

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



Second Sunday Of Advent

08 December 2019

Sacred Liturgy

Saturday • 5:00 p.m.

Sunday • 9:00 a.m. • 11:00 a.m.

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown

M/ T/ W/ F • 9:15 a.m.

Thomas More Chapel • Parish Barn • 14135 Seneca Road

Sacrament of Penance • Saturday • 4:00—4:30 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

Betty Foley, (240) 383-9146

Faith Formation For Life Committee

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

Social Concerns Committee

Liesel Flaig, (301) 869-2830

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 Feeny, (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

Youth Faith Formation

Erin Clegg, (301) 385-4920

Deacons

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

Weekend Help

The Dominican Fathers (O.P.) of Nigeria

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

- 08 Sun** Retired Religious Collection
Head Start Food Bags Distributed
Adopted Family Collection
Faith Formation:
Pre K, K, 1: 9:00 a.m. Church
Grades 6, 7, 8: 6:30 p.m. Fdrs. Hall
High School: 6:30 p.m. Rectory
Tree Sale, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- 09 Mon** Immaculate Conception of Mary,
Noon Mass, Church
Tree Sale, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- 10 Tue** Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
Tree Sale, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Faith Formation:
Grades 2,3,4,5: 4:45 p.m., Fdrs. Hall
- 11 Wed** Tree Sale, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Advent Reflection: 7:00 p.m., Barn
- 12 Thu** Tree Sale, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
Sodality Rosary, 7:00 p.m., Barn
- 13 Fri** Tree Sale, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- 14 Sat** Tree Sale, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Baptism Class: 10:00 a.m., Barn
- 15 Sun** Faith Formation:
Pre K, K, 1: 9:00 a.m. Church
Grades 6, 7, 8: 6:30 p.m. Fdrs. Hall
Head Start Food Bags Collected
Tree Sale, 9:00 a.m. to Sold Out
Christmas Pageant I, 10:00 a.m., Church
- 17 Tue** Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
Faith Formation:
Grades 2,3,4,5: 4:45 p.m., Fdrs. Hall
- 18 Wed** Ember Day: Voluntary Day of Penance
Advent Reflection: 7:00 p.m., Barn
- 19 Thu** Sodality Rosary, 7:00 p.m., Barn
- 20 Fri** Ember Day: Voluntary Day of Penance
- 21 Sat** Ember Day: Voluntary Day of Penance
- 22 Sun** Sodality Mass & Meeting, 9:00 a.m.
No Faith Formation
- 24 Tue** Christmas Eve—No Scripture Study
Parish Office Closes at Noon
No Faith Formation
Masses: 4:00, 7:00, 10:00 p.m., Church
- 25 Wed** Christmas Day—Office Closed
Mass: 11:00 a.m., Church
- 26 Thu** Office Closed
- 29 Sun** No Faith Formation
- 30 Mon** Mass in Chapel at 9:15 a.m.
- 31 Tue** Mass in Chapel at 9:15 a.m.
Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
Office Closes at Noon

JANUARY 2020

- 01 Wed** Mary, Mother of God
Mass: 12:00 Noon, Church
Parish Office Closed
- 05 Sun** Epiphany of The Lord
Collection for the Archdiocese of Military Services
Faith Formation:
Pre K, K, 1: 9:00 a.m. Church
Grades 6, 7, 8: 6:30 p.m. Fdrs. Hall



Liturgical Life

THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: 08 December is the patronal feast of the United States. Because 08 December falls on a Sunday this year, the Solemnity will be celebrated on **Monday 09 December 2019**. Sacred Liturgy will be celebrated in the church at **12:00 Noon** 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 began on Sunday 01 December 2019.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: 15 December 2019, Presiders:

- 5:00 p.m. Father Raymond Fecteau**
9:00 a.m. Father Raymond Fecteau
11:00 a.m. Father Raymond Fecteau

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.

