

OUR LADY OF THE VISITATION, DARNESTOWN

Liturgical Life

ADVENT: 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. The season of Advent prepares us not only for Christmas/Epiphany, but also for a whole church year. In our parish, we use an evergreen wreath, white candles and purple bows.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: 29 - 30 November:
Presiders:

5:00 pm – Fr. Raymond Fecteau
9:00 am – Fr. Raymond Fecteau
11:00 am – Fr. Mathew Punchayil

Readings for the Week of November 23, 2008

Sunday: Ez 34:11-12, 15-17/1 Cor 15:20-26,28/
Mt 25:31-46
Monday: Rv 14:1-3, 4b-5/Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday: Rv 14:14-19/Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday: Rv 15:1-4/Lk 21:12-19
Thursday: Rv 18:1-2, 21-23; 19:1-3, 9a/Lk 21:20-28
Friday: Rv 20:1-4, 11-21:2/Lk 21:29-33
Saturday: Rv 22:1-7/Lk 21:34-36
Next Sunday: Is 63:16b-17, 19b; 64:2-7/1
Cor 1:3-9/Mk 13:33-37

THANKSGIVING LITURGY will be celebrated on Wednesday evening, 26 November, 6:00pm in the church.

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. Hermarues 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.

FAMILY CHOIR will sing at the 9:00am liturgy on Sunday, 14 December. Rehearsal will be Sunday, 7 December, 10:00 – 10:45am. If you would like to become a part of the choir, please call Diana Hurley, (301) 216-0870.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: Monday, 8 December, is a Holy Day of Obligation in the United States, even though it is on a Monday. Sacred Liturgy will be celebrated on Monday at 9:00am in the church and in the evening at 7:00pm in the church.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION WINDOW: 8 December. 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).

Parish Life

ECCE QUAM BONUM: This weekend **Charbel Elohim Adewi, Devin John Deutschendorf, Andrew James Douglass, Timothy James Hanson and Matthew John McKenna** celebrate **Baptism**. **Quinn Thomas Deutschendorf** celebrates **First Eucharist**.

PARISH NECROLOGY: On the anniversary of their death, please remember in your prayers the following parishioners: *Alice Huff-Fones* (27 November 2001) and the *Rev. Walter L. Lawrence* (28 November 2007)

REQUIESCANT IN PACE: Throughout the month of November you are asked to pray for the repose of the souls of all the faithful departed. A list of parishioners and relatives of parishioners who died this past year can be found in today's bulletin.

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 encouraged. To register, call (301) 948-5536, ext. 105.

ST. MONICA SOCIETY: This society, for widows and widowers in our parish, is a source of spirituality, prayer, social activities and service to others. All widows and widowers in our parish are invited to meet with our group for coffee after the 9:15 Mass in the Barn on Wednesday, 3 December. For information, call Frances Childs, (301) 519-8728 or Carol Anne Puglisi, (301) 417-0839.

YOUTH RALLY AND MASS FOR LIFE: Youth in grades 9 – 12 are invited to attend the 26th Annual March for Life and Youth rally/Mass at the Verizon Center in Washington, DC on Thursday, 22 January 2009. Please attend a planning session on Saturday, 13 December from 1 – 2pm in Founders Hall. [Grades 6 – 8 may attend if accompanied by a parent.] Children and adults who would like to attend the Youth Rally and March for Life must attend this session. If you have any questions, please contact Deacon Bob Fischer, (301) 948-5536, Ext. 106 or Michele Olewack, (301) 948-5536, ext. 107. Note: this will count as Confirmation service hours. Adult chaperones who attended the Virtus training are also needed.

CHRIST THE KING

ANOINTING OF THE SICK: If you are planning to undergo major surgery, please notify our parish office. If illness or age prevents you from attending Sunday Liturgy call the parish office to arrange for visitation and Communion in your home.

PRAYER CHAIN: If you would like to have special intentions remembered in our prayers, please call the parish office (301) 948-5536, ext. 103 or email joconnor@olvp.org.

