

OUR LADY OF THE VISITATION, DARNESTOWN

Liturgical Life

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT: 20 – 21 February

Presiders:

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

Readings for the Week of February 14, 2010

Sunday: Jer 17:5-8/1 Cor 15:12, 16-20/
Lk 6:17, 20-26
Monday: Jas 1:1-11/Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday: Jas 1:12-18/Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday: Jl 2:12-18/2 Cor 5:20--6:2/Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday: Dt 30:15-20/Lk 9:22-25
Friday: Is 58:1-9a/Mt 9:14-15
Saturday: Is 58:9b-14/Lk 5:27-32
Next Sunday: Dt 26:4-10/Rom 10:8-13/Lk 4:1-13

SNOW EMERGENCY: While it is not our practice to cancel Mass, dangerous travel/road conditions are legitimate excuses that might prevent an individual from fulfilling the Sunday obligation to attend Mass. Those who cannot safely travel to attend mass in person are encouraged to watch the Sunday TV Mass, which airs at 10:30am on CW50.

LENT: The Lenten season has a double character, namely to prepare both perspective Catholics and parishioners to celebrate the paschal mystery. The perspective Catholics, both with the rite of election and scrutinies, and by catechesis, are prepared for the celebration of the sacraments of Christian initiation; the parishioners, ever more attentive to the word of God and prayer, prepare themselves by penance for the renewal of their baptismal promises (*Caeremoniale episcoporum*, 249). Lent runs from Ash Wednesday (17 February 2010) until the Mass of the Lord's Supper exclusive on Holy Thursday (1 April 2010).

ASH WEDNESDAY: Wednesday, 17 February 2010 begins the Season of Lent, which ends on the afternoon of Holy Thursday, 1 April 2010.

Liturgy of the Eucharist, with distribution of ashes:

6:00am, 12 noon, and 6:00pm in the church

Ecumenical Prayer Service with distribution of ashes:

8:00pm, St. Nicholas Episcopal Church

FAST AND ABSTINENCE: Ash Wednesday, (17 February 2010) and Good Friday, (2 April 2010) are days of total abstinence from meat and also days of fast, that is, limited to a single full meal. All the Fridays of Lent are days of total abstinence from meat. The law of abstinence binds all Catholics over 14 years of age; the law of fasting binds

all Catholics from the 18th year until and including their 59th birthday.

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE/RECONCILIATION:

During Lent, the Sacrament of Penance/Reconciliation will be celebrated Wednesday evenings, 24 February - 24 March, from 6:30pm to 8:00pm in the church. Exposition of the Most Blessed Sacrament will take place during that time.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Fridays, through 26 March, 7:00pm in the church.

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 one remain at home if feeling unwell.

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 gifts.

Parish Life

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: It is with sadness we announce the death of **the Rev. Levester Jones**, a priest of the Archdiocese of Washington. We commend him and his family to God in our prayers.

GETTING READY DAY for those preparing to receive their First Eucharist in 2010 is scheduled for Saturday, 20 February 2010, 9:00am – 11:00am in Founders Hall.

CONFIRMATION RETREAT will be held on Friday, 26 February, 6:00pm through Saturday, 27 February, 6:00pm. For inquiries, contact Fr. Ray at rfecteau@olvp.org.

PARISH EMBER DAYS: Responding to the Gospel and following Church tradition, Visitation parishioners are encouraged to voluntarily set aside Wednesday, 24 February, Friday, 26 February and Saturday, 27 February as special days of fasting, prayer and works of charity.

LITURGY OF THE HOURS: Morning Prayer is prayed every morning before the 9:15am daily liturgy. Morning Prayer begins at 8:45am in the Thomas More Chapel.

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

WIDOWS AND WIDOWERS: Post Cana is an organization sponsored by the Office of Family Life of the Archdiocese of Washington for the mutual support of widowed people of all ages. Events include social, educational and spiritual gatherings. For further information or to register, please call Joan Mahoney, (301) 438-1486.

JUBILARIAN MASS – SAVE THE DATE: Archbishop Donald Wuerl will celebrate the annual Jubilarian mass on Sunday, 7 June 2010 at the Basilica of the national Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. Registrations will begin soon. Watch the parish bulletin for further information.

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) 948-5536, ext. 105.

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 mass, call the parish office to arrange for visitation and Communion in your home.

CATHOLIC ENGAGED ENCOUNTER: Engaged Encounter is a program of the Catholic Church dedicated to preparing couples for the Sacrament of Marriage. For more 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.

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 Lent*, will be on Tuesday, 16 February, 10:00am, in the Barn.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION - THE SACRAMENTS: This lecture series will be taught by Fr. Raymond Fecteau on Monday evenings, beginning 22 February, from 7:00pm – 9:00pm in Founders Hall. Topics include: *“Liturgy and the Paschal Mystery (22 February), Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist (1 March), Sacraments of Healing: Penance and Reconciliation; Anointing of the Sick*

(8 March) and Sacraments of Service: Holy Orders; Matrimony (15 March).

FAITH FORMATION: VBC IS COMING SOON! Join us on our **High Seas Expedition**. Hey kids, set sail this summer, feel the sea spray on your face as sails snap overhead and you and your crew get ready to experience the deep rolling waters of GOD’S LOVE. This year we will hold TWO, ONE WEEK expeditions. The first expedition will run from 21 – 25 June from 9:00am – 1:00pm. The second expedition will run from 28 June – 2 July. You may choose to attend either expedition, OR BOTH. The expedition fee is \$95 per week, per sailor for parishioners, and \$115 per week, per sailor for non-parishioners. Check the weekly bulletin insert pages for additional information. **Open registration will be in the St. Ann’s room (lower church level across from the restrooms) on Sunday, 14 March after the 9:00am family Liturgy.**

TEEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VBC: Twenty teens are needed for each session this year. High school students and middle school volunteers (you must have completed 6th grade to be a CIT). Please come and register on 14 March after the 9:00am Family Liturgy in the Cana Room in Founders Hall. First come, first served. MCPS SSL hours will be given for 25 – 30 hours per session.

ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR VBC: Come and sign up to join the fun with our parish children on one or two sessions Sunday, 14 March after the 9:00am Family Liturgy in Founders Hall or email Michele Olewack at molewack@olvp.org.

Social Concerns

HAITI EARTHQUAKE COLLECTION: The Archdiocese is collecting funds to send to Haiti. If you would like to make a donation, please send your check, payable to *“Our Lady of the Visitation Parish”* with a notation on the check for *“Haiti Relief”*, and send it to the parish office, 14135 Seneca Road, Darnestown, MD 20874. Thus far our parish has collected \$24,135.00 for the humanitarian efforts of the U.S. bishops and CRS in Haiti.

ANNUAL CATHOLIC LOBBY NIGHT: The Maryland Catholic Conference (MCC) and the Catholic bishops of Maryland, invites you to attend the 26th annual Catholic Lobby Night in Annapolis on Monday, 15 February from 3pm – 8pm. Lobby Night is an event that gives Catholic voters the opportunity to speak in person with their elected state officials. Lobby Night begins with prayer and commissioning from the bishops, followed by issue briefings

from MCC staff then meetings with lawmakers followed by a dinner reception with legislators. Registration is required. To register, call (301) 261-1979 or register online at www.mdcathcon.org.

ASSISTED LIVING BY VICTORY HOUSING: Victory Housing of the Archdiocese of Washington operates seven assisted living communities in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. Several assisted living communities have openings. For further information visit www.victoryhousing.org.

Human Resources

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Regular office hours are Monday-Friday, 10:00am-4:00pm. The office is closed during the lunch hour, 12:00noon – 1:00pm.

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

SNOW EMERGENCY: It is not our practice to cancel Liturgy on Sundays and on Holy Days of Obligation, including their vigils, because of weather. Faith Formation sessions are cancelled if a snow emergency plan is in effect, or if Montgomery Country 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. Weekday liturgy is held if there is a delay in the opening of schools. If schools are closed, there is no daily liturgy. **When in doubt, please call the parish office, (301) 948-5536.**

Finance

SNOWFALL SHORTFALL: Our parish is under budget because of lower attendance due to the weather. We are grateful to those parishioners who make up their contributions when they return.

MORTGAGE: As of 1 February 2010, our monthly mortgage debt is \$598,417.55. The January revenue amounted to \$9,347.33. Our monthly interest/principal payment is \$18,500. (Our original loan amounted to \$2,220,000.)

MARK YOUR CALENDAR	
February	
15 Mon	President's Day, Parish Office Closed
16 Tue	Scripture Study, 10:00am, Barn Faith Formation Sessions
17 Wed	Ash Wednesday , Sacred Liturgy: 6:00am, 12 noon, 6:00pm 8:00pm Ecumenical Service Faith Formation Sessions
20 Sat	Getting Ready Day, 9:00am – 11:00am
22 Mon	Adult Faith Formation 7pm – 9pm Founders Hall
23 Tue	Scripture Study, 10:00am, Barn Faith Formation Sessions
24 Wed	Ember Day Faith Formation Sessions Penance, 6:30 – 8:00pm, Church
26 Fri	Ember Day Confirmation Retreat Begins, 6:00pm
27 Sat	Ember Day Confirmation Retreat Ends, 6:00pm
March	
01 Mon	Adult Faith Formation 7 – 9pm, Founders Hall
02 Tue	Scripture Study, 10:00am, Barn Faith Formation Sessions
03 Wed	Faith Formation Sessions Penance, 6:30 – 8:00pm, Church
04 Thu	Holy Hour, 7 – 8pm, Thomas More Chapel
07 Sun	Food Bag Collection for Head Start Bags Distributed High School Faith Formation Session 6:30 – 7:45pm, Founders Hall
08 Mon	Adult Faith Formation 7pm – 9pm Founders Hall
09 Tue	Scripture Study, 10:00am, Barn Faith Formation Sessions
10 Wed	Faith Formation Sessions Penance, 6:30 – 8:00pm, Church
13 Sat	Confirmation Study Session, 9am – 11am Founders Hall, 7 th Grade Confirmands & Parents
SAVE THE DATE	
May	
09 Sun	Confirmation, 2:00pm Bishop Gonzalez

**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: **03-0338.12b**

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

FAX NUMBER: **301-948-7452**

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Jean O'Connor**

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Comments:
