

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish

14139 Seneca Road • Darnestown, Maryland 20874



FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

03 December 2017

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

Vacant

Principal of Parish School

Michael Friel (301) 869-0940

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

Pastor, Ext. 109

The Rev. Raymond L. Fecteau, S.T.B., D.Min.
rfecteau@olvp.org

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

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

JUNE 2018

2 Sat Confirmation, 2:00 p.m., Basilica Shrine of the Immaculate Conception

MAY 2018

5 Sat NIH Concert, 7:30 p.m., Church

DECEMBER 2017

29 Fri Office Closes at Noon
 26 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
 No Faith Formation
 25 Mon Christmas Day, 11:00 a.m., Family Liturgy
 24 Sun No Church School
 No Faith Formation Classes
 Christmas Eve
 Sacred Liturgy, 4:00 p.m., Passes Needed
 Sacred Liturgy, 7:00 p.m., 10:00 p.m.
 23 Sat Ember Day: Voluntary Day of Penance
 22 Fri Ember Day: Voluntary Day of Penance
 Office Closes at Noon
 20 Wed Ember Day: Voluntary Day of Penance
 19 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
 Faith Formation:
 Grades K-5, 4:45 p.m., Founders Hall
 17 Sun Church School, 9:00 a.m., Church
 Head Start Food Bags Collected
 Christmas Pageant, 6:00 p.m., Church
 Faith Formation:
 Grades 6, 7, 8, 6:30 p.m., Founders Hall
 High School, 6:00 p.m. Pageant,
 6:30 p.m., Rectory
 11 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
 Faith Formation:
 Grades K-5, 4:45 p.m., Founders Hall
 10 Sun Tree Sales, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 Religious Retirement Collection
 Head Start Food Bags Distributed
 Adopted Family Collection
 Church School, 9:00 a.m., Church
 Faith Formation:
 Grades 6, 7, 8, 6:30 p.m., Founders Hall
 09 Sat Tree Sales, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 Baptism Prep Class, 10:00 a.m., Barn
 08 Fri Feast of The Immaculate Conception of
 the Blessed Virgin Mary: Masses at Noon
 and 6:00 p.m., Church
 Office Closes at Noon
 Tree Sales, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 07 Thu Tree Sales, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 06 Wed Tree Sales, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 05 Tue Tree Sales, 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m.
 Faith Formation:
 Grades K-5, 4:45 p.m., Church
 Knights of Columbus, 7:00 p.m., Barn
 04 Mon Christmas Tree Sales, 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.
 03 Sun Tree Sales, 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
 Mortgage Collection
 Church School, 9:00 a.m., Church
 Faith Formation:
 Grades 6, 7, 8, 6:30 p.m., Founders Hall



Liturgical Life

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 on **Sunday 03 December 2017**.

CHRISTMAS EVE PASSES are required for the 4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve liturgy. Forms were included with the newsletter, which was mailed to all registered parishioners. If you have not received the newsletter, please contact the parish office at (301) 948-5536.

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 **12:00 Noon** and at **6:00 p.m.** on **Friday, 08 December 2017** to honor Mary under the title of the Immaculate Conception.

CHRISTMAS MANGER: The National Christmas Tree at The Ellipse was lit on Thursday, 30 November 2017. Our Lady of the Visitation Parish will set up our Christmas Manger scene for the weekend of **09-10 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.

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.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: 09-10 December 2017, PRESIDERS:

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

Readings for the Week of 03 December 2017

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: Gn 3:9-15, 20/Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4 [1a]/Eph 1:3-6, 11-12/Lk 1:26-38
Saturday: Is 30:19-21, 23-26/Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6 [cf. Is 30:18d]/Mt 9:35--10:1, 5a, 6-8
Sunday: Is 40:1-5, 9-11/Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14 [8]/2 Pt 3:8-14/Mk 1:1-8

Parish Life

ECCE QUAM BONUM: Last week, **Ryker Kamden Galdi** celebrated Baptism.

R.I.P.: It is with sadness that we announce the death of **Stephen Graham Arapian**, husband of Linda Arapian, and **Edgardo Piansay**, son-in-law of Jesse (Betty) Almario. We commend them and their families 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).

PARISH EMBER DAYS: Responding to the Gospel and following Church tradition, Visitation parishioners are encouraged to voluntarily set aside **Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 20, 22, and 23 December 2017** 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. We encourage

Sponsors/Godparents, including parishioners who will be Sponsors/Godparents elsewhere, to attend this Baptism Preparation Class. The next class is on **Saturday 09 December at 10:00 a.m. in the Barn.** 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).

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, call the parish office, (301) 948-5536, ext. 107.

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), Father Mathew Punchayil (matpunchayil@yahoo.com), 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.

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

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT: Parents, grandparents, siblings, invited guests and all parishioners are welcome to attend our annual Christmas Pageant on **Sunday 17 December 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Church.** Please email Michele Olewack at molewack@olvp.org for more information.

SCRIPTURE STUDY: A study of the readings for the Second Sunday of Advent will be held on **Tuesday, 05 December 2017, at 10:00 a.m. in the Barn.**

Social Concerns

THANKSGIVING COLLECTION: The parish donated \$545.00 to our sister parish in Haiti at the Thanksgiving Eve liturgy.

IT IS NOT TOO LATE: We need **everyone's help** to reach our goal. As of 06 November 2017, Our Lady of the Visitation Parish pledged \$132,582.34 to the Cardinal's Appeal. This is 99% of the goal established for our parish. To date, 94% of the pledges have been received. Please visit the Appeal's secure website at <https://appeal.adw.org> to make a pledge/gift or, if you prefer, please contact Valerie Brown, Director of the Cardinal's Appeal at 301-853-4574 or brownv@adw.org. On behalf of those who benefit from your support, thank you for your generous gift to the Church of Washington.

ST. NICHOLAS CATALOG: Give a gift and help a charity of your choice by placing an order from the St. Nicholas Christmas Catalog inserted in today's bulletin. You will receive a card that specified the gifts you purchased from the charity. Orders must be received by **Monday, 18 December 2017.**



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 collec-

tion on **Sunday 10 December 2017**, helps to provide medications, nursing care, and more for thousands of elderly religious. Please be generous to this national collection.

ADOPTED FAMILY COLLECTION FOR CHRISTMAS: The Adopted Family Christmas Collection will be held on **09-10 December 2017.** Your donations may be placed in the alcove by Founders Hall after the Masses. Please email olypsosocialconcerns@gmail.com to receive further information on what to donate.

ADVENT FOOD COLLECTION FOR HEAD START: Grocery bags for our Head Start program will be distributed on **09-10 December 2017.** Bags are to be returned on the weekend of **16-17 December 2017.** Please be sure to include only non-perishable items in non-breakable containers.

Human Resources

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHRISTMAS TREE SALES: Tree sales will continue through **Sunday 10 December.** There are opportunities for everyone. This is fun, plain and simple! All ages may participate. If you would like to be part of this annual event, **go to www.olvp.org and click on the link for Sign-up Genius.** It is easy and you will see right away which of your friends have already planned to help. Don't miss out on the Christmas fun! Plan to sign-up today.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: The parish office will close at Noon on **Friday 08 December 2017** to celebrate *The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary.* Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, **10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Facilities

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

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—our Church Code is MD114.