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Rev. Msgr. David G. LiPuma

PAROCHIAL VICAR

Rev. Robert A. Contarin

IN RESIDENCE

Rev. Msgr. Paul J. E. Burkard

DEACON

Deacon Michael V. Comerford

DEACON & PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Deacon Mark Bialkowski

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Peter Gonciarz



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: 6:30 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.

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,



We gather on this Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord to begin Holy Week. Today the Church throughout the world recalls the triumphal entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem to accomplish the Paschal Mystery of His passion, death and resurrection.

May we take time out of our busy lives this week to come to church, to pause, to pray, and to thank God for the greatest gift of His love, and to accompany our Lord Jesus Christ through the liturgies of this Holy Week.



ADDITIONAL TIMES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

There will be priests available to hear confessions in the Basilica on:

<u>Tuesday, April 15</u>— 3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, April 16—3:00 – 4:00 p.m. and 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 17

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

7:00 p.m. Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, followed by Procession of the Blessed Sacrament & Eucharistic Adoration until 10:00 p.m.

On Holy Thursday, there is no morning Mass, as we gather at 7:00 p.m. for the Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper in which we commemorate the Institution of the Holy Eucharist and of the Priesthood, and the commandment of the Lord Jesus concerning fraternal charity. The celebration concludes with the Procession of the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar of Repose. The Basilica will remain open until 10:00 p.m. for people to come and silently pray before the Blessed Sacrament.

There will be communal Morning Prayer at 9:00 a.m. on Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. All are welcome!

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18

9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

12:00 Noon Stations of the Cross (inside the Basilica)

12:00 Noon Outdoor Stations of the Cross (beginning at the South Park entrance of Holy Cross Cemetery)

3:00 p.m. Celebration of the Passion of the Cross with Adoration of the Cross and Holy Communion

7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

On Good Friday, we gather at 3:00 p.m. for the Celebration of the Passion of the Lord. This service will include the Liturgy of the Word with the Proclamation of the Passion, followed by the Solemn Intercessions, the Veneration of the Cross and the distribution of Holy Communion. The service will conclude in silence. The Basilica will remain open for the remainder of the day for people to come and pray in silence before the wood of the Cross.

Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 12:00 Noon and 7:00 p.m.

HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 19

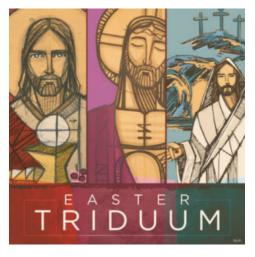
9:00 a.m. Morning Prayer

1:00 p.m. Blessing of Easter Baskets

(Main Basilica)

8:00 p.m. The Easter Vigil

- Sacraments of Initiation



On Holy Saturday, there is no Mass until the celebration of the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night (after sundown). The entire celebration is to take place at night. In the first part of the Liturgy, we have the Blessing of the Fire, the Blessing of the Easter Candle, and the solemn chanting of the Exultet (the Easter Proclamation). The second part of the Liturgy is an extended Liturgy of the Word proclaiming the events of salvation history leading up to the Gospel of the Resurrection. The third part of the Liturgy is the celebration of the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation for our OCIA Catechumens and Candidates, along with the Renewal of Baptismal Promises for all present. The celebration concludes with the fourth part—the Liturgy of the Eucharist. It is truly a most holy night!

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 20

8:00 a.m. Mass

10:00 a.m. Mass

12:00 Noon Mass

Please note there is <u>no</u> 4:30 p.m. Mass on Easter Sunday.

May this Holy Week and celebration of Easter be filled with many graces and blessings for you and your loved ones. All are welcome here at Our Lady of Victory Basilica!

MORNING MASS LOCATION

In an effort to move forward with the restoration work both inside and outside the Basilica with the least amount of disruption, please note the following:

Beginning on Monday, April 21, the 7:30 a.m. daily Mass Monday through Friday will be held in the lower level chapel. The 12:10 p.m. Mass will remain in the upper Basilica. On Saturdays, the 7:30 a.m. Mass will also be celebrated in the upper Basilica.

Friday School Masses will be moved to the School Gym, beginning on Friday, April 25 at 8:15 a.m. There will only be two Fridays when the School Masses will take place in the Basilica: Friday, May 30 at 8:15 a.m. for the Ribbon Day Mass and Friday, June 6 at 8:15 a.m. for the 8th Grade Baccalaureate Mass.

