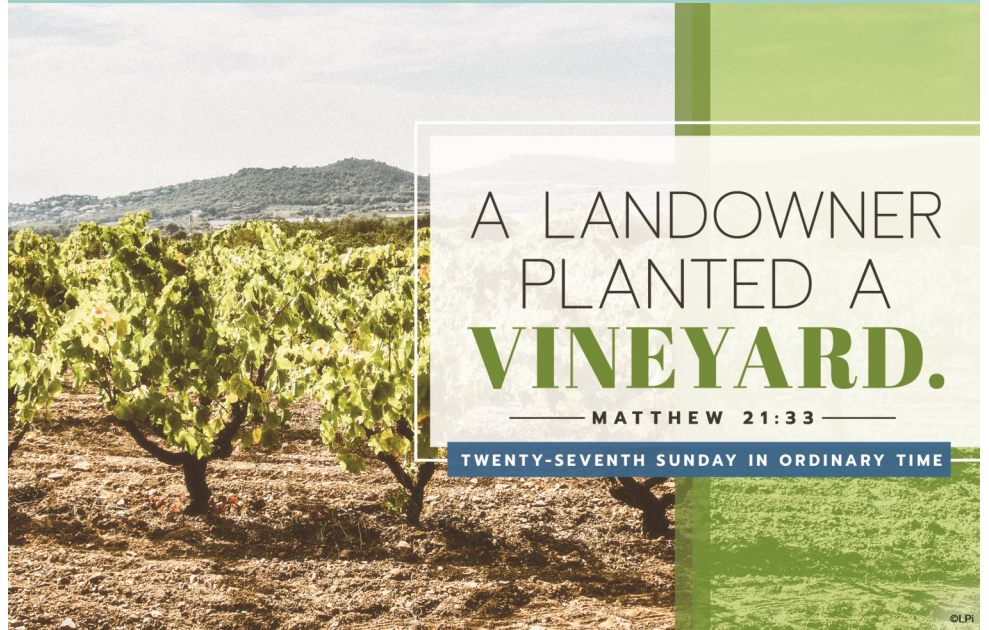




October 4, 2026 | 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



A LANDOWNER PLANTED A VINEYARD.

— MATTHEW 21:33 —

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



OLV

National Shrine & Basilica

A Father Baker Legacy

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Deacon Michael V. Comerford

DEACON & PASTORAL ASSOCIATE

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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

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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.

Address: 767 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, NY 14218

Phone: 716-828-9444

Website: www.olvbasilica.org

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

DEAR BROTHERS AND
SISTERS IN CHRIST,

Respect Life Sunday

Today is Respect Life Sunday, which kicks off Respect Life Month. We take time to consider more deeply why every human life is valuable and to reflect on how to build a Culture of Life that protects it.

I would like to share with you the Respect Life Month Statement for October 2026 from the Most Reverend Daniel E. Thomas, Chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities:

With great confidence, we enter into October as Respect Life Month with the theme of Mary, Mother of Life. Our Blessed Mother is our model for upholding the sanctity of all human life in every stage and circumstance. We entrust all our efforts to protect mothers and babies to her motherly care, which we greatly need at this time.

Today, with easier access to abortion pills, the abortion rate is tragically climbing, along with increased health risks. The Food and Drug Administration has enabled a nationwide mail-order abortion industry by allowing the abortion pill to be prescribed in telehealth appointments, sold both at neighborhood pharmacies and online, and often shipped in the mail, circumventing state laws that protect life in the womb. This means that more women, many of whom have been misinformed about the nature and risks of the abortion pill, will have an abortion alone at home, without any medical supervision. It also sets up additional opportunities for exploitation by violent partners or human traffickers. These affronts to human dignity demand our response.

In August, the USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities began inviting Catholics to join a focused effort of prayer and action to stop the spread of the abortion pill. In addition to invoking the intercession of St. Joseph, Defender of Life, participants can learn about the danger of the abortion pill and can send messages to pharmacies and pharmaceutical companies that are involved. I thank the many thousands of Catholics across the country who have embraced the nationwide invitation to prayer and action on abortion pills, and I ask that we continue our prayers and advocacy throughout the month of October. Please join us at Respect Life Prayer and Action.

Knowing that every abortion involves the death of a child and harm to the mother, we must also continue our efforts to assist mothers facing challenging pregnancies through Walking with Moms in Need, and to help women and men seeking forgiveness and healing after participation in a past abortion through Project Rachel Ministry.

May Mary, Mother of Life, and Saint Joseph, Defender of Life, pray for us!

For information on Respect Life Month, visit www.respectlife.org.

OLV LIFE CHAIN: Sunday, October 4 at 2:00 p.m.

This weekend, I invite you to join in the **OLV Life Chain** on **Sunday, October 4 from 2:00—3:00 p.m.** The Life Chain is a time to stand together for respect for all life from the moment of conception to natural death. We stand in silent prayer, praying the rosary and witnessing to life. The Life Chain will form along Ridge Road and South Park Avenue. There will be Eucharistic Adoration in the Basilica during the Life Chain for those unable to stand outside who wish to pray in silence before the Blessed Sacrament. All are invited to attend Benediction at 3:00 p.m.



PARISH FEAST DAY: Wednesday, October 7 at 12:10 p.m.

October 7th is the **Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary (formerly titled Our Lady of Victory)**. Our OLV Elementary School students will be present to honor our patroness, Our Lady of Victory, and to celebrate with all of our parishioners, employees, benefactors and visitors. All are most welcome to join us for this special concelebrated Mass, which also provides an opportunity for me to personally thank our generous donors, the dedicated employees of all of our OLV Institutions, and the parishioners and friends of OLV who help us to continue the legacy of Father Baker.

The powerful intercessory prayer of the rosary continues to make a positive difference in this world. More than ever, we need to pray the rosary through the intercession of Our Lady of Victory for the salvation of souls and for peace and justice throughout our country and world. Every day, I stop and pray at the tomb of Father Baker and I pray through him and Our Lady of Victory for all of our parishioners, donors and benefactors and all of our employees, that God will bless you all and help us continue to serve all God's people, especially the poor and most vulnerable in our midst.

May Father Baker intercede for you and Our Lady of Victory protect you. God bless you all!

GRATEFULLY
FR. DAVID

MASS INTENTIONS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3—Weekday

7:30 am	Eleanore F. Kaczmarczyk (Birthday Remembrance) by Pat and daughters
11:30 am	Wedding: Meghan Sullivan and Nathan Weir (no 12:10 p.m. Mass today)
1:30 pm	Wedding: Cara Costa and Kyle Gaetano
4:30 pm	Intentions of the Novena In Honor of Our Lady of Victory

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4—Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am	Paul Strycharz by wife, Marion
10:00 am	Stanley & Rosamond Szachta by Kathleen Greenway & Family
12:00 pm	Living & Deceased Members of the OLV Altar & Rosary Society
4:30 pm	Intentions of the Novena In Honor of Our Lady of Victory

MONDAY, OCTOBER 5—St. Faustina Kowalska; Blessed Francis Xavier Seelos

7:30 am	Intentions of the Novena In Honor of Our Lady of Victory Eugene & Dorothy Kuczka by Allan Kuczka
10:30 am	Funeral for Charles Hughes
12:10 pm	Paul Wiles and Florence Jennings by Carol Wiles and Family John & Mary Blake by Jim & Peg Velasquez

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6—Saint Bruno, Priest; Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, Virgin

7:30 am	Intentions of the Novena In Honor of Our Lady of Victory Wally Kupkowski by Family
12:10 pm	Chester Loretta and Raymond Kardas by Family Mr. & Mrs. Mwose by the McKeown Family

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7—Our Lady of the Rosary

7:30 am	Sister Patricia Burkard, OSF by Timothy & LuAnn Batt Daniel Palumbo by Lindsay and Carol
12:10 pm	Parish Feast Day Celebration for Our Lady of Victory Intentions of the Novena In Honor of Our Lady of Victory Thomas R. Braun (Birthday Remembrance) by Family

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8—Weekday

7:30 am	OLV Father Baker Guild Members Scott Kaczorowski by Joe & Tracy Emmerling
12:10 pm	Joseph George Bunich by the Bunich Family

FRIDAY, OCT. 9—St. Denis, Bishop, & Companions, Martyrs; St. John Leonardi, Priest

7:30 am	OLV Spiritual Society Intentions Janet Lavery by Edward & Karen Clifford
12:10 pm	OLV Helping Hands Club Members Richard J. "Dick" Powers by Roseann Zielinski
2:00 pm	Wedding: Meghan Carlucci & Jacob Curcija
4:00 pm	Wedding: Deborah Nelson & Kenneth Osborn

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10—Weekday

7:30 am	Cindi Selmensberger by Marcia Tos
12:10 pm	All Souls Intentions
1:30 pm	Wedding: Sabrina Battleson & Griffin Gill
4:30 pm	John "Jay" Leary, Jr. (Anniversary of Death) by Glenn & Michelle Walsh

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11—Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

8:00 am	Living & Deceased Members fo the OLV Holy Name Society
10:00 am	Judith Pfister by Ed Pfister & Family
12:00 pm	Edward J. & Margaret E. Cosgrove by Ellen Scheiderer
4:30 pm	Sante & Angelina De Giuli by Anne Marie Wingert



OUR LADY OF BISTRICA

Our hearts and prayers go out to all who have been part of the rich history of the Croatian Catholic Community. We welcome all parishioners of Our Lady of Bistrice to attend Mass here at OLV Basilica, and all are most welcome to register and officially join our Basilica family.

Although weekend Masses will no longer be held at Our Lady of Bistrice, there will be two Masses per month celebrated there. The dates, times, and intentions are:

Tuesday, October 6 at 6:30 pm
Dan & Jackie Mazur by Family

Tuesday, October 20 at 6:30 pm
Patricia Bartokvich by daughters
Lori & Tammy & Family

Tuesday, November 3 at 6:30 pm
Cheryl A. Levulis (Anniv. of Death)
by Greg & Kathy Michalek

Tuesday, November 17 at 6:30 pm
Helen Ginal by Family

Tuesday, December 1 at 6:30 pm
Living & Deceased Members of
the Joseph & Charlotte Gentile
Family

Tuesday, December 8 at 6:30 pm
(Solemnity of the Immaculate
Conception) Lois Hooper
by husband Jim Hooper



St. Paul wrote: *"Whatever is true, honorable, pure, lovely, and gracious... think about these things."* That doesn't sound like what's on TV or youtube tonight. In a world drowning in vulgarity, we need people to preach about beautiful and holy things! Contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit buffalovocations.org.

JOIN US IN PRAYER

PRAY THE ROSARY

Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

All are welcome to join in praying the Rosary for Peace on Tuesday evenings in the Basilica's Community Room.

PRAYER GROUP

Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m.
October 6 and October 20

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

Friday Afternoons

Join us each Friday afternoon, following the 12:10 p.m. Mass, until Benediction at 5:00 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sunday, October 11 • 10:30 a.m.

Join us for our next **Children's Liturgy!** We need 2 gift bearers, 1 collector, 1 reader, more greeters and more singers. Please call Tina Hatem at 716-826-5075 if your child would like to volunteer, or with any questions. Ministers will be notified of practice for this Mass on an individual basis. The ministers are:

- **Readers:** Aubrey Harris, Lyla Oehler
- **Collectors:** Paulina Maldonado, Lilyana Harris, Henri Burton
- **Gift Bearers:** (no one yet)
- **Greeters:** Aubrey and Lilyana Harris
- **Singers:** Nevaeh Roberts, Hannah Sweeney, Aubrey Harris, Lyla Oehler

We are looking forward to seeing all of you and are eager to meet new friends. If you and your family have never been to a Children's Liturgy, please come. We always have room for more!

BAPTISM PREPARATION

Tuesdays • 6:30 p.m. • October 13,
November 10, or December 1

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



NEW PARISHIONER WELCOME NIGHT

Wednesday, October 14 • 6:30 p.m.

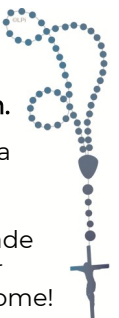
All new parishioners are invited to our next New Parishioner Night in the Basilica's Community Room. Please come and meet other newly-registered parishioners, get to know a little bit about OLV's rich history, learn about opportunities to get involved, and hear how Father Baker's legacy is still thriving. Light refreshments will be served. This event is for all new parishioners.

To become a parishioner here at OLV Basilica, you just need to complete a registration form with some basic information. Forms are available by contacting the OLV Rectory Office at rectoryoffice@olvbasilica.org or 716-828-9444, or via our parish website at olvbasilica.org. (At the top of the page, under the "About" menu, select "OLV Parish," click "Become a Parishioner," and the link is at the bottom of the page.) All are welcome!

THE LIVING ROSARY

Tuesday, October 27 • 6:30 p.m.

Please join us in the main Basilica on the evening of Tuesday, October 27 for our annual Living Rosary prayer service. Each decade will be led by parishioners and/or ministry volunteers. All are welcome!



FREE SPAGHETTI DINNER & CHILDREN'S TOY DRIVE

Friday, November 6 • 4:30—6:30 p.m.

Please join the OLV Service Club for a FREE spaghetti dinner and help support a wonderful cause as we collect toys for children in emergency foster care. Come enjoy dinner, bring a toy donation if you can, and take a chance on one of our great raffle prizes—all while helping local children and adolescents in need.

Donations of new, age-appropriate gifts such as board games, Bills/Sabres gear, hats, scarves, socks, plush pillows, art supplies, twin bedsheets, indoor lights, or gift cards can be placed in the blue barrels at the Basilica entrances. Or scan the QR code to view and shop our wishlist.



Raffle tickets are available after weekend Masses for a chance to win \$500 cash, a \$300 Target gift card, or a \$150 gift card tree (\$5 per chance or 5 for \$20). Drawing will be held at the end of the dinner on 11/6; you do not have to be present to win. For questions, call Bridget at 716-536-3887. We hope you can join us for this great event to help children!

RESPECT LIFE EVENTS

PREVENTING ASSISTED SUICIDE AND ENCOURAGING HOPE

Wednesday, October 14 • 7:00 p.m.
Kloc's Grove, 1245 Seneca Creek Rd,
West Seneca, NY 14224

Medical Assistance In Dying (MAID) is now the law in New York State. Learn the truth about the devastating effects of the passage of this law. A panel of clergy and physicians will join international expert speaker Amanda Achtman at Kloc's Grove for a community presentation. All are welcome!



From now until November 1, join other Christians for 40 Days for Life—40 days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion. You're also invited to stand and peacefully pray during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside Planned Parenthood in West Seneca and also to help spread the word about this important community outreach. For more info, or to volunteer, contact Marcell Taylor at 40days4lifeny@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS & EVENTS

OPEN POSITION AT OLV CHARITIES

OLV Charities currently has an open position for **Director of Camp Turner**. The Director of Camp Turner is responsible for developing and implementing the mission, purpose, goals, objectives, budget, and organizational needs of Camp Turner. The Director provides leadership and oversight for camp operations during overnight summer children's camp (June—mid-August) and rental groups (non-summer months) in alignment with OLV Charities' mission, policies, and procedures. Additionally, the Director helps develop and support off-season youth ministry initiatives. For more details, please visit www.olvcharities.org/careers.

CELEBRATE THE EUCHARIST WITH SAINT CARLO ACUTIS

Saturday, October 10 • 11:00 a.m.

Corpus Christi Church
199 Clark Street, Buffalo, NY 14212

Join the Acutis Initiative in celebrating St. Carlo Acutis' feast day (a few days early) with Mass and a Eucharistic Procession! Mass starts

at 11:00 a.m. and the procession immediately follows at 11:45 a.m. Then join us afterwards at 12:30 p.m. for a reception with a brief discussion on some Eucharistic miracles. The Acutis Initiative is a lay grassroots initiative to help Catholics follow the example of St. Carlo to fall more deeply in love with Jesus and show that love with reverence and devotion to the Eucharist. All are welcome to attend!



ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL FALL OPEN HOUSE

Thursday, October 15 • 5-8 p.m.
Friday, October 16 • 5-7 p.m.

142 Laverack Avenue,
Lancaster, NY 14086

Attention middle school students and families: Learn more about life at St. Mary's High School! Tour with students, meet teachers, and walk the halls of Western New York's premier Catholic, co-ed, college-preparatory school. Register today at smhlancers.org/open-house/

2027 MASS INTENTIONS

The Rectory Office will start accepting 2027 Mass intention requests on Monday, October 5. To schedule an intention, contact the Rectory at olvrectory@olvbasilica.org or 716-828-9444 to obtain the 2027 request form, fill in your information (with alternate dates in case your first choice is not available), and return the form to the Rectory.

Intentions will only be scheduled via the written form. Requests will NOT be scheduled by phone or when stopping in to the office due to the volume of requests.

Please note: There are no more 2026 intentions available, however we do have the Spiritual Society and Golden Treasury cards from OLV Charities, which can be used to remember a loved one in a monthly group Mass that is celebrated in the Basilica. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

JOIN US AT OLV ELEMENTARY SCHOOL!

Choosing the right school makes all the difference. At OLV Elementary, families find a welcoming community where children thrive — academically, socially, and spiritually. From PreK3 through 8th Grade, your child will be guided by caring teachers who inspire a lifelong love of learning. Come see why so many families call OLV "home." Visit us at www.ourladyofvictoryelementary.org or call 716-828-9435 for more information or to schedule a tour.





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.



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

- 1 Go to olvbasilica.org and click *Give*.
- 2 Select a collection or event.
- 3 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 OLV Basilica!

Offertory Collection for Sunday, September 13, 2026

Weekly	\$12,500.00
Monthly (Repair & Maintenance)	\$900.00
Holy Day: Assumption (8/15)	\$17.00
Museum Donations	\$80.00
Pennies to Heaven	\$209.00
Shrines (Votive Candles)	\$2,530.00
Catholic University	\$7.00
Online Donations	\$4,834.72
TOTAL	\$21,077.72

OLV BASILICA MINISTRY SCHEDULE FOR OCTOBER 3—4

	TIME	LECTOR	EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS	ALTAR SERVERS	SACRISTAN
SAT.	4:30 pm	Glenn Reid	Debra Saletta, Albert Ward, Susan Zakrzewski, Michael Zakrzewski, Stephanie Bialkowski	Erin Bialkowski	Sandy Swiech, Michele Brouder
SUN.	8:00 am	Linsey Heferle	Eugene Allman, Sheila Allman, Catherine Bergen, Mary Ellen Carosa, Richard Grasso	N., J., and T. Lindstrom	Mary Patricia Allman
	10:00 am	Annette lafallo	Terrence McCann, Patricia Osborne, Kathleen Roche		Diane Bona
	Noon	Tammy Koerner	David Settlecowski, Ronald Slawinowski, Jon Paul Trabucco		Robert McDonough
	4:30 pm	Patricia DiVito	Donna Gelle, Stefan Gelle, John Leszak		Michalene Murray



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