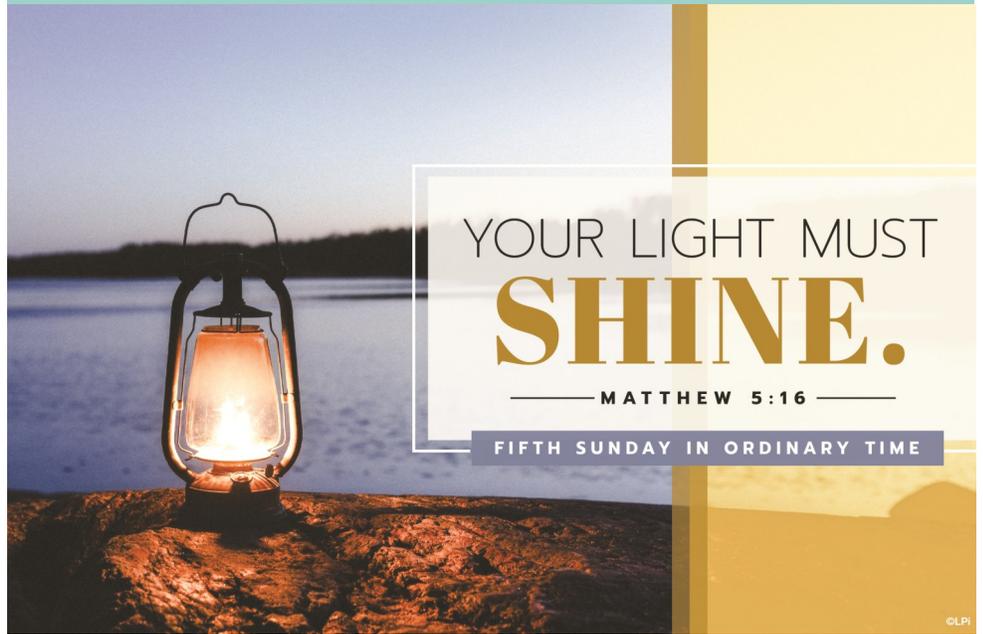




February 8, 2026 | Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time



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& Basilica  
A Father Baker Legacy

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

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Mary Doyle-Szlosek, Principal

716-828-9434

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

[www.ourladyofvictoryelementary.org](http://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](mailto:faithformation@olvbasilica.org)

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

**COME & WORSHIP**

**BASILICA HOURS**

The Basilica is open for private prayer every day during the following hours:

**Sunday: 6:45 a.m.—6:00 p.m.**

**Monday-Friday: 6:45 a.m.—7:00 p.m.**

**Saturday: 6:45 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.

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

### DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,

#### LENT BEGINS: ASH WEDNESDAY – February 18, 2026

The Season of Lent begins with the celebration of Ash Wednesday on February 18. The priests and deacon will be assisted by our Eucharistic Ministers and the distribution of ashes will take place following the homily. We will use the four Communion stations as we do for the distribution of Holy Communion. Ashes will also be available on Ash Wednesday in small packets for those who wish to bring them home to sick family members and/or shut-ins.

The Mass Schedule for Ash Wednesday will be as follows:

- 7:30 a.m. Mass
- 12:10 p.m. Mass
- 3:00 p.m. (no Mass) - Liturgy of the Word & Distribution of Ashes
- 7:30 p.m. Mass



#### THE SEASON OF LENT

Lent is ordered to preparing for the celebration of Easter, since the Lenten liturgy prepares for celebration of the Paschal Mystery both catechumens (unbaptized), by the various stages of Christian Initiation, and the faithful, who recall their own Baptism and do penance. The forty days of Lent run from Ash Wednesday up to but excluding the Mass of the Lord's Supper exclusive. From the beginning of Lent until the Easter Vigil, the *Alleluia* is not said.

**Abstinence:** All Catholics who have reached their 14th birthday are bound to abstain totally from meat on the following days: Ash Wednesday, all Fridays of Lent and Good Friday.

**Fasting:** All Catholics between their 18th and 59th birthdays are also bound to observe the Law of Fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday. This practice involves limiting oneself to a single full meal and avoiding food between meals. Light sustenance may be taken on two other occasions in the course of the day.

**Stations of the Cross & Friday Evening Masses during Lent:** Every Friday during Lent we will have Stations of the Cross at 7:00 p.m. followed by Mass at 7:30 p.m.

#### CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2026:

There is no better way to exercise the call to almsgiving than to support our Catholic Charities Appeal, which in 2024-2025 impacted more than 95,101 individuals and family members in Erie County. Catholic Charities continues to be a beacon of HOPE for individuals, children and families in need across the eight counties of WNY. We serve people from all walks of life, without regard to faith. We strengthen and empower people to achieve meaningful, healthy, productive lives. We deliver support to meet immediate needs, and assess for other needs to ensure long-term success.

The funds from the Appeal support dozens of Catholic Charities programs and services and every dollar raised results in \$5-\$6 in additional funding from grants and government contracts. Appeal dollars directly support programs like food pantries, emergency financial assistance, extensive behavioral health programs, and much more. The Appeal also

supports the Diocese's Fund for the Faith, which supports various ministries like faith formation, pro-life ministries, and seminarian, diaconate, and lay ecclesial formation. Donors have the option to direct their gift to go entirely to either Catholic Charities or the Fund for the Faith, or to both.

The Diocesan Goal for Appeal 2026 is \$8,000,000. **Our Parish Goal here at Our Lady of Victory National Shrine & Basilica for this year's appeal is \$172,709. To date, we have raised \$5,590 from 39 donors.**

I encourage everyone to consider making a gift to this year's appeal. If you have donated in the past, please consider an increase in your gift this year. If you have never donated, please consider making a gift to this year's appeal. The need for assistance is greater than ever for those who are struggling financially, emotionally and physically. You may also make a pledge, which is what I do every year because I find that I can make a larger contribution spread out in four payments throughout the year.

To make a gift, please mail in your donor card when you receive it to Appeal 2026, donate online at [ccwny.org](http://ccwny.org), 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 goal. For more information about Catholic Charities, visit [ccwny.org](http://ccwny.org).

Please remember that HOPE starts with you. In Matthew 25:40, Jesus' message is clear: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."



## HOPE for all Help from all

**BE HOPE**  
Give to Appeal 2026

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES**  
HOPE for all seasons

**Fund for FAITH**

Your support of Appeal 2026 carries out Jesus' call to us and brings HOPE and help to the lives of children, families and adults in every corner of Western New York.

## PILGRIMAGE: FOLLOW IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SAINT PAUL

Please consider joining me on our "Footsteps of St. Paul" pilgrimage to Greece this Fall from September 22—October 2. This pilgrimage, through OLV Charities, includes round trip airfare from Toronto (other airports available), first class hotel accommodations, daily private Mass, a 3-day Mediterranean island cruise, and breakfast and dinner daily. For details, scan the QR code, or visit <https://www.catholicjourneys.com/gc-sept2026> and enter "OLV" as the password. A \$500 deposit is needed to reserve your spot for the trip; total cost is \$6,499 per person (based on double occupancy).



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



## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7—Weekday

- 7:30 am Intentions for the Novena for the Sick
- 12:10 pm Matthew Jarosz and Brandon Jarosz by the Jarosz Family
- 4:30 pm David Schaefer by Delphine Szczublewski

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8—Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 am Living & Deceased Members of the OLV Holy Name Society
- 10:00 am John & Jennie Skonieczka (Anniversary of Death) by Tom & Pat Smith
- 12:00 pm Adeline Schultz by the Swiech Family
- 4:30 pm Intentions for the Novena for the Sick

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9—Weekday

- 7:30 am Intentions for the Novena for the Sick  
Stella Dusza by grandson, David
- 12:10 pm John F. & Anna C. O'Connor by the O'Connor Family

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10—Saint Scholastica, Virgin

- 7:30 am Intentions for the Novena for the Sick  
Kujawski Intentions by Jackie Kujawski
- 12:10 pm Joseph J. Del Vecchio by the Del Vecchio Family  
LuAnn Batt (living) by Tim Batt

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11—Our Lady of Lourdes

- 7:30 am Deceased Members of the Idzior Family by Pat
- 12:10 pm Intentions for the Novena for the Sick  
Stephen P. Check (Anniversary of Death) by Family

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12—Weekday

- 7:30 am OLV Helping Hands Club Members
- 12:10 pm The Diggins Family by Nora Diggins

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13—Weekday

- 7:30 am Daniel & Elizabeth Sellers by Robert J. Monath  
Michael Gallego by Family
- 8:15 am John Dusza by grandson, David
- 12:10 pm Living & Deceased Parishioners of Our Lady of Victory Basilica  
Thomas Zuger by Nicole Ball

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14—Saints Cyril, Monk, and Methodius, Bishop

- 7:30 am Dorothy A. Downey by the Downey Family
- 12:10 pm Walter Melohusky, Sr. (Anniversary of Death) by daughter, Janet
- 4:30 pm Nelson A. & Theresa A. Siwa by the Siwa Children (Anne, Deborah, Nelson Jr., Jennifer, and David)

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15—Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 8:00 am Donald Krol, Sr. (Birthday Remembrance) by the Krol Family
- 10:00 am Deceased Members of the Patriots Club by the Patriots Club
- 12:00 pm Jerry & Sandy Schabel by the Schabel Family
- 4:30 pm James Cooke by Chris & Aimee Cooke

## JOIN US IN PRAYER

**Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.**

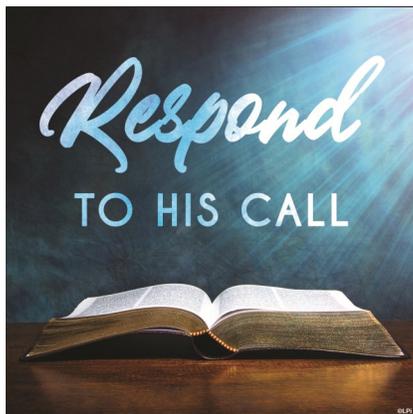
All are welcome to join in praying the Rosary for Peace on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the Basilica's Community Room.

**Tuesdays • 6:30 p.m.**  
**February 17, March 3, and March 24**

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.



## 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](http://buffalovocations.org).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### VOLUNTEER AT THE BASILICA FOR A SPECIAL MINISTRY

Are you feeling called to get more involved? Adult volunteers are needed for our liturgical ministries! Register at <https://bit.ly/OLVTraining> or scan the QR code. For questions, call/text Deacon Mark at 716-339-0767. Sessions only run if volunteers are registered to attend. The schedule is:



- **Monday, February 23, 6—7 p.m.**  
Extraordinary Minister Interest Meeting (lower level chapel)
- **Monday, February 23, 7—8 p.m.**  
Lector Training (lower level chapel)
- **Monday, March 16, 6:30—8:00 p.m.**  
Sacristan Training (main Basilica)
- **Monday, April 20, 6:30—8:00 p.m.**  
Greeter & Usher Training (main Basilica)

### MAZUREK'S BAKED GOODS AVAILABLE IN THE BASILICA

**Wednesdays • after 12:10 p.m. Mass**

This vocational initiative is part of OLV Human Services' WAY program, which gives students and young adults hands-on workforce training and builds on Father Baker's vision of preparing youth with skills that empower them for life. Mazurek's baked goods are available on the Basilica's lower level on most Wednesdays after the 12:10 p.m. Mass.

Please note that the students will not be present on Ash Wednesday, February 18. They will, however, be selling Paczki and King Cakes at the 790 Ridge Road Café on Tuesday, February 17. Please stop in! For questions or more info, contact [mazureksbakery@gmail.com](mailto:mazureksbakery@gmail.com).

### BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

**Tuesdays • 6:30 p.m. • February 10, March 10, April 14, May 12, or June 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 class

that fits best with your schedule. Sessions are held in the Basilica's Marian Room. Scan the QR code to register. For questions, contact Deacon Mark at 716-339-0767 or [mbialkowski@olvbasilica.org](mailto:mbialkowski@olvbasilica.org).



### NEW PARISHIONER NIGHT

**Wednesday, February 11 • 6:30 p.m.**

All new parishioners are invited to come and meet other newly-registered parishioners, get to know a little bit about OLV's rich history, learn about opportunities to get involved, and hear how Father Baker's legacy is still thriving. Light refreshments will be served. We will meet in the Community Room. All new parishioners are welcome to join us!



### OLV SERVICE CLUB SOUP & SPEAKERS SERIES

**Fridays in March • 6:00 p.m.**

OLV Service Club is sponsoring a free Soup Supper & Speaker series on Fridays in March from 6:00—6:45 p.m. in the Basilica's Community Room, before the 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross.

- **March 6** - St. Vincent de Paul Society
- **March 13** - Holy Face Devotion
- **March 20** - Disciples of Divine Mercy in the Holy Face ministry
- **March 27** - Flame of Love Devotion

Join us for fellowship, enlightening speakers, and a variety of tasty homemade vegetarian soups and delicious bread from Mazurek's Bakery before the Lenten Stations of the Cross service at 7:00 p.m. (Please call Bridget at 716-536-3887 if you are interested in donating your favorite vegetarian soup for one of our evenings.) We hope you will join us!

## SUPPORT OLV ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



### FISH FRY FUNDRAISER

Wednesday, February 18 • 3—7 p.m.

Support our 8th grade students at a Fish Fry Fundraiser on Ash Wednesday in the OLV School Cafeteria. Proceeds help fund graduation and a class trip. Choose breaded fish/shrimp (\$20), chicken fingers (\$15) or cheese pizza (\$10). Tickets available after weekend Masses in the Basilica through 2/15, or purchase online via the QR code or at [olvbasilica.org](http://olvbasilica.org) (click *Donate* and select *Fish Fry*). Advance tickets are recommended; dinners may sell out.



**WE NEED YOUR HELP!  
SUPPORT OUR STUDENTS  
AND WIN BIG!**

Saturday, March 21 • 6:00 p.m.

Join us for the 31st Annual Victory Cash Bash (formerly "Sweeps") on **Saturday, March 21** at Our Lady of Victory Elementary School. This long-time favorite fundraiser isn't just about great prizes, it's about coming together to support the students of OLV Elementary and the programs that help them learn, grow, and thrive!

Tickets are \$50 each (cash, check or credit card) and give you a chance to win: \$10,000 Grand Prize, \$4,000, \$2,000, two \$1,000 prizes, four \$500 prizes, plus more! Each ticket admits two guests to an exciting 21+ night of fun at the school. Tickets available before/after all weekend Masses in the Basilica, as well as at the Gift Shop, School, and Rectory during business hours. Your support is an investment in our students' future. Thank you for your help!



Please pray for our brothers and sisters in the OCIA who are anticipating to fully enter into the Church here at Our Lady of Victory Basilica:

**Order of Christian Initiation of Adults:** Jill Bermingham, Thomas Bigouette, Molly Bryniarski, Dia Castro, Victoria Christopher, James Clawson, Melanie Delmendo, Sandy Dunkleman, Cort Farley, Linsey Heferle, Emily Hoffman, Taylor Hollarn, Trent Kubiak, Xuehua Liu, Allison Malecki, Dylan Marciano, Jared Murray, Carol Parker, Evelyn Parker, Sienna Pawlowski, Brenna Smith, Tamara Sullivan, Murray Wright, Natalie Wright

**Order of Christian Initiation of Children & Families:** Mea Alzaidi, Gabriella Chicone, David Cordova, Maria De Moura, Joseph Fox, James Fox, Jason Fox, Brady Hanlon, Noah Hanlon, Chelsea Hanlon, Zoe Hines, Evan Lee, Gabrielle Lohr, Gibson Mansfield, Giovanni Mansfield, Adalis Pellow

## OLV SERVICE CLUB

Thank you to all of the volunteers at our February 1st meeting who helped assemble 40 parolee welcome kits, make valentine cards for veterans, and assemble two dinner entrees for the Little Portion Friary!