Thank you for your patience and understanding during this time of ongoing restoration to care for our magnificent Basilica.



CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2025:

There is no better way to exercise the call to almsgiving than to support our Catholic Charities Appeal, which provides essential services to those who need it most.

The 2025 Diocesan Goal is \$8,500,000. Our Parish Goal at OLV Basilica for this year is \$155,004. To date, we've raised \$106,695.51 from 192 donors.

To make a gift, please mail in your donor card to Appeal 2025, donate online at ccwny.org, or text HOPE4WNY to 44321. Please identify yourself as a parishioner of Our Lady of Victory National Shrine & Basilica, so our parish is credited to

ensure we make our goal. For more information about Catholic Charities, please visit ccwny.org.

SAVE THE DATE FOR PENNIES TO HEAVEN 2025:

The members of our committee have begun planning! **This**



year will be a two-day celebration, taking place on Saturday, July 26 and Sunday, July 27, and will feature all of the food, fun and camaraderie you have come to love.

On Saturday, we will celebrate with our annual Jazz Mass, followed by a tent party and band. Sunday will feature our annual Mass to honor Father Baker and celebrate his legacy, as well as our 2025 Pennies to Heaven Penny Drop, Chicken BBQ and Family Carnival.

The best part? It's all for a great cause... proceeds will support the "Save the Dome, Adopt an Angel" campaign, helping to defray the significant costs of restoring the Shrine's signature dome. Mark your calendars and invite family and friends to do the same, and start saving those pennies! (Other change and dollar denominations are welcome too!)

Please watch our upcoming bulletins for further details, including ways to get involved and volunteer in the weekend fun. All are welcome!

Be assured of my grateful prayers for all that you do for Our Lady of Victory National Shrine & Basilica.

May Father Baker intercede for you and Our Lady of Victory protect you and your loved ones. Again, I wish you all a Blessed Holy Week and a most Joyous Easter!

GRATEFULLY, FR. DAVID



ORDER OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Please keep the following OCIA members in your prayers as they prepare to become full members of the Catholic Church:

> Daniel Benimoff Jack Bracci David Buckley Doug Darling Regan Darling Riley Darling Rider Darling Riker Darling Ryan Davern Adam Garbacz Nicholas Gatti Ryan Halligan Alex Metros Peyton Maeder Rick Osman Alvssa Penfield Sam Perpetus David Piscitello Mariana Smith Shannon Smith Stacey Smith Eric Umphreyville **Courtney Wendling**

BASILICA ELEVATOR CLOSED

In order to install a new elevator, our current elevator has been shut down. As a reminder, we ask that the front semi-circle driveway in front of the Basilica be only used by those who are disabled and have a handicapped permit. All others are please asked to park behind the Basilica. Thank you for your patience and understanding!

PRAYER & WORSHIP

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Pope Francis has asked our parish to support the Pontifical Good Friday Collection, which helps Christians in the Holy Land. Your support helps the Church minister in parishes, provide Catholic schools, offer religious education, and preserve the sacred shrines. Please be generous! For more information, visit myfranciscan.org/good-friday.

JOIN US IN PRAYER

TELEVISED & ONLINE MASS

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.

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

PRAY THE ROSARY

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

JOIN OUR PRAYER GROUP

Tuesday, April 29 • 6:30 p.m.

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

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

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

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, APRIL 12—Lenten Weekday

7:30 am	George Piotrowski by the Herman Family
12:10 pm	Juan Carlos Lago by the Lago Family
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4:30 pm Sonny & Rose Schaefer by Dave & Cindy Schaefer

SUNDAY, APRIL 13—Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

8:00 am	Edward I. Kaczmarczyk (Anniversary of Death) by Pat and daughters
10:00 am	Catherine, Jos Bohen & Matt Comerford by the Comerford Family
12:00 pm	Walter Burdzy by the Swiech Family

Ted & Evelyn Kosowski by Dave & Marsha Lipke

MONDAY, APRIL 14—Monday of Holy Week

4:30 pm

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7:30 am	Living & Deceased Parishioners of Our Lady of Victory Basilica
	Theresa Kind by Colleen McGovern
12:10 pm	Regina Gier (Anniversary of Death) by Chloe Gier
	Walter Melohusky by the Melohusky Family

