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Deacon Mark Bialkowski Deacon Michael V. Comerford

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Peter Gonciarz
PGonciarz@olvbasilica.org



GET IN TOUCH!

RECTORY OFFICE

Monday—Friday: 8:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. 2:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m.

Saturday: 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

716-828-9444 • 716-828-9429 fax olvrectory@olvbasilica.org

SCHOOL

Mary Doyle-Szlosek, Principal 2760 S. Park Avenue, Lackawanna 716-828-9434 elementary@olvbasilica.org

www.ourladyofvictoryelementary.org

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Sunday, 7:30 am—11:30 a.m.
Tues., Wed., Thurs., 8:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.
Carmelann Zomeri, Director
2760 S. Park Avenue, Lackawanna
716-828-9437
religioused@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 from 6:30 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. daily (until 7:30 p.m. on Saturdays).

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:

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.

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WELCOME TO OLV NATIONAL SHRINE & BASILICA

As a National Shrine, we are a destination site for upwards of 30,000 pilgrims and visitors from all over the world. People come to visit the tomb of Venerable Nelson Baker, our founder, who is a candidate for canonization and whose final resting place is inside the Basilica.

Many worshippers, pilgrims, and visitors find the Basilica a place of great comfort and peace as they come to pray for themselves and their loved ones. Many others come to take in the beauty of the Basilica itself.

The Our Lady of Victory parish includes an elementary school for PreK through 8th Grade and an active Religious Education program, along with a variety of parish-based organizations and activities.

If you are interested in joining the Basilica parish, please call 716-828-9444 or email olvrectory@olvbasilica.org.
All are welcome!

GOSPEL REFLECTION for February 5, 2023

I recently decided to learn to cook. As I sit at the feet of various YouTube cooking masters, I notice how much of cooking is adding ingredients that don't provide any more nourishment, like herbs and other seasonings. But man! They make all the difference because they make the meal delightful to eat and share.

Jesus calls his disciples "salt of the world." No one eats just salt. So, Christians are not meant to replace or do away with the world. They are meant to be agents of preservation and glorification. Notice how often these days the Church seeks to preserve what is threatened: the goodness of marital and family love, the desires of young people for greatness, the value of

honest work, healthy economics, and altruistic political engagement, the dignity of the poor and vulnerable. Over and over, we say to a world who wants to throw things out, "It's worth saving! We'll preserve it! We'll show you it's wonderful." If we can't engage the world like that, Jesus says we are the ones who get thrown out, because salt alone is worthless.

Jesus only asks us to do for others what he does for us. He is the "salt" of everything in our lives. Is there something in your life starting to rot a bit? Something tasting bland and boring? Let Jesus salt it and see if you like it better.

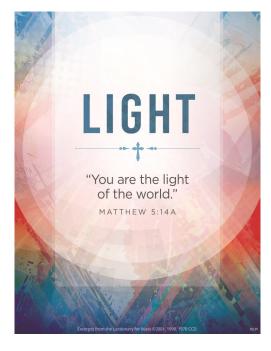
— Father John Muir © LPi

WHAT'S THE BUZZ?

When a new store or restaurant opens in the area, there can be quite a buzz. People want to see what the place is like. If the establishment is lucky, a positive word of mouth can spread all over the area. The challenge then becomes keeping that buzz alive. If people start to think that the new place is not as good as advertised or they had hoped, the crowds will dwindle and soon the new place will simply become an old place. Even worse, it could become a closed place.

If you were a store owner, what would you do to attract people? Would you always put your best foot forward? How hard would you work to show everybody that your place is worth repeated visits and patronage?

You may not be an entrepreneur with your own business, but you do have your parish community. This is your community and what you do and how you act in the world around you will either add to a buzz or a lack of interest. How you use the gifts you and your community have been given will do a lot to attract people and cause them to talk. You will be like a city on top of a



mountain that no one can miss. Can your light shine so bright that it can be seen from miles around? You may be only one person, but you are a part of something greater than yourself. Your stewardship can easily become contagious. At a time when too many are choosing to disregard the Church, it is time to create a positive buzz.

— Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS © LPi

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4—Weekday

7:30 am Novena for the Sick

12:10 pm Joseph V. Schmigel, Sr. (Birthday Remembrance) by Mary Ann Schmigel & Family

4:30 pm Diane Nottingham by friend, Linda Klice

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5—Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Novena for the Sick

10:00 am Richard Startek by wife, Susan Startek & Family

12:00 pm Living & Deceased Members of the OLV Altar & Rosary Society

4:30 pm Teodoro Ramos by Paula Katrina Ramos

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 6—Saint Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs

7:30 am Novena for the Sick

12:10 pm Aubrey J. Millard by Glenn Reid & Jenny Xie

Pam Pomorski-Chrzanowski by the Roward Family

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 7—Weekday

7:30 am Novena for the Sick

12:10 pm Blessed Michael J. McGivney, Founder of Knights of Columbus

by the Fr. Baker Council #2243, Knights of Columbus

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 8-Saint Jerome Emiliani; Saint Josephine Bakhita, Virgin

7:30 am Novena for the Sick

12:10 pm Stella Dusza by grandson, David

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9—Weekday

7:30 am Novena for the Sick

12:10 pm George E. Michael by Estate

Mary Elizabeth Miller by Dave & Trish Lanz

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10—Saint Scholastica, Virgin

7:30 am Novena for the Sick

Joseph J. Del Vecchio by the Del Vecchio Family

8:15 am OLV Father Baker Guild Members
12:10 pm Adeline Burdzy by the Swiech Family

Anne Herman by Rev. Msgr. David G. LiPuma

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11—Our Lady of Lourdes

7:30 am Novena for the Sick

12:10 pm Judy Neureuter by Karen Dobmeier

4:30 pm Stephen Check by Family

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12—Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the OLV Holy Name Society

10:00 am Michael J. Bona by Petrina Bona & Family

12:00 pm Barbara McCormick by Family

4:30 pm Henry & Anna Kusmierczyk by Robert & Joanne Rand



CENTENNIAL PRAYER

Loving God,
we thank you for
the faith, vision and
heroic ministry of
Venerable Nelson
Baker, who entrusted
his full confidence
to the powerful
intercession of
Our Lady of Victory.

As we celebrate
the Centennial
of our Basilica,
may it continue to
be a place of healing
prayer, inspiration
for the conversion
of hearts, and
encouragement
for charitable service
to those in need.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns forever and ever. Amen.

Our Lady of Victory, pray for us!

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TELEVISED & ONLINE MASSES

The Basilica's Sunday Mass is available each weekend online at olvbasilica.org by clicking on the link that will appear in the popup box, or by selecting Digital Mass Archive.

The Sunday Mass is also televised on WGRZ Ch. 2 at 11:00 a.m. each Sunday.

Our daily 12:10 pm Masses (Monday—Saturday) are livestreamed. To view the live Masses, go to olvbasilica.org and click the "Live Streaming" button in the top right corner.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JOIN US IN PRAYER

Tuesday Evenings • 6:00 p.m.



All are welcome to join in praying the Rosary for Peace on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the Basilica.

Tuesday Evenings • 6:30 p.m. on February 7 and February 21

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



Friday Afternoons

Join us each week for **Eucharistic Adoration** in the Basilica on Fridays after the 12:10 p.m. Mass until 5:00 p.m.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Please continue to pray for our RCIA participants here at Our Lady of Victory Basilica:

> Terrika Pereira Timothy Boatman James Taylor Ashlev Cannon Kelly Dlugosz **Delaney Dynas** John Hruby Joshua Malecki

ANNUAL OLV SWEEPSTAKES

Saturday, March 25 • 6:30 p.m. OLV Elementary Cafeteria and Gym

Purchase a ticket for our annual sweepstakes, sponsored by OLV Elementary School, with \$25,000 in prizes and a Grand Prize of \$10,000. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with a party and drawing from 7:00—10:00 p.m. Snacks / beverages provided; outside food encouraged. Each ticket admits two adults (ages 21+). Winners need not be present to win. Tickets are \$50 each and can be purchased at the Rectory, in the School Office, or online at our WeShare page at olvbasilica.weshareonline.org. For questions or more info, please call the Rectory Office at 716-828-9444 or the School Office at 716-828-9434. Thank you for your support!

HEALING MASS

Wednesday, March 29 • 7:00 p.m.

Please come and join us for a Healing Mass. The main celebrant will be Fr. Richard DiGiulio, the Director of Charismatic Renewal for the Diocese of Buffalo. All are welcome to attend.

ADULT CONFIRMATION **CLASSES**

There are many adult Catholics who have not been Confirmed. Besides the fact that they have not been received into the full initiation of the Catholic faith, it becomes a problem when they want to serve as godparents/sponsors for Baptism/Confirmation.

If you are a practicing adult Catholic (that is, go to Communion, and if married, married according to the Rite of the Catholic Church) and have completed high school (high school students should be in our teen Confirmation program), consider attending our catechism review classes, which will take place during the season of Lent.

For questions, more information, or to register, please call Father Romulus at 716-828-9425.

VOCATION REFLECTION

"Your light must shine before others," Jesus says. Don't hide it under a bushel. Let it be seen, and inspire others to deeper faith! Preach the Gospel with words and deeds. Contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

GIVING TREE ANGEL GIFTS

Thank you for your generosity to the children served at Our Lady of Victory Human Services. Your kindness assisted with purchasing gifts for approximately 85 children. They would not have had Christmas without your help. The economy and all the issues facing our families can be discouraging, but you made the children have a happy Christmas. The parents/caregivers want to say thank you. May you have a blessed 2023!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL DONATIONS

Every week of the year, the OLV Conference of the St. Vincent de Paul Society provides emergency help to people in need by assisting them in finding solutions to their difficulties. The volunteers visit families in their homes to offer aid, such as food, clothing, furniture, appliances, household items, and even Christmas presents.

In the last year, we made about 500 visits to homes, serving over 1,200 people, delivering over \$50,000 worth of aid. All of this has been due to the thoughtfulness of our parishioners through their donations in the Poor Boxes and Food Barrels, Thanksgiving Day offertory, Children's Liturgy Santa collection, numerous other OLV ministries, and the direct contributions you have given us via the mail or rectory. In addition, we have been enormously helped through our generous partnership with FeedMoreWNY and OLV Charities.

On behalf of those that need our help, we graciously thank you for thinking of us all year long!



Are you looking to grow your faith in these busier-than-ever times? Check out one of OLV's newest podcasts—2 Minute Devotional. In just 120 seconds you'll hear an original prayer written just for you, as well as thought-provoking, aspirational questions, designed to keep you thinking long after it ended. Available at www.olvcharities.org or wherever you get your podcasts (i.e. Spotify, Apple Podcasts, iHeartRadio).



PRAY & PLAY AT OLV ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OLV ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OLV Elementary School has provided students with a vibrant, safe, and nurturing environment for more than 120 years! Whether in classrooms, computer labs, or sports fields, our teachers shape the leaders of tomorrow and provide the building blocks for unlocking each child's vast potential.

OLV offers small class sizes, spiritual formation, and a proven track record of preparing children for high school and life! Additionally, we offer a morning / after school care program to further the social and educational development of our children.

OLV is a licensed STREAM institution that has a forward-thinking curriculum that focuses on Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics.

For more information or to schedule a personal tour, please call our school office at 716-828-9434.



BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS

Adeline Belle LaCroix, daughter of Maurice & Ashley LaCroix, was baptized at Our Lady of Victory Basilica on Saturday, January 7, 2023.

Luca Christiano Giokas, son of Evan & Nicole Giokas, was baptized at Our Lady of Victory Basilica on Friday, January 6, 2023.

Gemma Grace Giokas, daughter of Evan & Nicole Giokas, was baptized at Our Lady of Victory Basilica on Friday, January 6, 2023. PAGE 06 | SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023

'HANK YO for your generosity

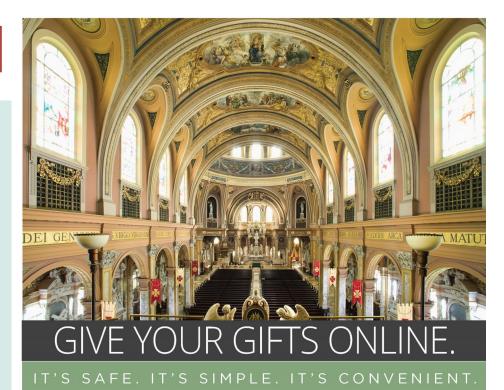
In order to continue to maintain our beautiful Basilica and to support the mission and ministries of our parish, including our school, we depend on weekly offertory donations. Offertory envelopes can be mailed or dropped off at the Rectory Office at 767 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, NY 14218. For easy online giving, please go to https://olvbasilica.weshareonline.org. We are very grateful for your ongoing support of Our Lady of Victory Basilica!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023

PARISH COLLECTIONS

Total	\$18,790.41
World Mission Sunday	\$5.00
Religious Retirement Appeal	\$30.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$35.00
ADDITIONAL COLLECTIONS	
Shrine / Votive Candles	\$2,705.41
Pennies to Heaven	\$33.00
Holy Day: Solemnity of Mary (1/1)	\$191.00
Holy Day: Immac. Conception (12/8)	\$85.00
Holy Day: All Saints (11/1)	\$5.00
Fuel	\$10.00
Christmas	\$690.00
Ash Wednesday	\$10.00
All Souls (11/2)	\$5.00
Monthly	\$413.00
Weekly Online	\$1,642.00
Weekly	\$12,931.00
1744OH GGELEGHONG	

The Basilica Gift Shop, located on the lower level next to the museum, carries a wide variety of Catholic gifts and religious merchandise, including materials related to Fr. Baker and Our Lady of Victory Basilica. The gift shop is open seven days a week, including weekends, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (The shop closes daily from 11:30 a.m. — 12:30 p.m. for lunch.) Stop in to see what we have to offer! Your purchases support OLV and help us to continue the legacy of Father Baker.



Support our parish today using your debit, credit cards, checking, or savings accounts.

Go to: olvbasilica.weshareonline.org

Select the collection or event of your choice.

Set up your donation or payment. That's it!

MINISTRY SCHEDULE



By WeShare

VISIT OUR GIFT SHOP

DATE	TIME	LECTOR	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Sat. 2/11	4:30 pm	Glenn Reid	Frances Dehlinger, Cindy Schaefer, Mary Anne Jackson
Sun. 2/12	8:00 am	Stanley "Russ" Plandowski, Jr.	Mary Check, Richard Grasso
	10:00 am	Laura Schuh	Patricia Jarosz, Timothy Wing
	12:00 pm	Christopher Swan	Molly McClenathan, Bridget Wood, Sandy Swiech
	4:30 pm	William O'Rourke	Stefan Gelle, Robert McDonough, Gregory Stachowski

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Father Baker left us a legacy of caring. What legacy will you leave?

To learn how you can ensure OLV National Shrine & Basilica is here for the next generation scan the QR code, visit OLVLegacyGifts.org, email missionadvancement@olvcharities.org or call (716) 828-9610.

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