



OUR LADY OF VICTORY NATIONAL SHRINE AND BASILICA

767 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, New York 14218

Phone: (716) 828-9444; FAX: (716) 828-9429

E-mail: olvrectory@olvbasilica.org

Website: www.olvbasilica.org



Sunday, December 22, 2019 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

PASTOR/RECTOR: Rev. Msgr. David G. LiPuma
IN RESIDENCE: Rev. Msgr. Paul J. E. Burkard
PAROCHIAL VICARS: Rev. Justin J. Steeg
 Rev. Romulus Rosolowski, OFM Conv.
DEACON: Deacon Michael V. Comerford

RECTORY OFFICE HOURS:
 Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
 Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
 Sunday: Closed

SUNDAY MASSES:
 Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m.
 Sunday: 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. (Folk Mass),
 Noon (Choir), 4:30 p.m.

HOLY DAY MASSES: Please see bulletin

WEEKDAY MASSES: 7:30 a.m., 12:10 p.m. (Mon.-Sat.)
 8:15 a.m. (Friday when school is in session)

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE:
 Saturday: 3:00-4:00 p.m. and 7:00-7:30 p.m.
 Eve of Holy Day: 3:00-4:00 p.m.
 Eve of First Friday: 3:00-4:00 p.m.

SCHOOL:
 2760 South Park Avenue, Lackawanna, NY
 Mrs. Carolyn M. Kraus, Principal
 Phone: (716) 828-9434
 E-mail: elementary@olvbasilica.org
 Website: www.ourladyofvictoryelementary.org

RELIGIOUS ED OFFICE:
 2760 South Park Avenue, Lackawanna, NY
 Ms. Carmelann Zomeri, Director
 Phone: (716) 828-9437
 E-mail: religioused@olvbasilica.org

GIFT SHOP and MUSEUM:
 James Murphy, Gift Shop Manager
 (716) 828-9433/olvgiftshop@olvbasilica.org
 Dianne Bosinski, Tours & Basilica Programs
 (716) 828-9424/dbosinski@olvbasilica.org

GIFT SHOP and MUSEUM HOURS;
 Daily 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

ROSARY: Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Sacrament of Baptism:

Our Parish offers a special Pre-Baptism preparation program for parents who desire to share their faith with their children. Parents-to-be must attend this class prior to the birth of their child. Baptisms are usually scheduled two times each month. Call the Rectory to register for classes. Godparents must be Confirmed and practicing Catholics. Non-parishioners are required to have a Letter of Recommendation to serve as a sponsor.

Sacrament of Marriage:

To be married in the Basilica, you must be an active parishioner for at least 9 months prior to setting a date. Engaged couples should contact the pastor before making other wedding arrangements. Couples are required to attend a Pre-Cana Conference, or equivalent pre-marriage preparation program.

Letters of Recommendation:

Recommendations to act as sponsors for Baptism or Confirmation can be issued only to registered members of Our Lady of Victory Parish who have received the Sacrament of Confirmation, attend Mass and receive Holy Communion regularly, have their children attending a Catholic school or Religious Education class. If married, the marriage must be in conformity with the regulations of the Catholic Church.

Devotions:

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament begins immediately after the 12:10 p.m. Mass in the Basilica on Fridays and concludes with Benediction at 5:00 p.m.

First Friday:

On the eve of the First Friday of each month there are confessions from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Mass is celebrated at 7:30 p.m. on First Friday.

Care of the Sick:

Please notify the rectory office for a visit to any family member who is sick, in the hospital or confined to home. Regular home Communion visits are usually on the First Friday of the month by a priest, deacon, or minister of the Eucharist.

Tours:

To schedule a tour of Our Lady of Victory Basilica, please contact Dianne Bosinski, Tours & Basilica Programs by email at dbosinski@olvbasilica.org or by phone at (716) 828-9424.

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We gather this weekend to celebrate the Fourth Sunday of Advent and prepare to celebrate Christmas Eve and Christmas Day this week. We welcome the greatest gift of all, Jesus our Savior, Son of God and Son of Mary and Joseph.

As I celebrate my first Christmas with you and as I reflect on the true meaning of Christmas, I take this opportunity to thank you, our devoted and dedicated parishioners, as well as all of our visitors, for the myriad of ways in which you reflect the love and compassion of Christ to others. Often people think of Christmas as a time for receiving gifts, but here in our parish it is truly all about the giving of gifts to others. Thanks to your outstanding generosity, many families will enjoy a better Christmas because of your generous donations of food and money for the St. Vincent de Paul Society food baskets and your overwhelming response to our Christmas Angel and Mitten Tree Projects.

I know that we are all deeply grateful to the members of the St. Vincent de Paul Society who assisted in the preparation and delivery of the gift bags for Christmas and all the volunteers, rectory staff and members of OLV Charities and OLV Human Services for all of the great work in organizing the Christmas Angel and Mitten Trees. It is truly a labor of love that makes a significant difference in the lives of others. On behalf of all those children and families who will benefit from your generosity, I offer heartfelt thanks for all that you have done to provide for those most in need.

I also wish to thank all of our parishioners and our many volunteers for your ongoing generosity and support of our parish and school throughout the year. The sacrifices you make in the offering of your time, talent and treasure are what keep us going and make our parish and school so special.

On behalf of Fr. Paul, Fr. Romulus, Fr. Justin and myself, we thank you for being the wonderful parish family that you are and we wish you and all of your loved ones a Joyous & Blessed Christmas!