TUESDAY, APRIL 15—Tuesday of Holy Week

7:30 am	Michael X. Allman (Birthday Remembrance) by wife, Patty and children
	Anelia Sasiadek by grandson, David
12:10 pm	Lori Costley-Diehl by Family

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16—Wednesday of Holy Week

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7:30 am	Michael Nayda Sr. by Michael Nayda
	Filomena Del Vecchio by Regina A. Del Vecchio
12:10 pm	Gerald Kozlowski by Barbara Kozlowski
	John L. Tiberio by Alfred & Sandy Carrocia

THURSDAY, APRIL 17—Holy Thursday

9:00 am	Morning Prayer
7:00 pm	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, followed by Procession of the
	Blessed Sacrament and Eucharistic Adoration until 10:00 pm

FRIDAY, APRIL 18—Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)

9:00 am	Morning Prayer	
12:00 pm	n Stations of the Cross (inside the main Basilica)	
12:00 pm	Outdoor Stations of the Cross (South Park entrance of Holy Cross Cemetery)	
3:00 pm	Celebration of the Passion of the Cross	
	(Adoration of the Cross and Holy Communion)	
7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross (inside the main Basilica)	

SATURDAY, APRIL 19—Holy Saturday

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9:00 am	Morning Prayer
1:00 pm	Blessing of Easter Baskets (inside the main Basilica)
8:00 pm	The Easter Vigil—Living & Deceased Parishioners of OLV Basilica

SUNDAY, APRIL 20—Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

8:00 am	am Living & Deceased Parishioners of Our Lady of Victory Basilica	
10:00 am		
12:00 pm		
	Please Note: There will be no 4:30 p.m. Mass on Easter Sunday	

UPCOMING EVENTS

LENTEN PROGRAM— WORD BEYOND SUNDAYS

Monday, April 14 ● 1:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m.

Take some time this Lent to reflect on God's Word beyond Sundays by joining us to take a deeper look at each weekend's readings. Our final session will meet this Monday in the Marian Room on the Basilica's lower level at 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.

EASTER DECORATING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Good Friday, April 18 ● after the 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

As we prepare to celebrate the upcoming Easter season, volunteers are needed to help decorate the Basilica. If you would like to help, please join us in

the Basilica on Friday evening, April 18.

For questions about volunteering or more info, contact Greg Stachowski at 716-949-1085. All are welcome to come and help us prepare our beautiful Basilica for the celebration of Easter!

"SACRED MUSIC IN A SACRED SPACE" CHORAL CONCERT

Tuesday, April 22 • 7:00 p.m.

Please join us for an evening concert with the Frontier High School Concert Choir & Treble Choir, directed by Louis Shafer and accompanied by organist Tim Smith. Free will offering to be taken to cover expenses and to donate to the Basilica. All are welcome!

PLANT SALE

Weekend of May 3-4

The Altar & Rosary Society will sponsor a Mother's Day Plant Sale after all weekend Masses. Stop by to see the beautiful plants that we hope will make Mom, Grandma, Great-Grandma, Aunts, and all our ladies smile. Plants will be for sale on the Basilica's lower level after Masses.

DOUGHNUTS & DISCIPLESHIP

Sunday, May 4 ● after the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Masses

Join us after Mass for coffee, juice, and doughnuts! Please stop down in the Basilica's Marian Room for an informal social after the 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Masses. Get to know your neighbors! Sponsored by the Knights of Columbus and hosted by the Columbiettes. All are welcome!

CALLING OLV ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ALUMNI!

Sunday, May 4 • 10:00 a.m.

Mark your calendars and join us for a special event! We'll begin with 10:00 a.m. Mass, followed by coffee, donuts, and great conversation in the school cafeteria. It's a wonderful chance to reconnect, reminisce, and celebrate our shared OLV roots. We can't wait to see you there!

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Tuesdays • 6:30 p.m. May 13, June 10, or July 8

If you are a new parent looking to have your baby baptized, plan to attend one of our upcoming Baptism Preparation classes.



Choose the date that best fits your schedule! Sessions are held in the Basilica's Marian Room. To register, scan the QR code above. For questions, please contact Deacon Mark at 716-339-0767 or mbialkowski@olvbasilica.org.

COLLECTION FOR VETERANS

The Father Baker Columbiettes are sponsoring a collection for veterans during April and May. To donate, please place items such as socks, soap, body wash, or other toiletries in the boxes at the Basilica entrances. Items will be delivered for disbursement on Memorial Day. Thank you in advance for your support and generosity.

PLEASE NOTE:

The Rectory Office will be <u>CLOSED</u> on Good Friday, April 18, and Easter Monday, April 21.

The Basilica Gift Shop will be CLOSED on Easter Sunday, April 20.

However, it will be <u>OPEN</u> on Good Friday and Easter Monday.

JUNE FUNDRAISER TICKETS

The Father Baker Columbiettes are selling 3-Digit Daily Lottery Numbers Drawing tickets during April and May for our June fundraiser. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. All proceeds benefit local charities. Look for the Columbiettes after weekend Masses on the lower level of the Basilica. We greatly appreciate your support.

OLV SERVICE CLUB

A special thank you to our soupmakers and speakers who made the Soup & Speakers series a success this year! Thanks also to our volunteers who helped assemble 70 Easter baskets for St. Luke's Mission of Mercy and prepare a meal for the homeless. It was great to meet so many new volunteers! We appreciate our generous parishioners who support our activities, with food for the pantry, as well as their time and service.

Our next meeting is Saturday, May 10 at 10 a.m. in the OLV Infant Cemetery. We will place flowers with prayer cards for families who lost children.

Our next day for Resurrection Life Food Pantry (2145 Old Union Rd.) is Thursday, May 15 from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. (no April date for Resurrection Life Pantry)

Our self-serve food pantry located in the parking lot by the school is in need of shelf stable food donations.

The Service Club welcomes all ages to participate in performing the corporal works of mercy each month. Contact Bridget Wood 716-536-3887 for more details or information.

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

- 1 Go to www.olvbasilica.org and click Donate.
- 2 Select the collection or event of your choice.
- 3 Set up your donation or payment. That's it!

OR scan a QR code to go directly to a specific donation page:



Offertory Collection—

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

Vigil Candle—Pay the requested offering to light a candle in the Basilica. (Requested offering is \$5 per candle.)





Save the Dome—Adopt an Angel—

This public phase of our Centennial Campaign allows donors to assist with the cost of replacing the Basilica's deteriorating copper dome. More details to the right.

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 donations. Offertory envelopes can either be mailed or dropped off at the Rectory Office at 767 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, NY 14218. For online giving, go to https://www.olvbasilica.org and click *Donate* at the top of the page. We are very grateful for your ongoing support!

OFFERTORY—Sunday, March 16, 2025

TOTAL	\$25,544.46
Holy Land / Good Friday	\$40.00
Central & Eastern Europe and Poland	\$2.00
Catholic Relief Services	\$3.00
Catholic Home Mission Appeal	\$30.00
Black & Native Missions	\$140.00
Altar & Rosary Society	\$30.00
Votive Candles/Shrines	\$3,432.00
Sister Ellen O'Keefe Angel Fund	\$3.00
Fuel	\$7.00
Easter Flowers	\$35.00
Easter	\$70.00
Ash Wednesday (3/5)	\$162.00
Monthly	\$912.75
Weekly	\$20,677.71
PARISH COLLECTIONS	

SAVE THE DOME— ADOPT AN ANGEL



As you know, Buffalo's harsh climate has taken its toll on the Basilica's dome over the past 100 years and water infiltration has significantly damaged the plaster and interior paintings. OLV is in the process of raising \$3 million to replace the copper of the Basilica's dome. It is incumbent

upon us to do our very best to care for this magnificent shrine for years to come. One way to get involved is through our "Adopt an Angel" initiative where individuals can adopt one of the more than 2,000 angels featured in the Basilica. Or simply make a donation of any amount. Every single gift, great or small, makes a difference. For more information or to donate, please scan the QR code to the left. To discuss your personal gift, contact Shannon Donovan at 716-828-9610.

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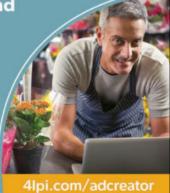
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