

OUR LADY OF THE VISITATION, DARNESTOWN

Liturgical Life

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT: 21 March – 22 March -
Presiders:

5:00 pm – Fr. Mathew PUNCHAYIL
9:00 am – Fr. Raymond FECTEAU
11:00 am – Fr. Mathew PUNCHAYIL

Readings for the week of March 15, 2009

Sunday: Ex 17:3-7/ Rm 5:1-2, 5-8/Jn 4:5-42
Monday: 2 Kgs 5:1-15ab/Lk 4:24-30
Tuesday: Dn 3:25, 34-43/Mt 18:21-35
Wednesday: Dt 4:1, 5-9/Mt 5:17-19
Thursday: 2 Sm 7:4-5a, 12-14a, 16/Rom 4:13, 16-18,
22/Mt 1:16, 18-21, 24a or Lk 2:41-51a (St.
Joseph)
Friday: Hos 14:2-10/Mk 12:28-34
Saturday: Hos 6:1-6/Lk 18:9-14
Next Sunday: 1Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a/Eph 5:8-14/
Jn 9:1-41

HOLY THURSDAY

Mass of the Lord's Supper

9 April 2009

6:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY

Celebration of the Lord's Passion

10 April

7:00pm

HOLY SATURDAY

The Easter Vigil

11 April

8:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY

Sacred Liturgy

12 April

7:00am, 9:00am, 11:00am

FAST AND ABSTINENCE: Abstinence from meat (beast or fowl) is to be observed by all Catholics 14 years old and older on all Fridays of Lent. This obligation prohibits the eating of meat, but not eggs, milk products, or condiments of any kind, even though made from animal fat. Fasting means to limit oneself to one full meal on a given fast day. Catholics who are 18 years of age but not yet 59 are obliged to fast on Good Friday, 10 April 2009. On fast days, two additional smaller meals are permitted, if necessary, to maintain strength. However, the two smaller meals together may not equal one full meal. Moreover, eating solid foods between meals on fast days is not permitted. However, liquids, including milk and fruit juices, are allowed. Self-imposed observance of fasting on all weekdays of Lent is strongly recommended.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE/RECONCILIATION:

During Lent, the Sacrament of Penance/reconciliation will be celebrated Wednesday evenings from 6:30pm to 8:00pm in the church.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Fridays through 3 April, 7:00pm in the church.

LITURGICAL MINISTERS: The March/April/May Liturgy schedule has been mailed. Please let the parish office know if you have not received your schedule. Included with the mailing was an availability sheet for Holy Week, Triduum and Confirmation. Please return that special availability sheet by Monday, 16 March 2009.

HAIL, QUEEN OF HEAVEN: The Marian antiphon, *Ave Regina Caelorum*, is sung from the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord until Holy Thursday. At Visitation Parish, it is one of the four traditional Marian antiphons sung during the presentation of the gifts.

NEW ALTAR SERVER TRAINING: Youth in grades 4 and up who would like to become altar servers are invited to a training session on Saturday, 21 March, at 10:00am. A parent/guardian must accompany his/her child. Training will last approximately one and one-half hour.

Parish Life

PARISH NECROLOGY: On the anniversary of their death, please remember the following parishioners in your prayers: **Alex Martin** (16 March 2006), **Mario Marini**, (17 March 2002), and **Paul Di Duca**, (17 March 2006).

LONGING FOR SOMETHING? MAYBE IT'S GOD: An Invitation to Come Back to Church: Why is it so hard to talk about our faith? For many of us, our faith is very personal. We're not comfortable talking about it and don't want to be seen as "pushy." Yet, why not share something that means so much to you? Pick up an invitation at the back of church and invite someone you know to come back. This invitation may be just the opportunity your friends and family members have been waiting for. This Lent parishes across the Archdiocese of Washington are extending a special invitation to those who may have drifted away from their faith to come back to church, to stop by for prayer and Mass. For more information, visit www.maybe-its-god.org or pick up this week's Catholic Standard to read Archbishop Wuerl's new pastoral letter, *Belonging to God's Family*.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE PROJECT: Please join the sixth grade Confirmation Class, and their parents, for a Spring-time "Spruce Up" Day on Saturday, 4 April 2009, from 8:00am - 12 noon. Confirmation candidates in the seventh and eighth grades, their parents, and interested parishioners are encouraged to participate. Please bring work gloves and small gardening tools with you.