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER: Engaged Encounter is a program of the Catholic Church dedicated to preparing couples for the Sacrament of Marriage. For information or to register for a weekend, go to www.dcengagedencounter.org.

MARRIAGE PLANNING: It is Archdiocesan and parish policy that couples seeking to be married in the Church are to make arrangements with a priest or deacon prior to setting a wedding date. A minimum of six months is needed for preparation.

ADVENT SILENT RETREAT FOR WOMEN, 5 – 7 December 2008 Come away to the quiet and peace of a Dominican retreat. Take time to pause, to reflect on and to strengthen your personal relationship with God. Step back from the daily rush and distractions to focus on the significance of this special time of year and to prepare to receive the mystery of Christ. Fr. Jude Winkler, OFM, Conv. is the retreat director. For information contact Mary Lee Seaman, (301) 937-4709 or the Dominican Retreat House, (703) 356-4243.

Faith Formation for Life

SCRIPTURE STUDY: A study of the readings for next Sunday, the *First Sunday of Advent*, will be on Tuesday, 25 November 2008, 10:00am, in the Barn.

FAITH FORMATION: Grades K -8 will **not** meet Tuesday, 25 November and Wednesday, 26 November. Sessions will resume on Tuesday, 2 December and Wednesday, 3 December.

MARY OF NAZARETH SCHOOL: 8th Grade Raffle. The 8th grade students of Mary of Nazareth School are holding a raffle to raise funds for their New York City class trip in December 2008. The grand prize is a 22" Samsung Flatscreen HDTV. A number of other prizes include an iPod Video Nano, a T-Mobile Phone, a weekend getaway for two at Woodfin Suites, a \$50 Visa giftcard and Silpada Earrings. Anyone who wishes to support the students and have a chance to win one of these great prizes may purchase raffle

tickets at \$5.00 each by contacting your Parish Liaison, Heidi Titus, at (301) 948-0432. The raffle drawing will take place at the school on 18 November; you do not have to be present to win.

THEOLOGY ON TAP, a ministry of the Archdiocesan Office of Young Adult Ministry, offers the opportunity for young adults age 21+ to reflect on how the Catholic faith relates to your life in contemporary society. The evening begins at 7pm. Come join us at Ireland's Four Fields, 3412 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC on Tuesday evenings, at 7:00pm. For more information contact Laura Ferstl, ((301) 853-4559 or email yam@adw.org.

Social Concerns

SOCIAL CONCERNS COMMITTEE: A very special "thank you" to Jane Stenson, the chair of the Social Concerns Committee for her leadership and dedication over the past six years. Jane's term of office ends on the First Sunday of Advent; Marianne Beattie has graciously consented to be the new chair of the Social Concerns Committee.

ADOPTED FAMILY: Our parish will be providing Christmas gifts for our adopted family. If you are able to help, pick up a slip after mass in Founders Hall. Donated items will be collected on the First Sunday in Advent, 29 – 30 November.

THE NATIONAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COLLECTION will be taken in all parishes in the Archdiocese of Washington this weekend of 22 – 23 November 2008. The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) funds 4,000 programs across the United States to help people find a way out of poverty. Your generosity is appreciated.

Human Resources

ADVENT WREATHS: The OLVP Craft Shoppe is selling Advent Wreaths and Advent candles after each liturgy through 23 November. Cost is \$25.00 for the wreath with candles; candles alone are \$5.00. All proceeds benefit our parish.

VOLUNTEER "CHEFS" are needed to provide food (soups, casseroles, chili, sandwiches, desserts or your own specialty) for the workers during the tree sales and also to help in the kitchen. Please sign up in Founders Hall after each liturgy this weekend.

CHRISTMAS TREE SALES VOLUNTEERS are needed to help setup and sell Christmas trees. Workout Thursday: help unload the trees on 4 December at 1:00pm (usually takes @ 1.5 hours). Sales begin at 4:00pm on Friday evening, 5 December. Sign-up to help this weekend, 22 – 23 November.

OLVP CRAFT SHOPPE will be taking orders for religious books and poinsettias this weekend. Delivery will be the weekend of 6 – 7 December. The Shoppe will be open Friday, 5 December from 5:00pm - 8:00pm; Saturday, 6 December from 9:00am to 8:00pm and on Sunday, 7 December until 1:00pm. The shoppe will not be open during liturgy.

CRAFT SHOPPE RAFFLE: Our raffle item for this year is a Santini crèche. Raffle tickets are \$1.00 each and 6 for \$5.00. Tickets will be available after liturgy through 7 December. All proceeds benefit our parish.

BULLETIN/FLYERS DEADLINE: To submit a bulletin article or a separate insert/flyer for the weekend of 29 – 30 November, please submit the information to Jean O'Connor, (301) 948-5536, ext. 103 or email joconnor@olvp.org by noon on Tuesday, 25 November.

Facilities

EXTERIOR STAIRS REPAIR: For your safety, we want to repair the exterior stairs leading to the lower level. We were fortunate to receive an estimate for approximately \$4,000.00. This item was not budgeted. If you are able to contribute to this repair, please see Fr. Ray or contact the parish office.

Finance

MORTGAGE: As of 1 November our mortgage debt is \$823,497.25. Our monthly interest/principal payment is \$18,500. The October revenue from our Mortgage Retirement Fund collection amounted to \$5,257.00

FAITH DIRECT: Parishioners can make weekly offertory and monthly mortgage reduction contributions via automatic payment from their checking account or credit card. Faith Direct offers a secure way of sending regular contributions throughout the year even when a parishioner is unable to attend mass due to illness or travel. A letter will be sent to all parishioners from Fr. Ray explaining how to sign up for the program.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November

- 25 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00am, Barn
- 26 Wed Eve of Thanksgiving
Sacred Liturgy, 6:00pm
- 27 Thu Thanksgiving Day
- 28 Fri Parish Office Closed
- 30 Sun Adopted Family Donations Due

December

- 02 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00am, Barn
Faith Formation, 4:30 & 6:30pm
- 03 Wed St. Monica Society, 10:00am, Barn
Faith Formation, 4:30pm & 6:30pm
- 04 Thu Holy Hour, 7:00 – 8:00pm, Chapel
Workout Thursday, Unload Trees, 1pm
- 05 Fri Tree Sales/Craft Shoppe Sales Begin
- 07 Sun Mortgage Reduction Collection
Head Start Food Collection
High School Faith Formation
6:30 – 7:45, Founders Hall
- 08 Mon Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
Sacred Liturgy, 9:00am & 7:00pm, Church
- 09 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00am, Barn
Faith Formation, 4:30 & 6:30pm
- 10 Wed Faith Formation, 4:30 & 6:30pm
- 14 Sun Religious Retirement Collection
Welcome Weekend
Family Liturgy, 9:00am
Shady Grove Pregnancy Center Collection
- 15 Mon St. Nicholas Project Orders Due
RCIA, 7:00pm, Church
- 16 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00am, Barn
Faith Formation, 4:30pm & 6:30pm
- 17 Wed Parish Ember Day
Faith Formation, 4:30pm & 6:30pm
- 18 Fri Parish Ember Day
- 19 Sat Parish Ember Day
- 23 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00am, Barn
No Faith Formation Sessions
- 24 Wed Christmas Eve
Sacred Liturgy 5pm (passes required)
Sacred Liturgy 7pm and 11pm
- 25 Thu Christmas Day
Sacred Liturgy, 9:00am and 11:00am
- 26 Fri Parish Office Closed

SAVE THE DATE

February

- 20 Fri Volunteer Appreciation Party

**END OF BULLETIN
ANY TEXT OR GRAPHICS ENTERED ON THIS PAGE
WILL NOT APPEAR IN THE PRINTED BULLETIN**

CHURCH NAME: **Our Lady of the Visitation**

CHURCH CITY: **Darnestown**

ROUTING CODE: **W**

RUN NUMBER: **2**

FILENAME: **03-0338.52b**

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Comments:
