN PACE: It is with sadness that we announce the death of Carmen Alicia Jaimes de Vidal, mother of Michael Belak.

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).

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

8 December, Immaculate Conception: In 1846, during the Sixth Plenary Council of Baltimore, the American Bishops placed the United States (upper panel) under the patronage of the Immaculate Conception. The first and mother cathedral of the United States is the Basilica of the Assumption of Mary in Baltimore, Maryland (lower panel).

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).

MARY OF NAZARETH: Sign up today to play basketball!! Kindergarten & 1st Grade Boys and Girls. **Registration deadline: December 30.** Our Friday night



league for kids in kindergarten and first grade is a really FUN introductory program for this age group and is open to all children in our parishes. Practice/games take place on Friday nights from **January 6 through**

February 24, 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m., at two Germantown area elementary schools. Register through the Team Snap link: <https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/43710>. The registration fee is \$65 and you can pay by credit card in Team Snap. Each player will receive a t-shirt with their team color and trophy at the end of the season. The t-shirt is included in the registration fee. If you have any questions, please contact Jennifer Stonesifer, jstonesifer70@yahoo.com.

INFANT BAPTISMS: 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. Attendance during pregnancy is advised. We encourage Sponsors/Godparents, including parishioners who will be Sponsors/Godparents elsewhere, to attend this Baptism Preparation Class. For information and/or to register, contact the parish office at krooney@olvp.org.

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, contact the parish office at molewack@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.

MATRIMONY: 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 at (rfecteau@olvp.org), Father Mathew PUNCHAYIL at (matpunchayil@yahoo.com), Deacon Ted Dmuchowski at (thaddeus.dmuchowski@gmail.com) or Deacon Robert Fischer at (olvpdeacon@gmail.com).

PRAYER CHAIN: If you would like to have a special intention remembered in our prayers, please call the parish office at (301) 948-5536.

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.

Faith Formation for Life

SCRIPTURE STUDY: A study of the readings for Christmas will be held on **Tuesday, 20 December 2016, at 10:00 a.m.** in the Barn.



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: Parents, grandparents, siblings, invited guests and all parishioners are welcome to attend our annual Christmas Pageant on **Sunday, 18 December 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church.** Please email Michele Olewack at molewack@olvp.org for more information.

**** SPECIAL NOTATIONS ****

MIDDLE SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION: On Sunday, 18 December, grades 6, 7 and 8 will attend the Christmas Pageant from 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. and will then meet for class from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

FAITH FORMATION SESSIONS will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, 20 December and 21 December at the usual time of 4:45 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

CATECHIST NEEDED FOR CHURCH SCHOOL: Beginning in January, an additional catechist will be needed for Sunday Church School during the 9:00 a.m. Mass. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Michele Olewack at (301) 948-5536 or email molewack@olvp.org.

Social Concerns

RELIGIOUS RETIREMENT COLLECTION: Our parish donated \$4,609 to this national collection.

ADOPTED FAMILY COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS: Thank you to all the parishioners who donated items for the Adopted Family Collection this weekend.

ST. NICHOLAS CHRISTMAS CATALOG: Orders for the St. Nicholas Christmas Catalog can still be processed if received in the parish office **by Monday, 19 December.**

Human Resources

NEW PARISHIONER: The following family recently joined our parish: **Mr. and Mrs. David Erdman.**



THANK YOU to all those involved this year in the tree and wreath sale, to the kitchen elves and to parishioners who bought their trees and wreaths from us. It was a TREEmendous success.

PARISH OFFICE CLOSED: The parish office will be closed **at noon on Friday, 23 December 2016** to celebrate the Nativity of the Lord and will reopen at 10:00 a.m. on **Tuesday, 27 December 2016.**

SNOW POLICY: Liturgy on Sundays and on Holy Days of Obligation, including vigils, is not cancelled because of weather. The parish office is open if there is a delay in the opening of schools; the office is closed if schools are closed. Daily liturgy is held if there is a delay in the opening of schools. If schools are closed there is no daily liturgy.

Facilities

PARISH REPAIRS: If you see a needed repair around the parish, please send an email to parishoffice@olvp.org to report the problem so that we may have it fixed.

Finance

WHY FAITH DIRECT?: In this season of Advent, we are continuously preparing ourselves for the celebration of Christ's birth. Why not help OLVP prepare for the coming new year by signing up with Faith Direct? Please pick up an enrollment form from the parish office or enroll online at www.faithdirect.net. Our church code: **MD114.**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- 18 Sun** No Church School
Adopted Family Collection
Christmas Pageant, 6:00 p.m., Church
Faith Formation:
Grades 6, 7, 8: 6:00—7:30 pm,
Founders Hall
- 20 Tue** Scripture Study: 10:00 a.m., Barn
Faith Formation:
Grades K-5: 4:45 p.m., Founders Hall
- 21 Wed** Faith Formation
Grades 1-5: 4:45 p.m., Founders Hall
- 24 Sat** **Christmas Eve**
Sacred Liturgy, 4:00 p.m., Passes Needed
Sacred Liturgy, 7:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m.
- 25 Sun** No Church School
Christmas Day
Sacred Liturgy, 9:00 a.m. and
11:00 a.m., Family Liturgy
No Faith Formation Sessions
- 26 Mon** Office Closed
- 27 Tue** Scripture Study: 10:00 a.m., Barn
No Faith Formation Sessions
- 28 Wed** No Faith Formation Sessions
- 30 Fri** Office will close at Noon
- 31 Sat** **Mary, Mother of God**
Sacred Liturgy, 5:00 p.m., Church

JANUARY

- 01 Sun** No Church School
Mary, Mother of God
Sacred Liturgy: 9:00 and 11:00 am, Church
- 02 Mon** Office Closed
- 03 Tue** Scripture Study: 10:00 a.m., Barn
No Faith Formation Sessions
Knights of Columbus, 7:00 p.m., Barn
- 04 Wed** No Faith Formation Sessions
- 08 Sun** **Epiphany of the Lord**
Church School, Ages 3, 4, 5: 9:00 a.m.
Mortgage Collection
Family Liturgy, 9:00 a.m.
Men's Club: 9:00 a.m. Mass and Meeting
Faith Formation:
Grades 6, 7, 8: 6:30 p.m., Founders Hall
- 10 Tue** Scripture Study: 10:00 a.m., Barn
Faith Formation:
Grades K-5: 4:45 p.m., Founders Hall
- 11 Wed** Faith Formation
Grades 1-5: 4:45 p.m., Founders Hall
- 15 Sun** **Church Mission and Military Service**
Collection
No Church School
No Faith Formation Sessions
- 16 Mon** **Office Closed—Martin Luther King Holiday**