

*Our Lady of the Visitation Parish*

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



# First Sunday of Advent

02 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](mailto:parishoffice@olvp.org)

Web Site: [www.olvp.org](http://www.olvp.org)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- 02 Sun Tree Sales, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Church School, 9:00 a.m.  
Adopted Family Christmas Collection  
Mortgage Collection  
Faith Formation:  
High School, 6:30 p.m., Rectory  
Grades 6, 7, 8, 6:30 p.m. Founders Hall
- 03 Mon Tree Sales, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- 04 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn  
Tree Sales, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.  
Faith Formation:  
Grades K-5: 4:45 p.m., Founders Hall  
Advent Reflection, 7:00 p.m., Founders Hall
- 05 Wed Tree Sales, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- 06 Thu Tree Sales, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- 07 Fri Tree Sales, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- 08 Sat Feast of *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*: Mass at 10:00 a.m.  
Tree Sales, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
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 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

- 1 Tue Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God  
Sacred Liturgy, Noon, Church  
No Faith Formation Classes  
Office Closed



*Social Concerns*

**THANKSGIVING COLLECTION:** Our parish donated \$700.00 to our sister parish in Gonaives, Haiti.

**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 on **Sunday 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 on **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.

**ADOPTED FAMILY COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS:** The Adopted Family Christmas Collection is this weekend, **01-02 December 2018**. Please leave your gifts downstairs in the alcove by Founders Hall.

*Liturgical Life*

**THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION:** 08 December is the patronal feast of the United States and is always a Holy Day of Obligation. Sacred Liturgy will be celebrated in the church at **10:00 a.m.** on **Saturday 08 December 2018** to honor Mary under the title of the Immaculate Conception.

**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 begins **today, Sunday 02 December 2018.**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: 08-09 December 2018, PRESIDERS:**

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

**Readings for the Week of 02 December 2018**

Monday: Is 2:1-5/Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9/Mt 8:5-11  
 Tuesday: Is 11:1-10/Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 [cf. 7]/Lk 10:21-24  
 Wednesday: Is 25:6-10a/Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6 [6cd]/Mt 15:29-37  
 Thursday: Is 26:1-6/Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a [26a]/Mt 7:21, 24-27  
 Friday: Is 29:17-24/Ps 27:1, 4, 13-14 [1a]/Mt 9:27-31  
 Saturday: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38  
 Sunday: Bar 5:1-9/Ps 126:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 6 [3]/Phil 1:4-6, 8-11/Lk 3:1-6

**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.

**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.

**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.

**OUR 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.



**Parish Life**

**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).

**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, (lower panel).

**ADVENT REFLECTION SERIES:** Come join Deacon Ted as he facilitates our OLVP Advent Reflections. Sessions will continue on Tuesday evenings, **04, 11, and 18 December 2018**. 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. Sessions will be held in Founders Hall from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

**VIRTUS TRAINING:** A Child Protection class will be held at Mary of Nazareth School on **Tuesday 11 December at 6:30 p.m.** in the Multi-Purpose room. You must be registered to attend this class. Please go to [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) and click on the link for “registration.” Begin the registration process and choose “Washington, DC (Archdiocese).” Create a user name and password, and register to attend the class at the school. Please choose “Mary of Nazareth School” as your location. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Wray at [mwray@maryofnazareth.org](mailto:mwray@maryofnazareth.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 the Priest/Deacon.** Please email Father Raymond Fecteau ([rfecteau@olvp.org](mailto:rfecteau@olvp.org)), Father Mathew Punchayil ([matpunchayil@yahoo.com](mailto:matpunchayil@yahoo.com)), Deacon Ted Dmuchowski ([thaddeus.dmuchowski@gmail.com](mailto:thaddeus.dmuchowski@gmail.com)) or Deacon Robert Fischer ([olvpdeacon@gmail.com](mailto: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.

## *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](mailto:molewack@olvp.org) for more information.

**SCRIPTURE STUDY:** A study of the readings for the Second Sunday of Advent will be held on **Tuesday 04 December 2018**, at 10:00 a.m. in the Barn.

## *Finance*

**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](http://www.faithdirect.net)—our Church Code is **MD114**.

## *Human Resources*

**AVAILABLE AD SPACE:** Ryan Smith from LPi, our bulletin printer, will be in our office **this week**, securing new ads for our bulletin. Please consider purchasing an ad, sponsoring a charity, or in Memory of a Loved One. Your participation makes our bulletin successful, and you attract customers!

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS TREE SALES:** Tree sales continue through **Sunday 09 December**. There are opportunities for everyone. It is not too late to sign up to help. Email Matt Baker at [swingsft@comcast.net](mailto:swingsft@comcast.net) for information and to volunteer, go to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050844ada62ba75-olvps>.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** 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.