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DEACON & PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

Deacon Mark Bialkowski

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Peter Gonciarz

August 17, 2025 | Twentieth 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: 6:30 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.

WELCOME

PAGE 02 | SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025



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 Faith Formation 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!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,

CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2025

Thank you to all who have contributed to this year's Catholic Charities Appeal 2025. Through your generosity, we exceeded our parish goal of \$155,004 for this year's appeal by raising \$157,665.49 from 251 donors from our parish!

Your donations truly will make a difference in the lives of those who are struggling and in need of assistance, providing needed services to people both in our parish and across the diocese. Your contributions will help Catholic Charities to continue to serve as a beacon of **HOPE** for individuals, children and families in need across the eight counties of WNY, sustaining the important programs on which so many rely.

I received the following letter in the mail from Catholic Charities, acknowledging our generous donors:

Dear Parishioners,

We are thrilled to share that your parish community successfully reached its goal for Appeal 2025, earning Gold Star status! This incredible achievement is a direct result of your generous support and steadfast commitment to helping others.

Your contributions to Catholic Charities of Buffalo and the Fund for the Faith will make a meaningful difference in the lives of so many across our community. Thank you for living out the Cospel through your compassion and generosity.

May God bless you for your kindness!

With gratitude, Chuck Hayes Chief Communications & Development Officer, Catholic Charities of Buffalo



OLV ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OPEN REGISTRATION:

There is still time to register for the 2025-2026 school year at our excellent Our Lady of Victory Elementary School. I encourage you to reach out to family and friends who have school-age children to come see the "gem" of a school we have at OLV Elementary and to strongly consider registering.

Please be
"Ambassadors"
for OLV School
and encourage
families you
know to call and
take a personal
tour of the
school to see for
themselves all



that we have to offer. All you have to do is call the school at 716-828-9435 and Mrs. Mary Szlosek, our wonderful principal, will be happy to provide you with more information and arrange for a personal tour.

All are welcome... please come and see for yourselves. OLV Elementary is truly a happy, safe, and nurturing environment to provide quality education for the most precious gift of our children!

May Father Baker continue to intercede for you and your loved ones, and Our Lady of Victory protect you. God bless you!

GRATEFULLY, FR. DAVID

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025 | PAGE 03

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16—Saint Stephen of Hungary

7:30 am OLV Golden Treasury Intentions

10:30 am Funeral for Darlene M. Tutuska

12:10 pm Patricia Cuda by the Gascoyne Family

1:30 pm Patricia Cuda by the Gascoyne Family
1:30 pm Wedding: Kara Massotti and Jason Covelli

4:30 pm Albert & Matilda Jaromin and Josephine Baron by James & Elaine

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17—Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am Timothy J. Cusack by Don & Moira Cooley
10:00 am Evelyne Albohn and David Lalka by Dick & Lu Powers and Family
12:00 pm Marilyn Pinkowske by Linda Smolen and the Columbiettes
4:30 pm Gary Ghosen by Joan Milazzo

MONDAY, AUGUST 18—Weekday

7:30 am Tim Cusack (Birthday Remembrance) by Chuck Wenzel

Eric Angelo Rog by Gary & Gail

12:10 pm Janice Przewlocki by Tom & Kimberly Przewlocki

Mary Ann Najuch by daughter, Linda Smolen

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19—Saint John Eudes, Priest

7:30 am Peter Szalasny by Annette Borodzik

Jane Comerford by Deacon Michael & Judie Comerford

12:10 pm Norma Bure by sister, Louise Ringle

Albert "Tipper" Steiner (Anniversary of Death) by wife, Kathy

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20—Saint Bernard, Abbot and Doctor of the Church

7:30 am James B. Downey by the Downey Family

Theresa Kind (Anniversary of Death) by Jim & Shirley LeBlanc

12:10 pm Kevin Sheehan by the Steinwald Family

Jacob & Helen George by daughter

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21—Saint Pius X, Pope

7:30 am Michael & Jean Tos

Joseph J. Del Vecchio by Regina A. Del Vecchio

12:10 pm Jeremy & Rachel Royal (living) by Stanley & Mary Ellen Smolinski

The Dougher Family (living) by Jeff Papia

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22—The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary

7:30 am Ann Coleman by Sister Ellen O'Keefe12:10 pm Joseph Marsillo by Christine Brown

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23—Saint Rose of Lima, Virgin

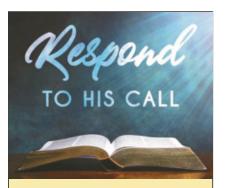
7:30 am Living and Deceased Parishioners of Our Lady of Victory Basilica

12:10 pm All Souls Intentions

1:30 pm Wedding: Valerie Zgoda and Kevin Kandefer
4:30 pm Carol LaBelle by Burning Bush House of Prayer

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24—Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am David J. Greenway by Family
10:00 am Bart Danahy (Birthday Remembrance) by Tom & Pat Smith
12:00 pm George & Mary Ann Najuch by daughter, Linda Smolen
4:30 pm Geraldine Iannuzzelli by Ron, Audrey, Erin & Tim Collins



A priest's primary duty is to celebrate Mass, but many people think Mass is boring. Our second reading says "we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses." This is true at every Mass: Jesus unites Heaven and Earth through His Body and Blood, and angels and saints pour into the church. Even our deceased loved ones, once purified, are with us there. What a cloud of witnesses! Maybe there's more to the priesthood than people think?

Find out more at buffalovocations.org.

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. August 19, Sept. 9, Sept. 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, AUGUST 17, 2025

JOIN THE OLV **SERVICE CLUB**

We are looking for new members of all ages! Our Service Club will host our opening meeting on Sunday, September 7 in the School Cafeteria from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. (following Noon Mass). We will review our upcoming calendar of events, always focusing on the corporal works of mercy, and soliciting ideas for new activities. We scheduled our meetings around the Bills schedule!

Service Opportunities:

Resurrection Church Food Pantry is undergoing renovations and is limited on the number of volunteers that can come to the pantry, so our volunteer time here is temporarily suspended.

Sat. Sept. 20 • 9—11 a.m.— Woodlawn Beach Sweep

Fri. Nov. 7—Spaghetti **Dinner**—our only fundraiser, supporting Christmas gifts for foster children

Thank you to our wonderful parishioners and the 2025 Confirmation candidates for their help in stocking the self -serve food pantry over the summer months!

Please consider joining us! Our service activities are family-friendly and great for all ages as we continue Father Baker's legacy and bring light to our world! For info, contact Bridget Wood at 716-536-3887 or bowood62@ gmail.com, or go to the OLV Service Club Facebook page! We look forward to seeing you on September 7th!

UPCOMING EVENTS

OLV BOOK CLUB

Wed., September 3 ● 1:00 or 6:30 p.m.

The final meeting of this summer's OLV Book Club will be held in the Basilica's Marian Room. Come to either the 1 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. session. For questions, contact Deacon Mark at the Rectory Office at 716-339-0767 or mbialkowski@olvbasilica.org.

DOUGHNUTS & DISCIPLESHIP

Sunday, September 7 • after 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses

Please stop down in the Marian Room after Mass for an informal social. Enjoy a doughnut, coffee or juice, and some time for discipleship! Sponsored by the Father Baker Council of the Knights of Columbus and hosted by the Columbiettes. Representatives from both groups will be present if you'd like to find out more about what they do.

GREETER & USHER TRAINING

Monday, September 8 • 6:30 p.m.



Are you feeling called to get more involved at Mass? Then register for our greeter and usher training session! Scan the QR code to register, visit https://bit.ly/

OLVTraining, or call/text Deacon Mark at 716-339-0767. The meeting will take place in the Basilica, as long as volunteers are registered to attend.

BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. • Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Nov. 18, or Dec. 9



If you are a new parent looking to have your baby baptized, please 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 OR code. For questions, contact Deacon Mark at 716-339-0767 or mbialkowski@olvbasilica.org.

AN INVITATION TO JOIN "COR"

Thursday, September 18 • 6:30 p.m.

Our Knights of Columbus Father Baker Council is sponsoring and inviting all men of our parish 18 years and older to join us for our first monthly

consider joining COR.

COR meeting in the Marian Room in the lower Basilica. The format will include light refreshments, saying the rosary as a group, and an engaging discussion regarding our personal faith in Christ. Consider taking that next important step in your journey to becoming closer to Christ! Please

OLV CHARITIES CAYMAN ISLAND RAFFLE

Win a I week stay at The Grand Caymanian Resort! Includes accommodations for 4-6 guests and a \$2,500 Visa gift card courtesy of Parkview Health! Winner will be drawn on Thursday, September 17, 2025, at Victory Nite and you need not be present to win.

Tickets are \$25 each. To purchase, call 716-828-9648 (select option 1) or email Shannon Donovan at SDonovan@olvcharities.org or Joyce Newton at JNewton@olvhs.org. Must be a resident of Erie, Niagara, Wyoming, Chautauqua, or Cattaraugus County.

For more information and details about Victory Nite, please visit olvcharities.org/victorynite.



PRESENTED BY THE FRIENDS OF FATHER BAKER

SCHOOL & FAITH FORMATION

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025 | PAGE 05

FAITH FORMATION SESSION OPTIONS

Our Faith Formation program is designed to help children grow in faith, identity, and understanding of the Catholic Church. Sessions are held on Sundays from 8:40—9:50 a.m. for children in Grades K—9. Sessions begin on Sunday, September 14. Call 716-828-7494 to register.

2025-2026 PROGRAM INFO AND SESSION OPTIONS:

Faith Formation Sunday (FFS), Gr. 1—9

Sessions are held on designated Sundays from 8:40—9:50 a.m.

Family Faith Formation (FFF) Home Study, Grades K—8

In this option, parents work AT HOME with children to complete lessons as a family. Provided lessons (with videos, discussion, and quizzes) are reviewed by the Faith Formation Director.

<u>Little Cherubs - NEW 2025 - PreK & Kindergarten</u>

Offered in-person and as home study. "God Made Everything" engages young children in activities to nourish their developing relationship with God and others by weaving together essential faith content and academic topics. Print materials and online resources help young children learn Scripture and prayerful practices.

First Reconciliation & Communion:

For children ages 8-10 in Grades 2-4. These are separate sessions held IN PERSON in addition to regular inperson and home study. At least one parent/guardian must attend the retreat with each child as the sessions are family catechesis. First Reconciliation will be Saturday, March 14, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. in the Basilica.

First Holy Communion:

For children in Grades 3-4 who have received First Reconciliation. These are separate sessions held IN PERSON in addition to regular in-person and home study. At least one parent/ guardian must attend the retreat and practice with each child as the sessions are family catechesis. First Holy Communion will be Saturday, May 9, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. in the Basilica.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

Our program is currently in need of catechists for Little Cherubs, Grade 7, and Grade 8. If you are interested or feel that God is calling you to work with the youth of the parish, please contact Carm Zomeri at 716-828-7494 or email czomeri@olvbasilica.org.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

OLV ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

OLV Elementary is currently seeking qualified candidates to hire as:

- After School Care Provider 10-15 hours per week (when school is in session)
- Substitute Teacher
- Art Teacher (part-time)

For more information, please visit www.ourladyofvictoryelementary.org/careers. For questions, please contact Mary Doyle-Szlosek at mszlosek@OLVBasilica.org.

OLV CHARITIES

OLV Charities has a job available with the opportunity to work with dedicated, mission-focused people:

Annual Giving Manager

Visit www.olvcharities.org/careers for more information.

JOIN US AT OLV ELEMENTARY

Now Enrolling: PreK3 – 8th Grade at OLV Elementary School!

Be part of the proud tradition and vibrant community that make OLV Elementary so special. Call 716-828-7592 to schedule a tour today, or visit us online at www.OurLadyofVictoryElementary.org for more information.



SUPPORT OLV

PAGE 6 | SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025



Offertory

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



Vigil Candles

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



Save the Dome

Adopt an angel! Assist with the cost of replacing our deteriorating copper dome. Questions? Call Shannon Donovan at 716-828-9610.



Volunteer

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



It's safe. It's simple. It's convenient.

- Go to **olvbasilica.org** and click *Donate*.
- 2 Select a collection or event.
- 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 Our Lady of Victory Basilica!

OFFERTORY COLLECTION for Sunday, July 20, 2025

PARISH COLLECTIONS
Weekly \$17,104.70
Monthly \$190.00

Easter \$8.00
Holy Day: Assumption (8/15) \$5.00
Pennies to Heaven \$962.00
Processing Fees (online) \$10.78
Votive Candles / Shrines \$2,230.00

ADDITIONAL COLLECTIONS

Mission Cooperative Plan \$55.00
Peter's Pence \$726.00

TOTAL \$21,291.48

MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 23-24

MINISTRY SCHEDOLL FOR ACCOST 25 24				
	TIME	LECTOR	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS
Sat. 8/16	4:30 pm	Linda "Mickey" Pawenski	Jean Dulak, John Leszak, Bob Lohr	Isaac Cacacho
Sun. 8/17	8:00 am	IMARTIN LODIN	Mary Ellen Carosa, Mary Check, Ryan Harrington	Regan, Riley, Rider, and Riker Darling
	10:00 am	Lynn Velasquez	Terrence McCann, Patricia Osborne, Timothy Wing	
	Noon		Molly McClenathan, Robert McDonough, Ellen Scheiderer	
	4:30 pm	Moey Oakley	Marsha Lipke, David Lipke, Mary Stenzel	

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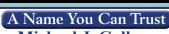
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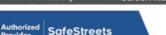
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