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**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**

January 21, 2024 | Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



## 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](mailto:olvrectory@olvbasilica.org)

### SCHOOL

**Mary Doyle-Szlosek, Principal**

2760 S. Park Avenue, Lackawanna

716-828-9434

[elementary@olvbasilica.org](mailto:elementary@olvbasilica.org)

[www.ourladyofvictoryelementary.org](http://www.ourladyofvictoryelementary.org)

### FAITH FORMATION

**Sunday: 7:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.**

**Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.**

**Carmelann Zomeri, Director**

2760 S. Park Avenue, Lackawanna

716-828-9437

[faithformation@olvbasilica.org](mailto: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](mailto: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 and 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.

**Address:** 767 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, NY 14218

**Phone:** 716-828-9444

**Website:** [www.olvbasilica.org](http://www.olvbasilica.org)

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

DEAR BROTHERS AND  
SISTERS IN CHRIST,

DISCOVER & CELEBRATE  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK  
2024:

Beginning next Sunday, January 28—February 3, we will celebrate National Catholic Schools Week with Catholic Schools across our country. **This year's new theme is Catholic Schools: United in Faith and Community.** Here at Our Lady of Victory, we are proud to be one of 34 Catholic Elementary Schools across the Diocese of Buffalo. Through a Catholic education, our children benefit from religious guidance, prayer, and the support the parish provides to build a strong faith-based community. By focusing on faith, excellence, and service, the children entrusted to our care learn the importance of family, community, and serving others. Our mission is to educate our children to reach their full potential in an atmosphere rooted in Catholic tradition and Gospel values.

As your Pastor, I am extremely proud of Our Lady of Victory School and the high quality of Catholic education, academic excellence and the moral and spiritual formation we provide to our students. **We are a Catholic School who forms and educates Catholics and non-Catholics alike. All are welcome!**

I wish to express my sentiments of deepest gratitude and appreciation first and foremost to our parents and guardians for choosing Our Lady of Victory School for the education and formation of their children. I know our parents realize that sending their children to our school is a wise investment that will promise to pay huge dividends in the future of these boys and girls, who will grow to become productive members of our Church and society, rooted in strong moral values and respect for all people. With that being said, I wish to acknowledge the exemplary leadership of our Principal,



Mary Szlosek, and our excellent faculty and staff. We could never pay our teachers enough for all that they do for our children. Please join me in thanking them for their great work and ministry as teachers.

I also extend huge thanks to OLV Charities, our Parish Finance Council, and to all of our parishioners and benefactors who support our school through our various fundraisers and our "Sister Ellen O'Keefe Angel Fund," which provides tuition assistance to those in need. Your generosity and support allow us to do many things for our school and to keep the tuition affordable for our families.

Finally, I encourage everyone to become "Ambassadors" for OLV School by informing the surrounding community of Lackawanna, Blasdell, Orchard Park, Buffalo and beyond of the great treasure we have here in our faculty, students and families.

**INVITATION—OLV ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO CELEBRATE CATHOLIC EDUCATION: Sunday, January 28, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. Mass**

All are invited to attend a special Mass here at OLV Basilica in celebration of Catholic Education on Sunday, January 28 at 10:00 a.m. The students of our school will lead the music with our magnificent Children's Choir. (They sing every Friday for the

8:15 a.m. weekly school Mass.) Students will also serve as Lectors, Gift Bearers and Altar Servers.

Our Lady of Victory School has been educating and forming children for over 120 years and I pray that we will continue to serve our community for many more years to come. I pray every day to Father Baker and our Patroness, Our Lady of Victory, to watch over and protect our children, families, teachers and staff and to keep our school strong and viable.

**BISHOP MICHAEL FISHER: OLV ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MASS: Wednesday, January 31 at 8:15 a.m.**

Bishop Fisher will be here at OLV Basilica during Catholic Schools Week to celebrate Mass on Wednesday, January 31 at 8:15 a.m. **All are welcome to attend the Mass.** Afterwards, Bishop Fisher will tour our school and visit with the students and faculty.



**PRO-LIFE STATEMENT: UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS (USCCB):**

**REFLECT:** The Supreme Court's decision in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* ended the nearly fifty-year nationwide reign of abortion-on-demand that was ushered in by *Roe v. Wade* in January of 1973. In this monumental legal victory, the Supreme Court rightly concluded that there is nothing in the Constitution's text, history, American legal tradition, or the Court's precedents that prevents the government from protecting preborn

children in the womb from the violence of abortion. Dobbs returned the issue of abortion to the people's elected representatives at the federal and state levels. And as we have seen, continuing work is needed to protect children, women, and families from the tragedy of abortion. We must continue advocating for pro-life laws and policies, especially at the state and local levels. Abortion is legal in more states than not, with many working to expand and enshrine abortion protections. In addition to our efforts to protect human life in law, we must also help women facing unexpected or difficult pregnancies, offering them the compassionate support they need to lovingly welcome the gift of their children. We must do whatever we can in every sphere to ensure the flourishing of both mothers and their children throughout life's journey.

### **RESTORATION OF SANCTUARY FLOOR: Beginning Monday, January 22**

As you know, over the past two years we have done a considerable amount of restoration work on the outside of the Basilica, including the drainage system, roof replacement and repairs, as well as ongoing work with the stained glasses windows throughout the Basilica.

This past year we completed the restoration of the pews and most of the floors. The last area that needs to be restored is the main sanctuary floor. **Beginning Monday, January 22, the weekday Masses at 7:30 a.m. and 12:10 p.m. will be celebrated in the Lower Basilica in the Brvenik Community Room.** It is estimated the work will be completed in two to three weeks. Weekend Masses will continue to be held in the Upper Basilica.

During the restoration of the sanctuary floor, there is a possibility that Funerals requested on weekdays may be moved to another nearby church in order to allow the sanctuary project to be completed within the estimated time frame.

Once again, I deeply appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue to do the necessary restoration work to preserve our beautiful Basilica for the next 100 years!

I am also profoundly grateful to all those who have donated towards our Centennial Capital Campaign to allow us to continue the legacy of Father Baker and to care for our magnificent basilica. If you are interested in helping also, please contact the OLV Charities Mission Advancement Office at 716-828-9572 or contact me at the rectory regarding how you can participate in our **Centennial Capital Campaign**.

Once again, I sincerely want to thank all of you for being wonderful parishioners, benefactors, and friends of OLV. None of this would be possible without your support.

May Father Baker intercede for you and Our Lady of Victory protect you, and may Almighty God bless you abundantly with His love and peace.

**GRATEFULLY,  
FR. DAVID**



Two vocation stories in one week! Jonah is called to preach repentance in the first reading, and in our Gospel, Jesus calls four fishermen. Ordinary people...like you. If you're being called to a Church vocation, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org).

## **THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY**



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 over 700 visits to homes, serving over 1600 people, delivering over \$65,000 worth of aid.

All of this has been due to the thoughtfulness of our parishioners through their donations in the Poor Boxes, Food Barrels or directly to us, Thanksgiving Day offertory, Children's Liturgy Santa collection, and numerous other OLV ministries.

In addition, we are so grateful for our generous partnerships with FeedMoreWNY and OLV Charities that allow us to serve so many families. Importantly, we want to thank the rectory staff for their work every day to support our mission.

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

—St. Vincent de Paul Society



# PRAYER & WORSHIP

PAGE 04 | SUNDAY, JANUARY 21, 2024

## 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. February 6 and February 27

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.



## TELEVISED & ONLINE MASS

The Basilica’s Sunday Mass is available each weekend online at [olvbasilica.org](http://olvbasilica.org). Simply click on the link that will appear in the popup box, or click under *Digital Mass Archive*. Sunday Mass is also televised on WGRZ Ch. 2 at 11:00 a.m. each Sunday. Also, our daily 12:10 pm Masses (Monday—Saturday) are livestreamed. To view the live Masses, go to [olvbasilica.org](http://olvbasilica.org) and click the “Live Streaming” button in the top right corner.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 20—Saint Fabian, Pope & Martyr; Saint Sebastian, Martyr

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 7:30 am  | Ron Newkirk by Mary Ann Zilliox Pfaffenbach             |
| 12:10 pm | Peter Concetta Battista by the Battista Family          |
| 4:30 pm  | Jeanne Morrison and Brian Morrison by Elizabeth Willard |

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 21—Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 8:00 am  | Albin Sasiadek by son, David  |
| 10:00 am | Dillon Siblings, Joanne, Bill, Theresa & Peggy by the Dillon Family |
| 12:00 pm | Ann T. O’Leary by the O’Leary Family                                |
| 4:30 pm  | Rose Orzech by the Orzech Family                                    |

### MONDAY, JANUARY 22—Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 7:30 am  | Mary L. Lauchert by Susan Meidenbauer          |
| 12:10 pm | Larry Juda by Deacon Michael & Judie Comerford |

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 23—Saint Vincent, Deacon & Martyr; Saint Marianne Cope, Virgin

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 7:30 am  | Angelo Cordaro by the Arcuri Family<br>Jeanette Grasso by the Del Vecchio Family |
| 12:10 pm | Shirley Wilczewski (Birthday Remembrance) by Kathy Stepnowski                    |

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24—Saint Francis de Sales, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 7:30 am  | OLV House Blessing Intentions                          |
| 12:10 pm | Bill Otwell & Family (living) by Dan & Michele Cusella |

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 25—The Conversion of Saint Paul the Apostle

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 7:30 am  | Ruben Blanca and Dinora Arena by the Dispenza & Ark Families  |
| 12:10 pm | Walter Burdzy Jr. by the Swiech Family<br>Peter Sartori (Anniversary of Death) by wife, Elizabeth Sartori |

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 26—Saints Timothy and Titus, Bishops

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 7:30 am  | Yolanda D. Shields by Jon & Eileen Werbitsky  |
| 8:15 am  | Eleanor A. Piotrowicz by Rev. Msgr. David G. LiPuma                                 |
| 12:10 pm | Lillian Melohusky by the Melohusky Family<br>Robert Michel by Harold & Olive Michel |

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 27—Saint Angela Merici, Virgin

- |          |   |
|----------|---|
| 7:30 am  | The Fernando Rajasoorier Family by Fernando Rajasoorier |
| 12:10 pm | Alina Freeman by Judylee Loos                           |
| 4:30 pm  | Veronica Koziol by Angela Valent                        |

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 28—Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- |          |  |
|----------|--|
| 8:00 am  | Albin & Marie Fiust by Tim and Dawn Fiust-Klink  |
| 10:00 am | <b>Mass in Celebration of Catholic Education</b><br>Joe Sciortino by Ang                             |
| 12:00 pm | Valeria “Valerie” Pawlak (Birthday Remembrance)<br>by James Wisniewski, Tamara, Noah & Myah Benjamin |
| 4:30 pm  | Niecey Hackemer MacDonald (living) by Janet and Brady  |

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### THE LIVING ROSARY— Day of Prayer for the Protection of Unborn Children

**Monday, January 22 • 6:30 p.m.**

**Our Mother of Good Counsel,  
3688 South Park Avenue, Blasdell**

Join us as we join our voices in prayer in a candlelight prayer service asking Mary, Our Blessed Mother, to obtain for us the graces we need to build a "Culture of Life" and a "Civilization of Love."

Each ticket admits two adults (ages 21 and over). Tickets are available at the Gift Shop, School Office, and Rectory Office. To purchase online, scan the below QR code or visit <https://olvbasilica.weshareonline.org>.

For questions, please call the School Office at 716-828-9435 or Rick Diamond at 716-253-4679. Thank you for your support!



### SUPER SATURDAY

**Saturday, February 10 • 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. • OLV Elementary School**

OLV Elementary is hosting its SUPER SATURDAY EVENT on Saturday, February 10th from 9 a.m.—1 p.m. If you are looking for a great school for your child or grandchild, please come and see what OLV Elementary has to offer.

Our SUPER SATURDAY event is a half-day of school for all our students and teachers. What a great opportunity for the child in your life to experience what school could be like for them! It's a day filled with fun and concludes with an awesome student talent show! Please call 716-828-7592 to reserve your spot.

### ANNUAL OLV SWEEPSTAKES

**Saturday, March 23 •  
Doors open at 5:30 p.m. •  
OLV Elementary Cafeteria & Gym**

Purchase a ticket for the OLV Annual Sweepstakes 2024, sponsored by Our Lady of Victory Elementary School, with a total of 30 cash prizes including a Grand Prize of \$10,000!

Each ticket (\$50) admits two adults (ages 21+) to the Grand Drawing on March 23. Winners need not be present to win. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. Party in the cafeteria and gym from 6:00—10:00 p.m. Pizza, snacks and beverages provided; outside food encouraged.

### OLV SERVICE CLUB EVENTS

All are welcome to participate in Service Club Activities! Please contact Bridget Wood at 716-536-3887 for questions.

• **Donations Needed**—We are looking for bath towels, washcloths, deodorant, razors, and body soap. These items will be used at our February 4th meeting to assemble welcome kits for newly paroled individuals. Donations are needed by January 28th and pickup is available by calling 716-536-3887.

• **Sunday, February 4 • 5:30 p.m.**  
Join us at our next meeting in the OLV Elementary School Cafeteria. We will be assembling 50 welcome kits for newly paroled individuals and Peaceprints of WNY will distribute the kits to their clients. Please see above for the items that we need donated to assist us in the completion of these kits.

• **Thursday, February 15 • 6:00 p.m.**  
Resurrection Life Food Pantry—Thank you to everyone who came to help out at the Resurrection Food Pantry in January! Our next day at Resurrection is February 16. Please let us know if you are able to help out!

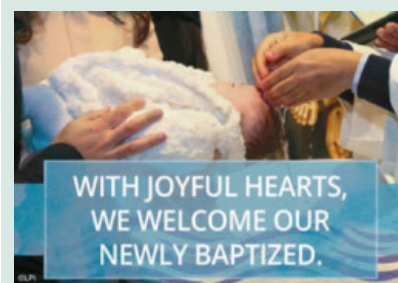
• **OLV Food Pantry**—Our food pantry in the back parking lot is getting a lot of use. Special thanks to Ms. Hennigan and her Honor Society students for their help stocking and cleaning the pantry! Shelf-stable food donations are greatly appreciated anytime.

