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#### PAROCHIAL VICAR

**Rev. Robert A. Contarin** 

#### IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Msgr. Paul J. E. Burkard

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**Deacon Michael V. Comerford** 

#### **DEACON & PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**

Deacon Mark Bialkowski

#### **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

**Peter Gonciarz** 

### April 7, 2024 | Second Sunday of Easter



#### **GET IN TOUCH!**

#### **RECTORY OFFICE**

Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. (closed Th and Fri from 1-2 p.m. for lunch)
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: 6:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m. Monday-Friday: 6:30 a.m.—7:00 p.m. Saturday: 6:30 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.

**PAGE 02** | SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024

#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

## DEAR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN CHRIST,

In the Gospel of St. John for the Second Sunday of Easter, we read of one of the first post-resurrection appearances of the Risen Lord Jesus to His disciples. "On the evening of the first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you." My prayer for all of you is that when you reflect on this gospel today, you will hear the voice of Jesus speak to your heart, "Peace be with you!" With all of the uncertainty and the challenges we continue to face, we need to rely on the Lord Jesus and place our faith in His Risen Presence in our midst and know and believe that He will never leave us and will see us through whatever difficulties and challenges we face in our daily lives.

This Sunday, the Second Sunday after Easter, we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. This beautiful feast is in response to a request which Jesus Himself made to Sister Maria Faustina of the Blessed Sacrament (1905-1938), a young nun to whom Jesus appeared in 1931 in Płock, Poland. Jesus desired that, on this day, we reflect on His infinite mercy and run to Him in our weakness and need. Throughout her life, Faustina reported having visions and conversations with Jesus. of which she wrote in her diary, later published as The Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska: Divine Mercy in My Soul.

#### Jesus to Sr. Faustina:

On one occasion, I heard these words: "My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon these souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The

soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is my desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy."

It was our late Holy Father, now Pope St. John Paul II, who canonized St. Faustina on the first Sunday after Easter in 2000 and called the Church Universal to celebrate this Sunday as Divine Mercy Sunday to spread the message of Jesus' infinite Mercy.

Sr. Faustina wrote that, on the night of Sunday, 22 February 1931, Jesus appeared wearing a white garment with red and pale rays emanating from his heart. In her diary she wrote that Jesus told her: "Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: 'Jesus, I trust in You.' I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over its enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I myself will defend it as my own glory. I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: 'Jesus, I trust in You.' I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and then throughout the world."

This image of Divine Mercy can be found in our Basilica in the side chapel dedicated to the Sacred Heart of Jesus. I have also included in this bulletin the instructions on how to recite the Chaplet of Divine Mercy,

and all are welcome to join us for the Divine Mercy Holy Hour at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 7th. I know for myself, whenever I become anxious or uncertain, I pray the prayer that Jesus gave to St. Faustina, "Jesus, I trust in You!" I repeat it over and over again until I feel the calming presence and peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. He never fails to come to my aid. I encourage you to do the same.

#### WORDS OF GRATITUDE:

I wish to thank from the bottom of my heart all who assisted in making Holy Week and Easter such meaningful celebrations. Special thanks to our Facilities Team who did the cleaning and set up of the Basilica under the direction of Yordan Kovatchki and Patti Sawyer. I am also deeply grateful to Gregory Stachowski and the 25+ volunteers who decorated the Basilica for Holy Week and Easter. I also extend my deepest gratitude to our Director of Music/Organist, Peter Gonciarz, our folk groups, and the choir/vocalists who assisted with Holy Week & Easter, as well as all those who served in our lituraical ministries—ushers, sacristans, servers, lectors and Eucharistic ministers. You all provided amazing ministry and service!

I am also deeply grateful to OLV Charities under the leadership of our CEO, David Kersten, and our OLV Media Team, John Pitts and Ashley Czarnota, for the taping of our Digital Masses, as well as for the livestream. You are all a blessing!

On behalf of Fr. Paul, Fr. Rob, Deacon Mark and Deacon Michael and myself, we thank all of our parishioners and benefactors for your ongoing support of our parish. May the Risen Lord Jesus fill you with His Peace! May our beloved Founder, Father Baker, intercede for you and your loved ones and may Our Lady of Victory protect you!

GRATEFULLY, FR. DAVID

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#### MASS INTENTIONS

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 6—Saturday within the Octave of Easter

7:30 am OLV Spiritual Society Intentions

12:10 pm Saleh "Sal" Assad by OLV Charities and Rev. Msgr. David G. LiPuma

4:30 pm Carolyn Mooney by Thomas Grys

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 7—Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

8:00 am Alice Comerford by Deacon & Mrs. Michael Comerford

10:00 am David M. Regan by Family

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

3:00 pm **Divine Mercy Eucharistic Holy Hour** 

4:30 pm Bart & Florence Danahy (Wedding Anniversary) by Family

#### MONDAY, APRIL 8—Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord

7:30 am Sonny & Rose Schaefer by Dave & Cindy Schaefer

Mary Roche by Bernadette Kalenda

12:10 pm Brian (Jimmy) Bohan by loving wife, Donna

Helen Kurcz by Bob & Joanne Rand

#### TUESDAY, APRIL 9—Easter Weekday

7:30 am Cornelius P. Downey, Sr. by the Downey Family

12:10 pm Tracy Falkowski (Anniversary of Death) by D. Perry & P. Grabianowski

Emma Agostinelli by Eusebio Pacella

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10—Easter Weekday

7:30 am Joseph Sasiadek by grandson, David

12:10 pm Elaine Preisach (Birthday Remembrance) by Mary Ann Bowman

Patricia Phillips (living) by Deborah Kissel

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 11—Saint Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr

7:30 am Thomas Raab, MD (Anniv. of Death) by Pat, Tracey & Deenah Simchick

12:10 pm Jacek & Theodora Saniewski by Family

Mr. & Mrs. Victor Fontillas (Wedding Anniversary) by cousin, Andromeda

Sergio-McCloud

#### FRIDAY, APRIL 12—Easter Weekday

7:30 am Michael & Theresa Rozmus by Dorothy Kolasz

8:15 am Rev. Romulus Rosolowski, OFM Conv. by Sister Angelette and

Sister Maureen Helak

12:10 pm Helen Rys by niece, Linda Klice

Donald Lorrens by Gregory, Nicole and Kelsey Lorrens

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 13—Saint Martin I, Pope and Martyr

7:30 am Edward I. Kaczmarczyk (Anniversary of Death) by Pat and daughters

12:10 pm David M. Olivieri and Joseph T. Shehadi by Renee Olivieri 4:30 pm The Thomas & Dorothy Quinn Family (living) by Jean Skelly

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 14—Third Sunday of Easter

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

10:00 am Matthew O'Neil by Kevin & Mary Ann O'Neil

12:00 pm Walter Burdzy by the Swiech Family

4:30 pm Richard Sokolowski by Douglas & Mary Potter

PLEASE NOTE:
The Rectory Office and
Basilica Gift Shop will
be <u>CLOSED</u> on
Monday, April 8.



## JOIN US IN PRAYER

#### Tuesdays at 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.

## Tuesdays • 6:30 p.m. April 9 and April 23

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. **PAGE 04** | SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2024



#### **VOCATION** REFLECTION

"Whose sins you forgive are forgiven." God's mercy is shown most clearly through the Sacrament of Confession, which Jesus gave to the Apostles in today's Gospel. Who will administer this Sacrament in our day to those in need of God's mercy? Could it be you? Contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org

#### **CATHOLIC CHARITIES 2024**

Our Parish Goal here at Our Lady of Victory National Shrine & Basilica for this year's appeal is \$131,058. **To** date we have raised \$46,662.50 from 166 donors from our parish.

To make a gift, please mail in your donor card with your contribution. You can also visit ccwnv.org/donations or text HOPE4WNY to 44321. Please identify yourself as a parishioner of Our Lady of Victory National Shrine & Basilica, so that our parish is credited to ensure we make our parish goal. Every donation (large or small) makes a difference. For more information about Catholic Charities, please visit ccwny.org. Thank you to all who have contributed!

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### **SPRING 2024 MINISTRY SCHEDULE AVAILABLE**

The new Lector and Extraordinary Minister schedule for Spring 2024 is now available online and in the sacristy. Please visit the sacristy if you would like a print copy. An updated call list is also available in the sacristy. If you are interested in becoming a Lector or Eucharistic Minister, please contact Deacon Mark at the rectory.

#### GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALE

#### Weekend of April 6—7



Girl Scout Troop 31478 will be at OLV Basilica selling cookies this weekend (April 6-7) before and after Girl Scouts all Masses. Cookies are \$6 a box. The girls appreciate

the support you give them each cookie season. Your donations help to fund service projects, outings, and learning opportunities for the young ladies of the troop.

#### **PANCAKE BREAKFAST &** SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

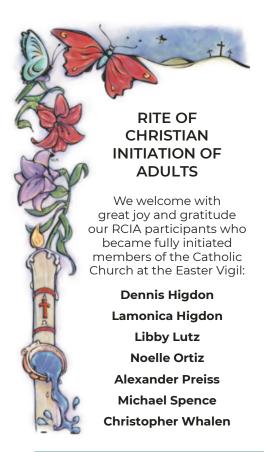
#### Saturday, April 13 • 8—10 a.m.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas, Court Msgr. Nelson H. Baker #1043, will sponsor a pancake breakfast at the Applebee's at Southgate Plaza to support scholarships for local Catholic students continuing at a Catholic High School. Your \$6 ticket gets you three pancakes, two pieces of bacon, and unlimited coffee, tea or orange juice. Seconds are available. There will also be a basket raffle. Tickets are available at the door or from any Catholic Daughter.

#### **OLV SERVICE CLUB**

#### Sunday, April 21 • 5:30 p.m.

Our March 10 meeting was very productive, assembling 50 Easter baskets for the St. Luke's Mission of Mercy. Please join us for our next meeting in the OLV Elementary School Cafeteria on April 21.