Readings for the Week of 08 December 2019

Monday:	Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3ab, 3cd-4 [1]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Tuesday:	Is 40:1-11/Ps 96:1-2, 3 and 10ac, 11-12, 13/Mt 18:12-14
Wednesday:	Is 40:25-31/Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 8 and 10/Mt 11:28-30
Thursday:	Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a/Ps 71:3-4a, 5-6ab, 16-17 [cf. 8]/Lk 1:5-25
Friday:	Is 48:17-19/Ps 1:1-2, 3, 4 and 6/Mt 11:16-19
Saturday:	Sir 48:1-4, 9-11/Ps 80:2ac and 3b, 15-16, 18-19/Mt 17:9a, 10-13
Sunday:	Is 35:1-6a, 10/ Ps 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10 [Is 35:4]/Jas 5:7-10/Mt 11:2-1

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.

Parish Life

R.I.P.: It is with sadness that we announce the death of **Carol R. Medeiros**, mother of Anita (Scott) Stiger. We commend her and her family in our prayers to God.

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).

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).

.PARISH EMBER DAYS: Responding to the Gospel and following Church tradition, Visitation parishioners are encouraged to voluntarily set aside **Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 18, 20, and 21 December 2019** 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 14 December 2019** 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.

ADVENT REFLECTION SERIES: Deacon Ted will facilitate Advent Reflections for all interested parishioners on **Wednesday 11 and 18 December 2019** in the Parish Barn from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

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 Raymond Fecteau (rfecteau@olvp.org), 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.

Faith Formation for Life



CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: This year our children’s Christmas Pageant will be split into two parts and will primarily include our church school children. The first part of the pageant will follow the 9:00 a.m. Mass on **Sunday 15 December 2019**. All are welcome and encouraged to attend! The second part of the pageant will follow the 9:00 a.m. Mass on **Sunday 12 January 2020** with refreshments offered afterwards in Founders Hall to celebrate the Feast. Please come help us celebrate the reason for the season. If you have any questions, please contact parishoffice@olvp.org.

SCRIPTURE STUDY: A study of the readings for the Third Sunday of Advent will be held on **Tuesday 10 December 2019** at 10:00 a.m. in the Barn.

Social Concerns

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 **today, Sunday 08 December 2019**, 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 **today, 07-08 December 2019**. Bags are to be returned on the weekend of **14-15 December 2019**. Please be sure to include only non-perishable items in non-breakable containers.

ADOPTED FAMILY COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS: The Adopted Family Christmas Collection will be held **today, 07-08 December 2019**.

Finance

GROW THE NEXT STEP: All parishioners are asked to reflect on the amount that they give to sustain parish operations and to consider giving a bit more. The work of God at Our Lady of the Visitation Parish depends on your support.

UNBUDGETED DAMAGES: In early September 2019, the parish office suffered \$5,401.00 in damages to our heating and air conditioning unit from a random Pepco event. If you are able to help defray this expense, please send a check made out to OLVP with the words, “Pepco Damages” on the notation line.

WHY FAITH DIRECT?: During the Season of Advent please consider enrolling in *Faith Direct* to ensure your gifts of treasure to Our Lady of the Visitation Parish are received even if you may be out of town. Go online to faith.direct/MD14 to support our parish.

Human Resources

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS



TREE SALE: Sales began on **Friday 06 December** and will continue **through Sunday 15 December**. There are opportunities for everyone. Don’t miss out on the parish Christmas fun; sign-up today. Email Matt Baker at swingsft@comcast.net or visit the website at www.olvp.org and log onto Sign-Up Genius.

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

SAFE ENVIRONMENT AND CHILD PROTECTION TRAINING:

The Archdiocese of Washington and our parish are committed to keeping all individuals safe and to bring healing to those harmed. Those parishioners and staff who work with children and vulnerable individuals are required to be fingerprinted and complete a criminal background check, fill out and sign current application forms for volunteer services (or employment if staff), and complete VIRTUS training and become VIRTUS certified prior to beginning service. Those who received training and were certified more than 5 years ago are required to be re-certified. Please watch the parish bulletin for information on training and certification opportunities.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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

PARKING LOT REPAIRS:



After several years of pot holes and patches, it has finally become necessary to dig up the bedding and properly pave multiple areas in our parking lot. This necessary repair will cost \$10,000. Any help you can provide is especially appreciated.