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

FORTY HOURS DEVOTION: The Forty Hours Devotion is a special forty-hour period of continuous prayer made before the Blessed Sacrament in solemn exposition. The focus of the devotion is on the Holy Eucharist. The Forty Hours devotion begins with a procession to the Thomas More Chapel after the 5:00pm liturgy on Saturday, 28 March. The Blessed Sacrament will remain on the altar during the next 40 hours for parishioners to gather for personal prayer. The Forty Hours devotion will conclude at the 9:15am liturgy on Monday, 30 March. The Devotion provides a wonderful opportunity for the spiritual growth of our person and family. Please schedule a time to visit and pray before the Blessed Sacrament by filling out the form enclosed in the bulleting and either place the completed form in the collection basket during liturgy or send an email to the parish office at parishoffice.org.

2009 ANNUAL JUBILARIAN MASS honoring couples married 25, 30, 35, 40, 45 and 50 years or more will be held Sunday, 7 June 2009, 2:00pm at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Archbishop Wuerl will be the celebrant. If you are interested in attending, please call the parish office, (301) 948-5536, ext. 108.

INTERPARISH T-BALL - kindergarten through second grade begins Saturday 4 April. Teams are coed and focus on the fundamentals of the game and team spirit. Registration deadline is Monday, 16 March 2009; fee is \$35 per child and covers the cost of uniforms and equipment. For information, call Korin Ford Wilson, (301) 216-2270.

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 for the next class, 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 for coffee after the 9:15am liturgy in the Barn on Wednesday, 1 April. For information, call Frances Childs, (301) 519-8728 or Carol Anne Puglisi, (301) 417-0839.

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.

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.

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER: Catholic Engaged Encounter is an experiential weekend that calls engaged couples to a sacramental way of life through the vocation of matrimony. 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 a minimum of six months prior to setting a wedding date.

Faith Formation for Life

ADULT FAITH FORMATION: VATICAN II - 45 YEARS LATER. This lecture series will be taught by Fr. Ray Fecteau on Monday evenings through Monday, 23 March from 7:00pm - 9:00pm in Founders Hall. Topics include: *“Dogmatic Constitution on Revelation”* and *“Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World”*.

SCRIPTURE STUDY: A study of the readings for next Sunday, the *Fourth Sunday of Lent*, will be on Tuesday, 17 March 2009, 10:00am, in the Barn.

COLLEGE SELECTION/APPLICATION/FUNDING PROCESS – Sunday, 29 March, 4:00pm: If you have a Sophomore or Junior in high school and want to learn about the “ins and outs” of the selection and application process for college, please plan to attend this presentation in Founders Hall. College and Process expert Shirley Levin will give a 60 minute presentation with a Question and Answer session to follow. Call the parish office, 301-948-5536, ext. 104 to reserve your seat!

HIGH SCHOOL FAITH FORMATION will meet Sunday, 29 March, 6:30pm – 7:45pm in Founders Hall.

Social Concerns

LENTEN FOOD COLLECTION for the Head Start program: Filled bags are to be returned on the Fourth Sunday of Lent, 22 – 22 March. Please help with this important collection by filling the bag with non-perishable food items in cans or plastic containers.

EASTERN EUROPEAN COLLECTION: Our parish donated \$2113 to this archdiocesan collection.

Human Resources

CALL FOR DONATIONS: The OLVP Mayfest Committee is looking for donations of good, used cars. To help you get the best tax write-off, we are asking to receive your donation early enough to validate its condition and publicize the vehicles. If you have a vehicle in good condition for auction, please call John Theis, (301) 977-9223 or email John at john.theis@ey.com

SPRING CLEANING? Please save your “gently used” items such as books (except textbooks) knick-knacks, toys, videos, jewelry, fine dining items for our White Elephant Sale at the Mayfest, Saturday, 2 May 2009. This year there will be an opportunity to drop off your items after liturgy on selected weekends (tbd). The goal is for each family to donate at least one “gently used” item.

VOLUNTEERS are need to help with the following Mayfest activities: sorting White Elephant donations, setting-up tables, and tents, assisting with children’s games, selling food, tickets and also act as cashiers. If you are able to help, either contact Barbara Kaplan, co-chair of the Mayfest, at (301) 977-4459 (evenings) or for fill out the Mayfest sign-up sheet and return it to the parish office.

BULLETIN DEADLINE: If you wish to submit a bulletin article or a flyer for the Fourth Sunday of Lent, 21 – 22 March 2009, please call (301) 948-5536, ext. 103 or email joconnor@olvp.org by noon on Monday, 16 March.

Facilities

SNOW EMERGENCY: Liturgy on Sundays and on Holy Days of Obligation, including their vigils, is not cancelled because of weather. For safety reasons: Faith Formation sessions are cancelled if a snow emergency plan is in effect, or if Montgomery County public schools are closed for school/community use; the parish office is open if there is a delay in the opening of schools; the office is closed if schools are closed; and weekday liturgy is held if there is a delay in the opening of schools; if schools are closed, there is no weekday liturgy.

Finance

FAITH DIRECT: Parishioners can make weekly offertory and monthly mortgage reduction contributions via automatic payment from their checking account or credit card. To enroll in the program call 1-866-507-8757 or visit www.faithdirect.net and enter MD114, our church code.

MORTGAGE: As of 1 March 2009 our mortgage debt is \$765,191.24. Our monthly interest/principal payment is \$18,500. The February revenue from our Debt Reduction collection amounted to \$9,548.33.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

March

- 15 Sun Family Choir Rehearsal, 10:00am
Food Bags for Head Start Distributed
- 16 Mon “Dogmatic Constitution on Revelation”
Vatican II, 7:00pm – 9:00pm,
Founders Hall
- 17 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00am, Barn
Faith Formation, 4:30 & 6:30pm
- 18 Wed Faith Formation, 4:30 & 6:30pm
- 20 Fri Stations of the Cross, 7:00pm, Church
- 21 Sat New Altar Servers Training, 10:00am
- 22 Sun First Eucharist Students at 9:00am Liturgy
Family Choir at 9:00am Liturgy
Welcome Weekend, Facilities Committee
Head Start Food Bags Returned
- 23 Mon “Pastoral Constitution on the Church
in the Modern World” Vatican II,
7:00-9:00pm, Founders Hall
- 24 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00am, barn
Faith Formation, 4:30 & 6:30pm
- 25 Wed Faith Formation, 4:30 & 6:30pm
- 27 Fri Stations of the Cross, 7:00pm, Church
- 28 Sat 40 Hours Devotion Begins Following the
5:00pm Liturgy
- 29 Sun 40 Hours Devotion, Thomas More Chapel
College & Process Presentation, 4:00pm
Founders Hall
High School Faith Formation,
6:30 – 7:45pm, Founders Hall
- 30 Mon 40 Hours Devotion Ends
- 31 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00am, Barn
Faith Formation, 4:30 – 6:30pm

April

- 01 Wed St. Monica Society, 10:00am, Barn
Faith Formation, 4:30 – 6:30pm
- 02 Thu Holy Hour, 7:00 – 8:00 pm,
Thomas More Chapel
- 04 Sat Spring “Spruce-Up” Day

SAVE THE DATE

May

- 02 Sat MayFest
- 17 Sun Confirmation, 2:00pm

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: **03-0338.16b**

PHONE NUMBER: **301-948-5536**

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CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWUN

Comments:
