



March 29, 2026 | Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord



CUT BRANCHES AND STREWED THEM ON **THE ROAD.**

— MATTHEW 21:8 —

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

©LPI



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National Shrine  
& Basilica  
A Father Baker Legacy

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**DEACON & PASTORAL ASSOCIATE**

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Peter Gonciarz

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**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: 6:45 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.

# WELCOME

PAGE 02 | SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2026

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

### DEAR SISTERS AND BROTHERS 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:

**Monday, March 30—6:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, March 31—3:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

### HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 2

**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 3

**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 4

**9:00 a.m.** Morning Prayer

**1:00 p.m.** Blessing of Easter Baskets (Main Basilica)

**7:30 p.m.** The Easter Vigil



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 5

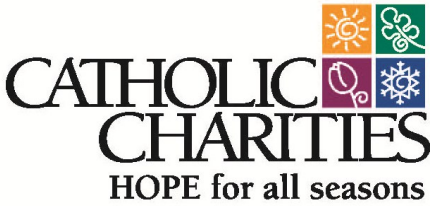
**8:00 a.m.** Mass

**10:00 a.m.** Mass

**12:00 Noon** Mass

**Please note there is no 4:30 p.m. Mass on Easter Sunday. The Basilica will close at 3:00 p.m.**

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!



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 2026 Diocesan Goal is \$8,000,000. **Our Parish Goal at OLV Basilica for this year is \$172,709. To date, we have raised \$125,724 from 167 donors, which is 73% of our goal. To make a gift, please mail in your donor card 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 info on Catholic Charities, visit [ccwny.org](http://ccwny.org).

**PARISH MISSION: April 27, 28, 29**

After the success of our Lenten Mission with the Dominican Fathers last year, I would like to encourage you to please plan on participating in another three-day Parish Mission here in the Basilica, scheduled for the end of April. Fr. Louis Mary Bethea, O.P., a member of the Order of Preachers (the Dominicans), will lead us on this parish mission, which will concentrate on the virtues of faith, hope, and charity, with a focus on Fr. Baker and preparing for the 100th anniversary of the consecration of the Basilica.

The mission talks will be offered twice daily—following the 12:10 p.m. Mass and again at 6:30 p.m. in the evening. Feel free to attend whichever time works best for you. I know that their message will be exactly what we all need to hear, especially during these challenging times for our Church. Please come and bring a friend and spread the word... All are welcome!

**CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION: Saturday, May 30 & Sunday, May 31**

On Saturday, May 30 and Sunday, May 31, OLV will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the consecration of the

Shrine, officially concluding our five-year Centennial Celebration. The weekend will kick off with our Centennial Gala at The Statler on May 30, where commemorative program booklets will be distributed. A limited number of tickets and tables will be available to purchase. On May 31, I invite you to join me for a 2:00 p.m. Mass, followed by a tent reception behind the Basilica, where all are welcome!

Be part of this historic occasion by placing an ad in our Centennial Gala Commemorative Program Book! Full-page ads are available for \$250 (black and white) or \$500 (color). All advertisers will receive a complimentary copy of the program booklet. (Ad size is 4.5" W x 7.5" H, PDF preferred, deadline is April 10.) For more info or to reserve your space, please contact Shannon Donovan at 716-828-9610 or scan the QR code.



**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 reserves your spot for the trip; total cost is \$6,499/person (double occupancy).



Be assured of my grateful prayers. May Father Baker intercede for you and Our Lady of Victory protect you. May God bless you all!

**GRATEFULLY,  
FR. DAVID**



**VOCATION REFLECTION**

The crowds acclaimed Jesus as He rode into Jerusalem, then days later they demanded His crucifixion. Public opinion can change in an instant. Let's forget about what the world wants, and focus on what God desires. If Jesus is calling you to a Church vocation, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org).



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

**Order of Christian Initiation of Adults:** Jill Bermingham, Thomas Bigouette, Molly Bryniarski, Dia Castro, 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, Tamra Frick, Murray Wright, Natalie Wright

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

# PRAYER & WORSHIP

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## JOIN US IN PRAYER

### TELEVISED AND ONLINE MASSES

The Basilica's Sunday Mass is available each weekend online at [olvbasilica.org](http://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](http://olvbasilica.org) and click the "Live Streaming" button in the top right corner. The Holy Thursday Mass, Good Friday service, the Easter Vigil, and all three of the Easter Sunday Masses will also be livestreamed.

### 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's Community Room.

### JOIN OUR PRAYER GROUP

**Tuesdays • 6:30 p.m.**  
**April 7, April 21, May 12,**  
**and May 26**

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 for Eucharistic Adoration on Fridays after the 12:10 p.m. Mass until 5:00 p.m.

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, MARCH 28—Lenten Weekday

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 7:30 am  | For the health of Cora Wolfe (living) by Michael & Teresa Ryan |
| 12:10 pm | Zacarias Avila by A.J. Ball & Family                           |
| 1:30 pm  | <b>Wedding: Catherine Coppola and Alejandro Toranzo</b>        |
| 4:30 pm  | Louis, Ann & Donna Manzo by Frank & Jean Dulak                 |

### SUNDAY, MARCH 29—Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 8:00 am  | Joseph J. Del Vecchio by Nicholas & Kathleen Grasso |
| 10:00 am | Alice Grzybowski by Leonard Grzybowski and Family   |
| 12:00 pm | Bret Norris by Felicia Bosinski                     |
| 4:30 pm  | Wanda Slaski (Birthday Remembrance)                 |

### MONDAY, MARCH 30—Monday of Holy Week

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 7:30 am  | Ignacy, Aniela, Andrew, Edward, Peter Kaczmarczyk & Nell Vidrine by Pat                                   |
| 12:10 pm | Ingrid M. Blood (Birthday Remembrance) by Rev. Msgr. David G. LiPuma<br>John Joseph Lynch by Joanna Beres |

### TUESDAY, MARCH 31—Tuesday of Holy Week

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 7:30 am  | David Schaefer by Monday Morning Counting Friends<br>Caroline Gallego by Family |
| 12:10 pm | Caroline Gallego by Vincent & Frances George<br>Ted Swiech by Swiech Family     |

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1—Wednesday of Holy Week

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| 7:30 am  | Walter Kupkowski by Family   |
| 12:10 pm | Jack P. Shea by the Del Vecchio Family<br>Elizabeth Kozlowski Paciorek by Frank Filippetti |

### THURSDAY, APRIL 2—Holy Thursday

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

### FRIDAY, APRIL 3—Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday)

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| 9:00 am  | <b>Morning Prayer</b>   |
| 12:00 pm | <b>Stations of the Cross</b> (inside the main Basilica)                                       |
| 12:00 pm | <b>Outdoor Stations of the Cross</b> (South Park entrance of Holy Cross Cemetery)             |
| 3:00 pm  | <b>Celebration of the Passion of the Cross</b><br>(Adoration of the Cross and Holy Communion) |
| 7:00 pm  | <b>Stations of the Cross</b> (inside the main Basilica)                                       |

### SATURDAY, APRIL 4—Holy Saturday

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 9:00 am | <b>Morning Prayer</b>   |
| 1:00 pm | <b>Blessing of Easter Baskets</b> (inside the main Basilica)            |
| 7:30 pm | <b>The Easter Vigil</b> —Living & Deceased Parishioners of OLV Basilica |

### SUNDAY, APRIL 5—Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord

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

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### PLEASE NOTE:

The Rectory Office will be **CLOSED** on Good Friday, April 3 and Easter Monday, April 6.

The Basilica Gift Shop will be **CLOSED** on Easter Sunday, April 5. However, it will be **OPEN** on Good Friday and Easter Monday.



Pope Leo 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](http://myfranciscan.org/good-friday).

### EASTER DECORATING VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Good Friday, April 3 • after the 7:00 p.m. Stations of the Cross

As we prepare to celebrate the Easter season, we will need volunteers to help decorate the Basilica. **If you would like to help, please join us in the Basilica on Friday evening, April 3.** For questions or more info, please contact Gregory Stachowski at 716-949-1085. All are welcome to help us prepare our beautiful Basilica for Easter!



### GOOD FRIDAY STATIONS—VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We are looking for volunteers for our **living Stations of the Cross** in Holy Cross Cemetery on Good Friday. We

need teens and children to act out the Stations. *Actors do not have any dialogue to learn.* We also need a few adults to be readers. Practice is held one hour before at 11:00 a.m. on Good Friday in the Basilica's Marian Room. You do not need experience to help, just a willingness to be a part of something special! To volunteer, please call Tina Hatem at 716-826-5075. Thank you for your help!

### STABAT MATER PREMIERE WITH DAVID BUTLER

Saturday, April 11 • 4:30 p.m. Mass

Come to Mass on the Vigil of the Feast of Divine Mercy and, immediately following Mass, enjoy the world premiere of the new composition *Stabat Mater* for solo contralto voice and piano by WNY composer David Butler. Admission is free. To learn more, visit [davidbutlercomposer.com](http://davidbutlercomposer.com).

### DOUGHNUTS & DISCIPLESHIP

Sunday, April 12 • after the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses

On the Second Sunday of Easter, please join us for coffee, juice, and doughnuts in the Basilica's Marian Room after the 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses. Enjoy time to get to know your neighbors! Sponsored by the generosity of our Knights of Columbus and hosted by the Columbiettes.

### BAPTISMAL PREPARATION

Tuesdays • 6:30 p.m. • April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, or August 11

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

### AN INVITATION TO JOIN "COR"

Thursday, April 16 • 6:30 p.m.

Our Knights of Columbus Father Baker Council invites all men 18+ to join us for our next COR meeting in the Basilica's Community Room. The format will include light refreshments, praying the rosary, and an engaging faith discussion. Please consider COR!

### ADOPTION MASS

Sunday, April 19 • Noon Mass

All are welcome to this special Mass honoring anyone touched by adoption. Adoptees, adoptive families, birth parents, friends, and relatives are all invited to attend. A light reception will follow Mass and tours of the OLV Infant Home will be offered. For more information, contact the Diocesan Respect Life Office at 716-847-2205 or [pro-lifeoffice@buffalodiocese.org](mailto:pro-lifeoffice@buffalodiocese.org).

### VOLUNTEER AT THE BASILICA TO BE A GREETER OR USHER

Monday, April 20 • 6:30—8:00 p.m.

A training session for adults interested in volunteering as greeters or ushers will be held in the main Basilica. If you are interested in attending, please register at <https://bit.ly/OLVTraining> or scan the QR code. For questions, call/text Deacon Mark (716-339-0767). The training session will only take place if volunteers are registered to attend.



### COLLECTION FOR VETERANS

The Father Baker Columbiettes #2243 are sponsoring a toiletry drive for local WNY Veterans **during April and May**. There will be designated boxes by each of the Basilica entrances for donations (toothpaste, soap, shampoo, deodorant, ladies' hygiene products, etc.). Donations will be delivered to WNY Heroes prior to Memorial Day. Your generosity last year helped so many of our veterans and would be most appreciated again. Thank you!

# 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.

This **Lenten Season**  
**GIVE YOUR GIFTS ONLINE.**

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

- 1** Go to [www.olvbasilica.org](http://www.olvbasilica.org) and click *Donate*.
- 2** Select the collection or event of your choice.
- 3** Set up your donation with 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 OLV Basilica!

#### Offertory Collection for Sunday, February 22, 2026

##### **PARISH COLLECTIONS:**

|  |             |
|--|-------------|
| Weekly   | \$18,616.39 |
| Monthly  | \$290.00    |
| Ash Wednesday                                      | \$5,245.00  |
| Fuel   | \$75.00     |
| Pennies to Heaven                                  | \$136.00    |
| Processing Fees (online)                           | \$14.28     |
| Sr. Ellen O'Keefe Tuition Assistance for OLV Elem. | \$120.00    |
| Shrines (Votive Candles)                           | \$4,120.00  |

##### **ADDITIONAL COLLECTIONS:**

|                                     |          |
|-------------------------------------|----------|
| Central & Eastern Europe and Poland | \$485.00 |
|-------------------------------------|----------|

|              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>\$29,101.67</b> |
|--------------|--------------------|

### OLV BASILICA MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 4-5

|             | TIME     | LECTOR   | EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS   | ALTAR SERVERS  | SACRISTAN        |
|-------------|----------|--|---|--|------------------|
| <b>SAT.</b> | 7:30 pm  | Eleanor Wieleba, Linda Pawenski, Jessica Harris, Eric Umphreyville | Michael Zakrzewski, Susan Zakrzewski, David West, Gregory Stachowski, Joanne Setlock, Doreen West | A.J. & Samantha Ball, Erin Bialkowski, Josephine Burton, Lilyana & Aubrey Harris | Michalene Murray |
| <b>SUN.</b> | 8:00 am  | Patricia DiVito  | Mary Stenzel, Nancy Zippier, Michalene Murray   |  | Laurie Grundner  |
|             | 10:00 am | Annette Iafallo  | Stefan Gelle, Terrence McCann, Patricia Jarosz, Michael (Mickey) Kipler, Carolyn Kipler           | Isaac Cacacho  | Diane Bona       |
|             | Noon     | David Settlecowski   | Michelle Radominski, Robert McDonough, Jon Paul Trabucco, Molly McClenathan                       | A.J. & Samantha Ball, Joshua, Nathaniel, Theodore Lindstrom                      | Sandy Swiech     |

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