

OUR LADY OF THE VISITATION, DARNESTOWN

Liturgical Life

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD: 31 December – 01 January, PRESIDERS:

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

Readings for the Week of December 25, 2011

Sunday: Vigil: Is 62:1-5/Acts 13:16-17, 22-25/Mt 1:1-25 or 1:18-25
Midnight: Is 9:1-6/Ti 2:11-14/Lk 2:1-14
Dawn: Is 62:11-12/Ti 3:4-7/Lk 2:15-20
Day: Is 52:7-10/Heb 1:1-6/Jn 1:1-18 or 1:1-5, 9-14
Monday: Acts 6:8-10; 7:54-59/Mt 10:17-22
Tuesday: 1 Jn 1:1-4/Jn 20:1a, 2-8
Wednesday: 1 Jn 1:5--2:2/Mt 2:13-18
Thursday: 1 Jn 2:3-11/Lk 2:22-35
Friday: Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or Gn 15:1-6; 21:1-3 or Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17 or Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22, 39-40
Saturday: 1 Jn 2:18-21/Jn 1:1-18
Next Sunday: Nm 6:22-27/Gal 4:4-7/Lk 2:16-21

INCLEMENT WEATHER: Parishioners are not obliged to physically attend Sunday Mass if dangerous travel or road conditions exist. Those who cannot safely attend Mass in person are encouraged to watch the Sunday TV Mass, which airs at 10:30 a.m. on CW50.

CHRISTMAS SEASON: Next to the yearly celebration of the paschal mystery, the Church holds most sacred the memorial of Christ's birth and early manifestations. This is the purpose of the Christmas season. The Christmas season extends from Christmas Eve through the Baptism of the Lord, Monday, 9 January 2012.

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.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: On the *Feast of The Epiphany of the Lord*, 08 January 2012, special

liturgy for families with children will be celebrated at the 9:00 a.m. liturgy with special refreshments afterwards in Founders Hall to honor the 21st anniversary of our first public mass in Darnestown.

Parish Life

PARISH NECROLOGY: On the anniversary of their death, please keep the following parishioners in your prayers: **Nicanor Aquino** (03 December 2005), **Winifred Donnellan** (04 December 1991), **Stefano Zanello** (07 December 2010), **Filomena Picciano** (08 December 1993), **Steven Pindell** (18 December 1994), **Nicholas Toran** (27 December 1993) and **Matthew Todd Wolff** (27 December 1997).

REQUIESCAT IN PACE: It is with sadness we announce the death of **the Reverend Msgr. William J. Awalt**, a retired priest of the Archdiocese of Washington. We commend him and his family to God in our prayers.

HOLY HOUR: An hour of silent adoration before the Blessed Sacrament will be held on Thursday, 5 January 2012, 7:00 p.m. in the Thomas More Chapel.



FIND THE PERFECT GIFT: Be a part of the New Evangelization! *Find the Perfect Gift* is an Advent initiative of the Archdiocese of Washington that invites Catholics to share an invitation with neighbors and friends to consider the great gift of God in sending his Son to earth. When someone asks you about the campaign, share with them the link to the website, www.findthepreciousgift.org and mention the difference a relationship with Our Lord has made in your life.

MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, 1 January: “Mother of God” is the oldest title and feast for Mary. Mary, under this title, is the patroness of the Archdiocese of Washington. The coat of arms for our Archdiocese appears in the **upper panel**; St. Matthew's, the Cathedral for our Archdiocese, appears in the **lower panel**.

ELIZABETH ANN SETON, 4 January: Elizabeth Ann Seton (1774 – 1821) was born in New York and

NATIVITY OF THE LORD

raised as an Episcopalian. Widowed with five children, Elizabeth became a Catholic and was especially devoted to the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist (**upper panel**). She founded the American Sisters of Charity in 1809, establishing the foundations for the parochial school system in America. Mary of Nazareth School, a school serving our parish and six other parishes, met in our parish barn (**lower panel**) until their new school was built in 1996.

ST. JOHN NEUMANN, 5 January: St. John Neumann (1811 – 1860) was born in Czechoslovakia. He came to the United States and was ordained a priest in New York City. He joined the Redemptorists (**upper panel**) and did missionary work in New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia and Ohio. Consecrated bishop of Philadelphia (**lower panel**), he organized the parochial school system into a diocesan one, invited teaching orders to the diocese, and established parishes for immigrants. John Neumann was also known for his great love for the Eucharist and for the rosary.

SEVENTH GRADE CONFIRMATION GROUP STUDY: A Group Study Workshop, Session II, will be conducted on Sunday, 22 January from 6:30 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. for 7th grade candidates and their parents. Contact Fr. Ray at rfecteau@olvp.org with questions concerning Confirmation.



FIRST PENANCE: First Penance and Reconciliation Service for parish children will be held on Saturday, 28 January at 9:00 a.m. A reception for children and their families will follow in Founders Hall. Two **volunteers** (not parents of second graders) **are needed** from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and two volunteers are needed from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m., to help set up, monitor, and clean up.

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. For further information, call the parish office, (301) 948-5536 x 105.

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 further information go to www.dcengagedencounter.org and register for a weekend.

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.

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.

Faith Formation for Life

SCRIPTURE STUDY: A study of the readings for the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God, will be on Tuesday, 27 December, 10:00 a.m., in the Barn.

THANK YOU to all those who helped at the Christmas Pageant and to those thoughtful parents who brought cookies for the reception.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION: Classes will resume on Tuesday-Wednesday, 3-4 January at 4:45 p.m. and Sunday, 8 January at 6:30 p.m.

MARY OF NAZARETH: For information about Mary of Nazareth School, please visit the school's website at www.maryofnazareth.org.

Social Concerns

CARDINAL'S APPEAL: As of December 2011, Our Lady of the Visitation Parish has pledged \$123,728 to the 2011 Cardinal's Appeal. This is 150.28% of the goal established for our parish, or \$82,329. To date, 143.65% of the pledges have been received. **Thank you** to all parishioners who have donated so generously to this campaign.

U.S. CHURCH MISSIONS: This collection will be taken on 7-8 January 2012. Mandated by the III Plenary Council of Baltimore in 1884, this effort embodies the church's concern for evangelizing black, American Indian, Eskimo and Aleut peoples in the United States.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES: You are invited to join the Catholic Charities Volunteer Group, "Warm Hands, Friendly Faces," which asks volunteers to be goodwill ambassadors in their emergency shelters for our homeless neighbors by creating a welcoming and warm atmosphere. If you are interested, please email Kenyatta.Brunson@catholiccharitiesdc.org.

Human Resources



PARISH OFFICE: The parish office is open between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except:
Monday, 26 December Office Closed
Friday, 30 December Closes at Noon
Monday, 02 January Office Closed

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

Facilities

PARISH REPAIR: If you see a needed repair around the parish, please call the office at (301) 948-5536 ext. 103 and report the problem so we can get it fixed.

Finance



GIVE LESS TO THE IRS: All 2011 donations to the parish throughout the year and at Christmas are tax deductible. All stocks donated in 2011 are credited to the donor at full face value on the date of transfer.

CHRISTMAS GIFT: We are grateful to parishioners who make an extra donation to the parish at Christmas. Your donation helps us balance our parish budget.

FAITH DIRECT: We encourage you to sign up with Faith Direct. Stop writing checks and using envelopes. Using Faith Direct saves precious time and money for both you and the parish, so make the change today by picking up an enrollment form at the parish office or from church, or sign up online at www.faithdirect.net. Our parish code is MD114.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS: To receive tax credit in 2011, your contributions must be dated by Saturday, 31 December 2011. If you are mailing a contribution, it must be postmarked by Monday, 02 January 2012 and received in the parish office by Friday, 06 January 2012 to be credited to your 2011 contribution statement.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

December

- 26 Mon Office Closed
- 27 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
- 29 Thu The Lord's Table Soup Kitchen
- 30 Fri Office Closes at Noon

January

- 02 Mon Office Closed
- 03 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
Faith Formation, 4:45 – 6:00 p.m.
- 04 Wed Faith Formation, 4:45 – 6:00 p.m.
- 05 Thu Holy Hour, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m., Chapel
- 08 Sun *Epiphany*, 9:00 a.m. Family Liturgy
Refreshments in Founders Hall
Church Missions in USA Collection
Faith Formation, 6:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.
Grades 6, 7, 8, Lower Church
High School, Rectory
- 10 Tues Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
Faith Formation, 4:45 – 6:00 p.m.
- 11 Wed Faith Formation, 4:45 – 6:00 p.m.
- 15 Sun No Faith Formation Classes
- 16 Mon Office Closed
- 17 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
Faith Formation, 4:45 – 6:00 p.m.
- 18 Wed Faith Formation, 4:45 – 6:00 p.m.
- 22 Sun 7th Grade Confirmation Study Session,
6:30 – 7:45 p.m., Lower Church
- 24 Tue Scripture Study, 10:00 a.m., Barn
Faith Formation, 4:45 – 6:00 p.m.
- 25 Wed Faith Formation, 4:45 – 6:00 p.m.
- 28 Sat First Reconciliation/Reception, 9:00 a.m.,
Church/Hall
- 29 Sun Holy Name Society Brunch

SAVE THE DATE

February 2012

- 10 Fri Volunteer Appreciation Dinner/Dance
- 12 Sun Family Bingo

**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: **03-0338.05b**

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

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

EDITOR/ CONTACT: **Colleen Enos**

CURRENT FORMAT: EBSWUN

Comments:
