

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 28 – 29 November

Presiders:

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

Readings for the Week of November 22, 2009

Sunday:	Dn 7:13-14/Rv 1:5-8/Jn 18:33b-37
Monday:	Dn 1:1-6, 8-20/Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday:	Dn 2:31-45/Lk 21:5-11
Wednesday:	Dn 5:1-6, 13-14, 16-17, 23-28/ Lk 21:12-19
Thursday:	Dn 6:12-28/Lk 21:20-28
Friday:	Dn 7:2-14/Lk 21:29-33
Saturday:	Dn 7:15-27/Lk 21:34-36
Next Sunday:	Jer 33:14-16/1 Thes 3:12---4:2/ Lk 21:25-28, 34-36

THANKSGIVING LITURGY will be celebrated on Wednesday evening, 25 November, 6:00pm in the church. The collection taken this day will be given to our sister parish in Haiti.

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 the mouth. Common sense dictates that one remain at home if feeling unwell.

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.

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION: Tuesday, 8 December, is a Holy Day of

Obligation in the United States. Sacred Liturgy will be celebrated at 12 noon and 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).

CHRISTMAS EVE PASSES are required for the 5:00pm Christmas Eve liturgy. Forms were included with the quarterly newsletter and mailed to all parishioners in late October. If you are a registered parishioner and did not receive a newsletter, please call the parish office (301) 948-5536, ext. 103.

Parish Life

ECCE QUAM BONUM: This weekend **Ryan Daniel Helgerman** and **Sarah Elise Helgerman** celebrate **Baptism**.

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.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS: Morning Prayer is prayed every morning before the 9:15am daily liturgy. Morning prayer begins at 8:50am in the Thomas More Chapel, parish barn.

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 the parish office (301) 498-5536 ext. 105.

SAVE THE DATE: Here is an opportunity to participate in our first parish family **Christmas/Epiphany Pageant** on Sunday, 13 December, 2:00pm in our church followed by a Christmas Cookie Reception. For information, check the bulletin, Faith Formation emails or call the Faith Formation office (301) 948-5536, ext. 107 or 114.

CHRIST THE KING

2010 CONFIRMATION DATE: The Most Reverend. Francisco Gonzalez, S.F., Auxiliary Bishop of Washington, will administer the Sacrament of Confirmation for Our Lady of the Visitation Parish on the **Sixth Sunday of Easter, 9 May 2010 at 2:00pm.**

WEEKEND RETREAT FOR PEOPLE FACING SERIOUS ILLNESS: A retreat specially planned for men and women facing serious physical illness will be held at the Dominican Retreat House in McLean, VA on 11 – 13 December 2009. A team of doctors, nurses, priests, sisters and helpers will be present around the clock. Scheduling allows plenty of time for rest and reflection. This retreat is offered free of charge. This is a non-smoking weekend. Registration closes 1 December 2009. Please call the Dominican Retreat House, (703) 356-4243 or Doug Sebek, (703) 860-4929 as soon as possible.

MEN'S VOCATION RETREAT: Archbishop Wuerl is sponsoring a retreat for men in their 20's – 40's who are considering a call to the priesthood. The retreat will be held at Theological College, from the evening of Friday, 5 February through Sunday, 7 February at noon. To register or for more information, contact Msgr. Rob Panke, Director of Priest Vocations, (301) 853-4580 or visit the website vocations@adw.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.

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.

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

Faith Formation for Life

SCRIPTURE STUDY: A study of the readings for next Sunday, the *First Sunday of Advent*, will be on Tuesday, 24 November 2009, 10:00am, in the Barn.

REMINDER: Faith Formation sessions **will not be held** on Tuesday, 24 November and Wednesday, 25 November. We pray you will have a blessed Thanksgiving.

KEEP CHRIST IN CHRISTMAS: Christmas is all about Christ, and the Knights of Columbus council 36901 is

helping to carry the message. You can help too, by creating a 12 x 18 inch poster promoting the theme, "Keep Christ in Christmas". Grades 1 – 8 are eligible to participate. In addition to the satisfaction of reminding everyone of the true meaning of Christmas, there is a top prize of \$100. Start now – entries are due by 9 December 2009. For more information, contact Donald Patti, 1-866-478-8080 or email nash Rambler@yahoo.com.

Social Concerns

SHADY GROVE PREGNANCY CENTER - Baby Closet Helper. If you like working behind the scenes, are skilled in organizing, and like to sort cute baby items, consider helping with our baby closet. We are looking for someone to help once a week between 10:00am and 2:30pm. Contact Jackie Stippich, Executive Director at (301) 963-6223.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COLLECTION (CCHD) will be taken in all parishes in the Archdiocese of Washington this weekend. For almost 40 years, the CCHD has offered a solution to poverty by funding low-income community groups across the United States. CCHD supports poor and low-income people in acquiring affordable housing, fair wages, access to health care and vocational training. The organization assists people with disabilities to effectively advocate for resources and funding for critical services. These and other programs are possible through your support to the CCHD on 21 – 22 November. Your generosity is appreciated.

BENEFIT CHRISTMAS CONCERT: St. Martin's of Tours church in Gaithersburg will present its annual Christmas concert on Wednesday, 2 December at 7:00pm. St. Martin's is located at 201 S Frederick Ave., Gaithersburg. All are welcome to attend this uplifting concert which explores the true meaning of Christmas through a variety of traditional and modern songs in several languages. In lieu of admission, attendees are asked to bring 5 – 10 cans of food to donate to St. Martin's pantry.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BLOOD DRIVE on Saturday, 5 December, 10:00am – 4:00pm at St. Mary's, Barnesville. Contact John Phipps, at jhipps@gl.com for more information.

Human Resources

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP WITH CHRISTMAS TREE SALES: Sign-ups will be held after

liturgy each weekend in November.

- Mark your calendars to help with set up at 8:00am on **Saturday morning, 28 November**. For more information call Bill Connors, (301) 869-8203.
- **“Work out Thursday”, 3 December**. Strong arms are needed to help unload the Christmas trees beginning at 1:00pm
- **Sales begin on Friday, 4 December**, at 3:30pm

CULINARY SKILLS NEEDED: Help feed the volunteers who are selling the Christmas trees by donating your favorite chili, soup, pasta, sandwiches or desserts. Volunteers are also needed to serve the workers and keep the kitchen clean. Help is needed on Saturday/Sunday, 5 – 6 December and on Saturday, 12 December. Sign-up sheets are available after each weekend liturgy during the month of November.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Regular office hours are Monday-Friday, 10:00am–4:00pm. Please note: the parish office is closed during the lunch hour, 12:00noon–1:00pm. The parish office will be closed on Thursday, 26 November and Friday, 27 November.

BULLETIN/FLYERS DEADLINE: If you wish to submit a bulletin article or a separate insert/flyer for in the bulletin please submit the information by calling (301) 948-5536, ext. 103 or email joconnor@olvp.org by noon on Friday.

Facilities

TRAFFIC PATTERNS: For the health and safety of all, please follow the designated traffic patterns for our church. Enter from Seneca Road and take an immediate right onto the first driveway. Exit via the second drive and turn LEFT toward Seneca Road. Fire regulations prohibit parking in the circle during services.

Finance

CRAFT SHOPPE will be taking orders for Advent wreath candles, religious books and poinsettias after each liturgy in November in Founders Hall. Deliver will be the weekend of 5 – 6 December. The shoppe will be open from Friday evening, 4 December to Sunday, 6 December. Our raffle items for this year include *Chrissa, the 2009 American Doll* and the *Christmas Shop Lego Toy Set*. Raffle tickets will be available beginning 7 November through 6 December.

FORWARD IN FAITH: Our parish has been successful in confirming \$1,861,280.64 in total pledges to support Forward in Faith. \$1,651,228.97 had been paid as of 30

September 2009; the archdiocese has received \$520,000 and our parish has received \$1,131,228.97. The outstanding amount is \$210,051.67. Thank you to all who support this program.

MORTGAGE: As of 1 November our mortgage debt is \$644,682.72. Our monthly interest/principal payment is \$18,500. The October revenue from our Debt Reduction Collection amounted to \$7,237.33.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

November

24	Tue	No Faith Formation Sessions
25	Wed	Vigil of Thanksgiving Sacred Liturgy, 6:00pm No Faith Formation Sessions
26	Thu	Parish Office Closed
27	Fri	Parish Office Closed
28	Sat	Christmas Trees Set-Up
30	Mon	RCIA, 7:00pm, Founders Hall

December

01	Tue	Scripture Study, 10:00am, Barn Faith Formation Sessions
02	Wed	Faith Formation Sessions
04	Fri	Christmas Trees Sales Begin Craft Shoppe Opens Food Bags for Head Start Distributed
06	Sun	High School Faith Formation
07	Mon	RCIA
08	Tue	Feast of the Immaculate Conception Sacred Liturgy, 12:00 Noon & 7:00pm Scripture Study 10:00am, Barn Faith Formation Sessions Parish Offices Closes at Noon
09	Wed	Faith Formation Sessions
12	Sat	Christmas/Epiphany Pageant Dress Rehearsal, 10:00am, Church
13	Sun	Religious Retirement Collection Food Bags for Head Start Returned St. Nicholas Project Donations Due Holy Name Society at 9:00am Liturgy Christmas Trees Sales Ends Christmas/Epiphany Pageant

SAVE THE DATE

May

09	Sun	Confirmation, 2:00pm, Bishop Gonzalez
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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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CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWUN

Comments:
