



National Shrine & Basilica

A Father Baker Legacy

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Deacon Michael V. Comerford

DEACON & PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Deacon Mark Bialkowski

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Peter Gonciarz

August 9, 2026 | Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time



HE CAME TOWARD
THEM WALKING ON
THE SEA.

— MATTHEW 14:26 —

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

GET IN TOUCH!

RECTORY OFFICE

Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
(closed on Th. and Fri. from 1—2 p.m.)

716-828-9444 • 716-828-9429 fax

olvrectory@olvbasilica.org

SCHOOL

2760 S. Park Avenue, Lackawanna

Mary Doyle-Szlosek, Principal

716-828-9434

elementary@olvbasilica.org

www.ourladyofvictoryelementary.org

FAITH FORMATION

2760 S. Park Avenue, Lackawanna

Sunday: 7:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

Monday-Friday: 7:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

Carmelann Zomeri, Director

716-828-9437

faithformation@olvbasilica.org

GIFT SHOP AND MUSEUM

Open Daily 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
(closed 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. for lunch)

James Murphy, Gift Shop Manager

716-828-9433

olvgiftshop@olvbasilica.org

COME & WORSHIP

BASILICA HOURS

The Basilica is open for private prayer every day during the following hours:

Sunday: 6:45 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Monday-Friday: 6:45 a.m.—7:00 p.m.

Saturday: 6:45 a.m.—7:30 p.m.

WEEKEND MASSES

Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m.

Sunday: 8 a.m., 10 a.m., Noon, 4:30 p.m.

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday—Saturday:
7:30 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.

There is an additional Mass at 8:15 a.m. on Fridays when school is in session.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays: (except Holy Saturday)
3:00—4:00 p.m. and 7:00—7:30 p.m.

Eve of First Fridays: 3:00—4:00 p.m.

Eve of Holy Days: 3:00—4:00 p.m.

GUIDED BASILICA TOURS

Please call the Rectory Office at 716-828-9444 if you are interested in scheduling a group tour.

Address: 767 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, NY 14218

Phone: 716-828-9444

Website: www.olvbasilica.org

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,

FATHER BAKER WEEKEND APPRECIATION:

Thank you to all who participated in the events for Father Baker Day Weekend on August 1–2. I am deeply grateful to Karen Saxton and the Contemporary Ensemble and musicians for the spirit-filled Pre-Mass Jazz Concert, followed by the Jazz Mass on Saturday afternoon! It was absolutely wonderful!

Thank you as well to Peter Gonciarz, Director of Music, and our wonderful Basilica Choir and musicians, the Sisters of St. Joseph, Knights of Columbus, Knights of St. John, Knights of St. Peter Claver, Catholic Daughters, Columbiettes, and all who participated in the Father Baker Day Mass at 12:00 Noon on Sunday. I was thrilled to see so many people come to honor Father Baker on the 90th Anniversary of his passing on to eternal life in heaven.

I also wish to express my profound sentiments of gratitude and appreciation to all who participated in our *Pennies to Heaven* events, including our Car Show, Coin Drop, BBQ, and Carnival. I don't want to miss anyone, but I need to give a particular shout-out to our core team, led by **Rich & Allison Osman**. Rich and Allie did an incredible job of handling all the logistics and coordination for the weekend and were assisted by division coordinators for each area:

- **Clarisse Adamczak and Carm Zomeri** for the basket raffle / silent auction
- **Bridget & Tom Wood** for volunteers and the car show
- **Rick Diamond & Family** for the chicken BBQ
- **Amanda & Richie English** for the ministry tent
- **Deacon Mark & Stephanie Bialkowski** for the Kid's Zone
- **Melinda & David Buckley** for the budget and bar
- **Nick Osman** for entertainment

These coordinators were assisted by a dedicated team of volunteers and employees of OLV Charities and OLV National Shrine and Basilica including:

- **Mike Allaire, Amanda Schreiber, and our OLV Finance Team**
- **Yordan Kovatchki, Patti Sawyer, and our OLV Facilities Team**
- **Tom Lucia and our OLV Creative Team**
- **Nick Budney and our OLV Security Team**
- **Shannon Donovan and Adrienne Linger from our OLV Mission Advancement Team**
- **Carolyn Rebmann, Becky Egloff, and Nicole Ball from the Rectory Office**
- **and all the many volunteers.**

Everyone worked so hard to make the day a huge success! The Chicken BBQ was delicious, the entertainment was outstanding, and the expanded Kid's Zone had a wide range of inflatable activities, games, and entertainment. I was overwhelmed by the generosity of our parishioners and friends who donated gift baskets, items for the gift baskets, and all the wine for the Wine Toss led by the Knights of Columbus. Special thanks to the Knights of Columbus for cooking the hot dogs and hosting the Wine Toss game.

And finally, a thank you to all of our sponsors whose contributions funded our activity areas, from the tents, Kid's Zone, basket raffle, and music and entertainment. Thank you!



SOLEMNITY OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:

Saturday, August 15 is the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. **Since it falls on a Saturday this year, it is not a Holy Day of Obligation.** However, please note that on this

Solemnity of the Blessed Virgin Mary's Assumption into heaven, we call to mind how God prepared our Blessed Mother for her special role in the history of our salvation. Due to her Immaculate Conception, and her eventual bringing forth Jesus into the world, her lifelong participation in God's divine plan ultimately leads to her glorious Assumption into heaven—an event we celebrate as the foundation and model of our own future resurrection. May our Blessed Mother Mary under her title of Our Lady of Victory always intercede for us and help us to give our "yes" to the will of God in our daily lives.



PILGRIMAGE OPPORTUNITY: "IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF ST. PAUL"

Please consider joining me for an upcoming pilgrimage opportunity through OLV Charities as we travel to Greece this Fall from September 22—October 2, 2026 in the footsteps of Saint Paul. The pilgrimage includes round trip airfare from Toronto (other airports available), first class hotel accommodations, daily private Mass, a 3-day Mediterranean island cruise, and breakfast and dinner daily. Cost is \$6,499 per person (double occupancy). For details, please visit <https://www.catholicjourneys.com/gc-sept2026> or scan the QR code and enter "OLV" as the password.



Be assured of my grateful prayers. May Father Baker intercede for you and Our Lady of Victory protect you.

**GRATEFULLY,
FATHER DAVID**

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8—Saint Dominic, Priest

7:30 am	Intentions of the Novena in Honor of Our Lady's Assumption
9:00 am	Funeral Mass for Frank R. Morabito
10:30 am	Memorial Mass for Philip J. Occhino
12:10 pm	Donald Schiele by Donna Johnson
1:30 pm	Wedding: Emma Taylor and Christopher Carriero
4:30 pm	Annette Carson-Flaucher by William & Mary Ann O'Rourke

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9—Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am	Living & Deceased Members of the OLV Holy Name Society
10:00 am	Angelo & Teresa De Giuli by Ann Marie Wingert & Robert De Guili
12:00 pm	Lorraine Neill by the Maroney Family
4:30 pm	Intentions of the Novena in Honor of Our Lady's Assumption

MONDAY, AUGUST 10—Saint Lawrence, Deacon and Martyr

7:30 am	Anastasia Downey by the Downey Family AND All Souls Intentions
12:10 pm	Intentions of the Novena in Honor of Our Lady's Assumption Walter & Lillian Melohusky (Wedding Anniversary) by the Melohusky Family

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11—Saint Clare, Virgin

7:30 am	Intentions of the Novena in Honor of Our Lady's Assumption Jeremy and Jeffrey Begy (living) by Michael Melfi
12:10 pm	Ben Schultz by the Swiech Family Kevin & Terry O'Sullivan by Esther Sullivan

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12—Saint Jane Frances de Chantal, Religious

7:30 am	Joan C. Downey by the Downey Family Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Paszek (Wedding Anniversary)
12:10 pm	Intentions of the Novena in Honor of Our Lady's Assumption Mary Eileen Kreuzer by OLV Charities

THURSDAY, AUGUST 13—Saints Pontian, Pope, and Hippolytus, Priest, Martyrs

7:30 am	Intentions of the Novena in Honor of Our Lady's Assumption Michael & Jean Tos by Dennis & Marcia Tos and Family
12:10 pm	Marie Stroka by Jeff & Debbie Klein AND Joe Orlowski by Eric Apen

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14—Saint Maximilian Kolbe, Priest and Martyr

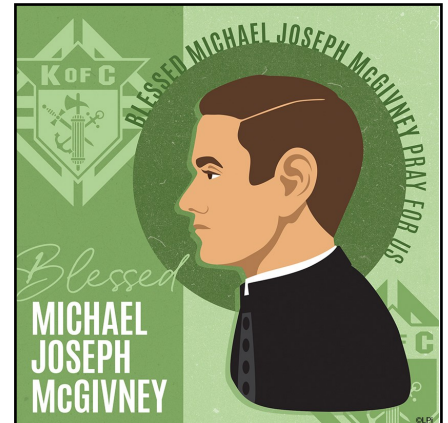
7:30 am	Intentions of the Novena in Honor of Our Lady's Assumption Special Intention by Mary Ann Schmigel
12:10 pm	Kathleen Battaglia by Family Anna Kusmierczyk and Jennie Iafallo by Bob & Joanne Rand
4:00 pm	Wedding: Ina Benkova and Lucas Webber

SATURDAY, AUGUST 15—The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary (not a Holy Day of Obligation this year)

7:30 am	Intentions of the Novena in Honor of Our Lady's Assumption
10:30 am	Funeral for Gerald S. Kancar
12:10 pm	Fred Zmitrovich by a friend
1:30 pm	Wedding: Claire Ferro and Tyler Armak
4:30 pm	Albert & Matilda Jaromin and Josephine Baron by Elaine and James

SUNDAY, AUGUST 16—Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am	Carmelo & Rose Maiorano by daughter, Marion
10:00 am	Rose Marie Delaney by Dean & Clair Angle
12:00 pm	Mary Ann Najuch by daughter, Linda Smolen
4:30 pm	Timothy & Nancy Moore by Michael Moore and Brigid Sengbusch



FEAST DAY MASS

Thursday, August 13
12:10 p.m.

Join the Knights of Columbus and Columbiettes as they honor their founder, Blessed Michael J. McGivney, and his legacy of charity, unity, and parish life at the 12:10 p.m. Mass on Thursday, August 13.

Born in 1852, Fr. McGivney was ordained for the Diocese of Hartford, Connecticut in 1877 and then founded the Knights in 1882 to keep Catholic families together through faith, charity, and financial protection. He died in 1890 and was beatified in 2020. All are welcome to join in honoring Blessed Michael McGivney on his feast day.

Learn more about the Knights at kofc.org/join and find out how you can make a difference. For questions or more information, please contact the Father Baker Council #2243 of the Knights of Columbus at 716-634-8997.





Elijah heard a tiny whispering sound and knew it was the voice of God. The call to ministry can be hard to hear in our ruckety world. Take time for silent prayer and if you hear the call, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.

JOIN US IN PRAYER

PRAY THE ROSARY

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

All are welcome to join in praying the Rosary for Peace on Tuesday evenings in the Basilica's lower level Community Room.

JOIN OUR PRAYER GROUP

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. •
August 11 and August 25

Join our "Victory for Christ" prayer group in the Basilica's chapel on the lower level to praise, thank, and give witness to God.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday
Afternoons

Join us each
week on
Fridays after the 12:10 p.m.
Mass until 5:00 p.m.



UPCOMING EVENTS

"BACK TO SCHOOL" RAFFLE

The Father Baker Columbiettes will be selling tickets for the September "Back to School" Raffle in August. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20 and will be available after all Masses. The Columbiettes will be selling tickets on the lower level of the Basilica. All proceeds will benefit local charities in our community. Thanks for your support and generosity!

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

Tuesdays • 6:30 p.m. • August 11,
September 8, October 13,
November 10, or December 1

If you are a new parent looking to have your baby baptized, please plan to attend one of our upcoming Baptism Preparation classes in the Basilica's Marian Room. Scan the QR code to register. For questions, please contact Deacon Mark at 716-339-0767 or mbialkowski@olvbasilica.org.



OLV SUMMER BOOK CLUB: A SUMMER WITH ST. JOSEPH

Wednesday, August 12 •
1:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m.

Get to know more about St. Joseph by participating in OLV's Summer Book Club! We will meet in the Basilica's Marian Room as we focus on St. Joseph's history and discuss *The Truth About Saint Joseph: Encountering the Most Hidden of Saints* by Father Maurice Meschler, SJ. Come to whichever session best fits your schedule. For questions or more information, contact Deacon Mark at 716-339-0767 or mbialkowski@olvbasilica.org.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A SACRISTAN?

Monday, August 17 • 6:30 p.m.

Feeling called to get more involved? A training session for adult volunteers who

The logo for the Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA), featuring the letters "OCIA" in a large, bold, blue font, with "Order of Christian Initiation for Adults" in a smaller font below it.

Are you interested in receiving the sacraments of initiation of the Catholic Church? Then OCIA is for you! Our sessions will prepare you to receive Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil.

OCIA sessions are held on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. either at Our Lady of Victory or at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart.

Please register for OCIA at:
<https://bit.ly/2026-OCIA-OLSH-OLV>

Our first class will be Wednesday, September 23 at 6:00 p.m. at OLV.

are interested in serving as sacristans will be held in the Basilica on August 17 from 6:30—8:00 p.m. To register, scan the QR code, visit <https://bit.ly/OLVTraining>, or call/text Deacon Mark at 716-339-0767. Our session will take place in the main Basilica, but only if volunteers are registered to attend.



AN INVITATION TO JOIN "COR"

Thursday, August 20 • 6:30 p.m.

All men of our parish 18 years and older are invited to join the Knights of Columbus Father Baker Council for our next monthly COR meeting in the Basilica's Community Room. The format will include light refreshments, saying the rosary as a group, and an engaging discussion regarding our faith. Consider taking that next important step in your journey to becoming closer to Christ!

JOIN US AT OLV ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!

Choosing the right school makes all the difference. At OLV Elementary, families find a welcoming community where children thrive — academically, socially, and spiritually. From PreK3 through 8th Grade, your child will be guided by caring teachers who inspire a lifelong love of learning. Come see why so many families call OLV “home.”

Call 716-828-7592 for a private tour or visit www.ourladyofvictoryelementary.org to learn more.



Are you looking to deepen your child's relationship with God and connect with others in our parish community? Join our upcoming Faith Formation sessions! Whether you are looking for an in-person program or a lifelong way to grow in faith as a Catholic family, we are here to help begin your child's spiritual journey. There is a place for your family! Come explore Scripture, deepen your family prayer life, and grow in your faith walk with Christ. Classes begin at age 5.

When:

Sundays, beginning Sept. 20, from 8:40 – 9:50 a.m.

Where:

OLV Elementary School, located behind the Basilica

Registration:

Contact the Faith Formation Office at 716-828-7494 or faithformation@olvbasilica.org

COMMUNITY EVENTS



FREE “FAMILY FUN” DAY!

Sunday, August 23 • Noon—4 p.m.

Our Lady of Fatima Shrine
1023 Swann Road, Youngstown

Join the Catholic Parenting Initiative for a day of free family fun! Enjoy a cookout, ice cream, bounce houses, balloon art, live music, games and activities, praying the rosary, and more! Day also includes Confession and Adoration, and concludes with Mass outdoors (weather permitting) at 4:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome! Check cpinwvny.org for details.

DEVOTIONS TO OUR LADY OF CZESTOCHOWA

Tuesday, August 25 • 6:30 p.m.
Queen of Angels (OLSH Worship Site)
144 Warsaw Street, Lackawanna

Fr. John Kasprzak will preside at Our Lady of Czestochowa devotions at

Queen of Angels Church (the secondary worship site of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Orchard Park). Light refreshments to follow. All are welcome!



THE SPIRITUAL EXERCISES OF ST. IGNATIUS THIS FALL

The Spiritual Exercises are an in-depth experience of praying with scripture in an Ignatian tradition. It involves daily prayer using selected Scripture passages directed toward becoming more attentive and open to God through development of a deep personal relationship with Jesus Christ. The retreat involves small group meetings, weekly for the first month, then twice a month for seven months.

Daytime and evening groups are forming now. Meetings will be held at Loyola Hall at Canisius University and at an Amherst location to be announced. For details or to register, go to www.ignatianexercises.org, or contact Fr. Ben Fiore, SJ (fiore20b@gmail.com) or Maryann Peer (716-435-0851). The deadline to register (online or by contacting one of the above) is September 16th.

JOB OPENINGS

OLV CHARITIES

Visit olvcharities.org/careers for more information.

- Stationary Engineer w/EPA Cert.
- Senior Stationary Engineer
- HVAC Technician
- Maintenance Supervisor
- Payroll Administrator

OLV ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Please visit ourladyofvictoryelementary.org/careers for details.

- Director of Enrollment Mgmt.
- Reading & Math AIS Teacher
- Teacher's Aide

SUPPORT OLV

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Offertory

Donate to the offertory collection to support OLV National Shrine & Basilica.



Vigil Candles

Pay the requested offering (\$5 each) to light a candle inside the Basilica.



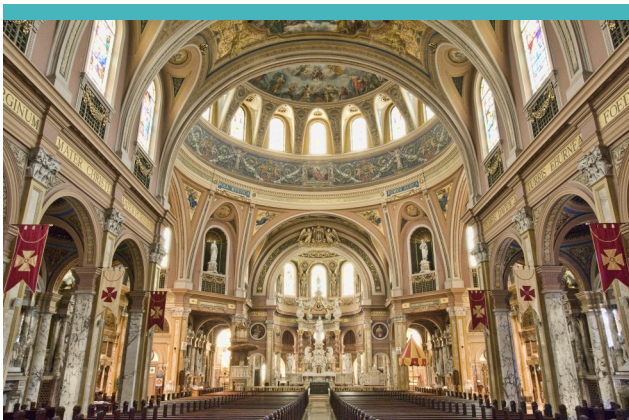
Welcome Plaza

Support our Basilica Centennial Campaign. Questions? Call Shannon Donovan at 716-828-9610.



Volunteer

Become an OLV Parish Volunteer! Fill out a form to indicate your interests.



GIVE YOUR GIFTS ONLINE.
It's safe. It's simple. It's convenient.

- 1 Go to olvbasilica.org and click *Give*.
- 2 Select a collection or event.
- 3 Set up your donation using a credit or debit card, checking or savings account, PayPal, or Venmo. That's it!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

In order to maintain our beautiful Basilica and support the mission and ministries of our parish, we depend on weekly offertory donations. Offertory envelopes can be mailed or dropped off at the Rectory Office at **767 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, NY 14218** or you may give online. We are very grateful for your ongoing support of OLV Basilica!

Offertory Collection for Sunday, July 26, 2026

Weekly	\$15,489.00
Monthly (Repair & Maintenance)	\$250.00
Easter	\$9.00
Easter Flowers	\$20.00
Holy Day: Ascension Thursday (5/14)	\$35.00
Pennies to Heaven	\$919.44
Shrines (Votive Candles)	\$3,270.00
Catholic Communication Campaign	\$55.00
Church in Latin America & Africa	\$5.00
Mission Cooperative Plan	\$30.00
Online Donations	\$9,440.69
TOTAL	\$29,523.13

OLV BASILICA MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 15—16

	TIME	LECTOR	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS	SACRISTAN
SAT.	4:30 pm	Allan Kuczka	Jean Dulak, Stephanie Bialkowski, Mary Stenzel, Michelle Radominski, Joanne Setlock	Erin Bialkowski, Carter Cofield	Sandy Swiech
SUN.	8:00 am	Donna Mitchell	Molly McClenathan, Kevin O'Neil, Mary Patricia Allman, Catherine Bergen, Mary Ellen Carosa		Laurie Grundner
	10:00 am	David Urena Ortega	Terrence McCann, Patricia Osborne, Kathleen Roche		Diane Bona
	Noon	Christopher Swan	David West, Doreen West, Ronald Slawinowski	Nathaniel, Joshua & Theodore Lindstrom	Jon Paul Trabucco
	4:30 pm	Stefan Gelle	Donna Gelle, Matthew Minton, Moey Oakley		Patricia DiVito



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