Our next meeting will be Sunday, March 1st at 1:00 p.m. in the OLV Elementary School Cafeteria. All are welcome to attend! We will assemble Easter baskets for St. Luke's Mission of Mercy and prepare a meal for the Little Portion Friary.

We are looking for Easter basket donations of crayons, activity books, fidget toys, chalk, stuffed bunnies, small crafts, nerf balls, or assorted candies. There are blue collection barrels at the Basilica entrances, which will be available throughout

**February, where you can place your donations.** Please contact Bridget Wood for more information at 716-536-3887.

**The Food Pantry** located in the back parking lot is always in need of shelf stable food items. Please be sure to mark each can or box "not for resale" in permanent marker.

**Attention High School Seniors:** OLV Service Club scholarship applications are available by contacting Bridget Wood at [bowood62@gmail.com](mailto:bowood62@gmail.com). Deadline is March 3.

Please join our Service Club! Our service focuses on the corporal works of mercy and all ages are welcome. For more information, please contact Bridget Wood at 716-536-3887.

## 2025 DONATION STATEMENTS

Financial statements for 2025 are available upon request. Please send your request and a stamped, self-addressed, letter-size (#10) envelope to:

Our Lady of Victory Rectory  
767 Ridge Road  
Lackawanna, NY 14218

or email your request to [olvrectory@olvbasilica.org](mailto:olvrectory@olvbasilica.org) to receive an emailed copy.

# SUPPORT OLV

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## Offertory

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



## Vigil Candles

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



## Welcome Plaza

Support our Basilica Centennial Campaign. Questions? Call Shannon Donovan at 716-828-9610.



## Volunteer

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



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- 1** Go to [olvbasilica.org](http://olvbasilica.org) and click *Donate*.
- 2** Select the collection or event of your choice.
- 3** Set up a donation with a credit or debit card, checking or savings account, PayPal, or Venmo. That's it!

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF OUR ANGEL & MITTEN GIVING TREE!**

Dear Parishioners and Friends of Our Lady of Victory Basilica,

Thank you for bringing joy to children this Christmas. Thank you for your generous donation of Christmas gifts. Because of your kindness, many children who might otherwise have gone without were able to experience the joy, dignity, and excitement of opening gifts on Christmas morning. Your willingness to give to our children made a lasting difference. We saw smiles, heard laughter, and witnessed hope restored. Our Lady of Victory Human Services is deeply grateful for your partnership and support. Please know that your generosity did more than provide gifts; it reminded families that they are seen, valued, and not forgotten. You helped us make this Christmas brighter for so many children!

With sincere appreciation,

Barbara Farrow  
Director of Preventive Services  
OLV Human Services

OLV BASILICA MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 14—15					
	TIME	LECTOR	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS	SACRISTAN
SAT.	4:30 pm	James Schmigel, Jr.	James McEvoy, Kenneth Osborn, Michelle Radominski, Joanne Setlock, Paul State	A.J. Ball, Samantha Ball	Sandy Swiech
SUN.	8:00 am	Ryan Harrington	Daniel Covino, Janet Covino, Richard Grasso, Lynn Velasquez, Nancy Zipper	Nathaniel, Joshua, & Theodore Lindstrom	Mary Patricia Allman
	10:00 am	Annette Iafallo	Timothy Wing, Bridget Wood, Dawn Zientara	Carter Cofield	Diane Bona
	Noon	Christopher Swan	Molly McClenathan, David West, Doreen West		Jon Paul Trabucco
	4:30 pm	Moey Oakley	Gregory Stachowski, Donna Gelle, Stefan Gelle		Michalene Murray

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