### **OLV ELEMENTARY** SCHOOL

Did you know that OLV Elementary School has bus service from Buffalo, Lackawanna. West Seneca. Orchard Park, Frontier, and Hamburg?

So if you are looking for a great Catholic school for your children or grandchildren. look no further than OLV Elementary! Call 716-828-7592 and take a tour today.

Registration is open! Visit us online at **OurLadyofVictory** Elementary.org.

#### CONFIRMATION PREPARATION FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

In collaboration with our neighboring Family of Parishes (St. Anthony, Queen of Angels, and Our Lady of Bistrica in



Lackawanna, Our Mother of Good Counsel in Blasdell, and Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Orchard Park), we will be joining together for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

A parent and student meeting to begin preparation for Confirmation

will be held on Thursday, April 11 at 7:00 p.m. at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church (3148 Abbott Road, Orchard Park). Students will be confirmed in Fall 2024. All the candidates in our Family of Parishes will have a choice of their preparation times. We will discuss these changes and give more information at the meeting.

## To participate in Confirmation preparation, students must:

- be currently in at least Grade 9
- be a registered member of a parish in our Family of Parishes (OLV Basilica, St. Anthony, Queen of

Angels, or Our Lady of Bistrica in Lackawanna, Our Mother of Good Counsel in Blasdell, or Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Orchard Park)

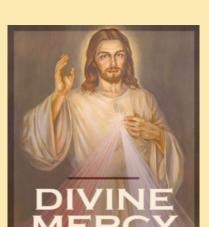
 be currently enrolled and up-to-date with the requirements of our Faith Formation program <u>OR</u> be currently attending a Catholic school

If you meet these requirements and have not received a letter from the Faith Formation office, please call the office at 716-828-9437.

CARMELANN ZOMERI
FAITH FORMATION DIRECTOR

#### HOW TO RECITE THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

The Chaplet of Mercy is recited using ordinary rosary beads of five decades. The Chaplet is preceded by two opening prayers from the Diary of Saint Faustina and followed by a closing prayer.



#### 1. Make the Sign of the Cross

#### 2. Optional Opening Prayers:

- You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.
- Repeat three times:

   O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!

#### 3. Recite Our Father

#### 4. Recite Hail Mary

#### 5. Recite Apostles' Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

#### 6. The Eternal Father:

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement of our sins and those of the whole world.

### 7. On the 10 small beads of each decade:

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

8. Repeat for the remaining decades, saying the "Eternal Father" (#6) on the "Our Father" bead and then 10 "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion" (#7) on the following "Hail Mary" beads.

#### 9. Conclude with Holy God:

Repeat three times:
Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy
Immortal One, have mercy on us and
on the whole world.

#### 10. Optional Closing Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself. Amen!

### SUPPORT OLV

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Support OLV Basilica today using your credit or debit card, or checking or savings account.

- Go to our WeShare site at: olvbasilica.weshareonline.org
- Select the collection or event of your choice.
- Set up your donation or payment.
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#### WE ARE GRATEFUL!

In order to continue to maintain our beautiful Basilica and 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 online giving, go to https://olvbasilica.weshareonline.org.

We are very grateful for your ongoing support of Our Lady of Victory Basilica!

#### OFFERTORY COLLECTION for Sunday, March 10, 2024

#### **PARISH COLLECTIONS**

Weekly	\$20,733.16
Monthly	\$1,313.00
Easter	\$250.00
Easter Flowers	\$491.00
Pennies to Heaven	\$29.00
Sr. Ellen O'Keefe Angel Fund	\$100.00
Votive Candles/Shrines	\$3,194.10

#### **ADDITIONAL COLLECTIONS**

Altar & Rosary Society	\$10.00	
Black & Native Missions	\$80.00	
Central & Eastern Europe	\$15.00	
Holy Land / Good Friday	\$10.00	

Total \$26,225.26



#### **VISIT THE GIFT SHOP**

The OLV Gift Shop, located on the lower level of the Basilica next to the Father Baker Museum, carries a wide variety of Catholic gifts and religious merchandise, including materials related to Father Baker and Our Lady of Victory Basilica. **The Gift Shop is open 7 days a week from 10:00 a.m.** to 4:00 p.m. (closed from 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. for lunch). Your purchases support OLV and help us to continue the legacy of Father Baker.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE			
DATE	TIME	LECTOR	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Sat. 4/13	4:30 p.m.	Jeffrey Stenzel	Kathleen Clark, John Leszak, James McEvoy
Sun. 4/14	8:00 a.m.	Miriam Trojanovic	Mary Ellen Carosa, Molly McClenathan
	10:00 a.m.	Christopher Swan	Carolyn Kipler, Michael (Mickey) Kipler
	Noon	Doreen West	Ellen Scheiderer, Linda Smolen, Sandy Swiech
	4:30 p.m.	Amanda and Richie English	Marsha Lipke, Moey Oakley, Gregory Stachowski

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