### PRESENTATION OF THE GIFTS

Since Christmas, we have returned to the practice of having the gifts of bread and wine being brought forward during Mass. If the intention of the Mass is for one of your loved ones or for a special occasion, please consider signing up to be a gift bearer. Gift bearers can sign up using the Presentation of the Gifts sign-up book, located at the main Ridge Road entrance into the Basilica, or see an usher. Thank you!



**Kathryn Grabski & Matthew Devic** were married here on Saturday, January 13, 2024.



Sunday, December 24, 2023

• **Chloe Margaret Ernst**, daughter of Roy Ernst and Amanda Haas

Wednesday, December 27, 2023

• **Lucas Michael Wright**, son of Stephen & Lorraine Wright

Sunday, January 7, 2024

• **Hank David Hanzly**, son of Matthew & Michelle Hanzly

• **Amelia Bobbi Wallace**, daughter of Kristiana Wallace

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>.

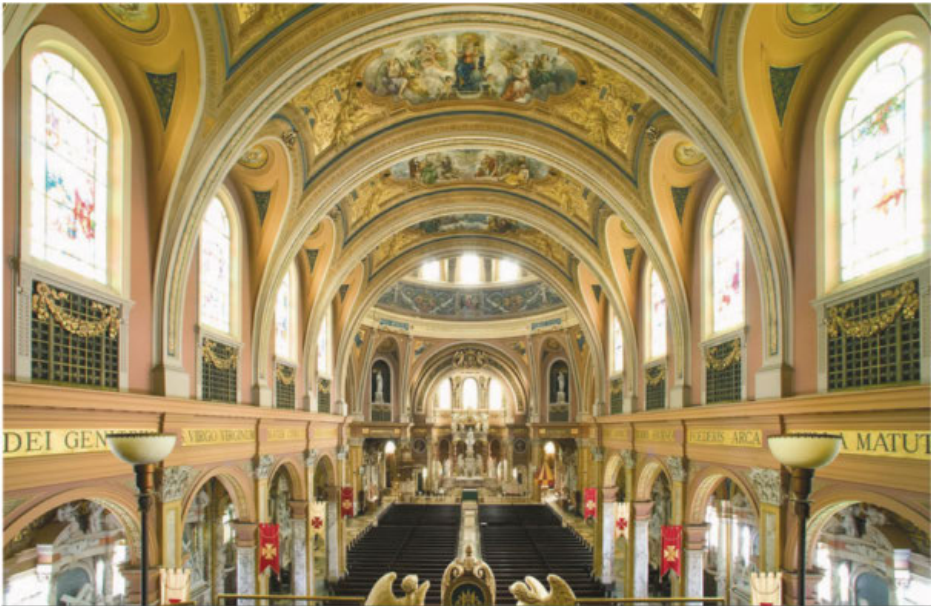
We are very grateful for your ongoing support of Our Lady of Victory Basilica!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION FOR  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2023

PARISH COLLECTIONS (including online)	
Weekly	\$15,278.00
Monthly	\$430.00
Christmas	\$371.00
Christmas Flowers	\$350.00
Fuel	\$25.00
Holy Day: Immac. Conception (12/8)	\$120.00
Holy Day: Solemnity of Mary (1/1)	\$5.00
Pennies to Heaven	\$36.00
Shrine / Votive Candles	\$3,703.46

ADDITIONAL COLLECTIONS	
Campaign for Human Development	\$5.00
Religious Retirement Appeal	\$65.00
Respect Life Sunday for Moms & Babies	\$100.00

Total	\$20,488.46
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GIVE YOUR GIFTS ONLINE.  
IT'S SAFE. IT'S SIMPLE. IT'S CONVENIENT.

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

- 1 Go to:  
[olvbasilica.weshareonline.org](https://olvbasilica.weshareonline.org)
- 2 Select the collection or event of your choice.
- 3 Set up your donation or payment. That's it!



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). We encourage you to stop in the Gift Shop to see what we have to offer. Your purchases support OLV and help us to continue the legacy of Father Baker.

MINISTRY SCHEDULE			
DATE	TIME	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Sat. 1/27	4:30 p.m.	Jeffrey Stenzel	Mary Anne Jackson, Cindy Schaefer
Sun. 1/28	8:00 a.m.	Jodie O'Connor	Mary Patricia Allman, Eugene Allman, Sheila Allman
	10:00 a.m.	Michael (Mickey) Kipler	Sal Howard, Carolyn Kipler, Bridget Wood
	Noon	David Settlecowski	Robert McDonough, Linda Smolen, Jon Paul Trabucco
	4:30 p.m.	Mickey Pawenski, Moey Oakley	Kathy Dimitrievski, Patricia DiVito, Marsha Lipke



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