As we celebrate the Christmas Masses, we will be remembering you and your loved ones in our special intentions, asking God to bless you abundantly this Christmas and throughout the coming New Year 2020.

May you be blessed
with the spirit of the season, which is peace,
the gladness of the season, which is hope,
and the heart of the season, which is love.

Have a Blessed and Merry Christmas!

Gratefully,
Fr. David



*Pray for the canonization of our founder,
Venerable Nelson Baker*



Summary of the Readings Fourth Sunday of Advent

On this final Sunday of Advent our scriptures focus on the historical birth of Jesus, who is son of David and Son of God, child and king, Jesus and Emmanuel.

Isaiah the prophet begs Ahaz to ask for a sign, to allow God to offer him reassurance of the survival of the Davidic dynasty. The king hypocritically refuses to “tempt the LORD” in that way (Isaiah 7:12), but the prophet foretells the birth of a son, an heir to the throne, who will prove the Lord’s enduring protection of God’s chosen lineage on the throne of David. The child will be called Emmanuel.

Matthew’s reference to this history in his description of the birth of Jesus highlights the contrast between the faithless refusal of trust shown by Ahaz, and the complete trust in God shown by Mary and Joseph in bringing about the birth of Jesus Christ. Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

MassSchedule

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Week of December 22, 2019

Saturday, December 21

4:30 Stella Gawel by The Gawel Family

Sunday, December 22—Fourth Sunday of Advent

8:00 Deceased Members of the Plewinski & Murphy Families by Family

10:00 John Graham by Gary Masterson

12:00 Joseph Bierut by Sharon & Lynne Bierut

4:30 Novena in Honor of the Birth of Our Lord Intentions

Monday, December 23—St. John of Kanty

7:30 Novena in Honor of the Birth of Our Lord Intentions
Filomena Del Vecchio by The Del Vecchio Family

12:10 Thomas H. Twist by Mary & John Twist

Tuesday, December 24—Vigil of Christmas

7:30 Novena in Honor of the Birth of Our Lord Intentions
Walter Pula by Rose Pula

12:10 Effie Ringle by Daughter, Louise

Victor & Natalie Stachowski by Son, Gregory
Stachowski

4:00 For the People of the Parish

6:00 For the People of the Parish

Wednesday, December 25—The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

12:00 For the People of the Parish

Novena in Honor of the Birth of Our Lord Intentions

8:00 For the People of the Parish

10:00 For the People of the Parish

12:00 For the People of the Parish

Thursday, December 26—St. Stephen

7:30 Shirley Wilczewski by Husband, Joe

Joseph Rybicki by Kevin Whelan

12:10 Norman Woloszyn by Jim Woloszyn

Patrick McMullen by Tom & Sherry Puchalski

Friday, December 27—St. John

7:30 Our Lady of Victory Spiritual Association Members
David Tuttle by Rosemary Scahill

12:10 Matthew & Eleanor Woloszyn by Sons

Pauline P. Rueter by Father David

Saturday, December 28—The Holy Innocents

7:30 Michael & Katie Santangelo Family (Living) by
Matthew Croes

12:10 Helen C. Renzi by Father David

4:30 David Milosich by OLV Ushers—Saturday 4:30

Sunday, December 29—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

8:00 Faustina Tiberio by John & Mary Ann Tiberio & Family

10:00 Cynthia & Jerome Kida by Karen & Greg

12:00 Ronald, Sr., Antoinette & Ronald, Jr. Ziccardi by
Children, Siblings & Grandchildren

4:30 Daniel Schaefer by Cindy & Dave Schaefer



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Weekend of December 28-29

Lectors:

Saturday, December 28

4:30 p.m.—B. DeMike

Sunday, December 29

8:00 a.m.—L. Smolen

10:00 a.m.—M. Mulqueen

12:00 p.m.—D. West

4:30 p.m.—M. Kipler

Eucharistic Ministers:

Saturday, December 28

4:30 p.m.—Bush, Dulak, Jackson, Stenzel, Wood

Sunday, December 29

8:00 a.m.—Allman, Murray

10:00 a.m.—Jarosz, T. McCann, Osborne, Powers,
T. Wing

12:00 p.m.—Bonafede, Swan, Trabucco

4:30 p.m.—Britting, Rick Grasso, Jackson

Servers:

Saturday, December 28

4:30 p.m.—M. Bush, A. Pavlovich, MG. Wood

Sunday, December 29

8:00 a.m.—V. Trojanovic, R. Harrington

10:00 a.m.—A.J. Matyas, L.J. Sokolik

12:00 p.m.—T. Sitarek, R. Litwin, E. James

4:30 p.m.—A. Mateer, D.N. Clark

(MC= J. Pearson)

Tours: December 29: JoAnn Zurek



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Sunday, December 22—Fourth Sunday of Advent

- 8:40 a.m. Religious Ed Classes (School)
- 11:00 a.m. Children’s Liturgy Practice (Bas)
- 1:00 p.m. RCIA (Rectory)
- 5:30 p.m. Decorate Basilica for Christmas

Monday, December 23—St. John of Kanty

- 3:00-4:00 p.m. Confessions
- 7:00-8:00 p.m. Confessions
- 7:00 p.m. Folk Group Practice (Mus R)

Tuesday, December 24—Vigil of Christmas

- 4:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass—Children’s Liturgy (Bas)
- 6:00 p.m. Christmas Vigil Mass (Bas)
- NO Rosary for Peace
- NO Prayer Group Meeting

Wednesday, December 25—The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Masses at Midnight; 8:00 a.m.; 10:00 a.m.; 12:00 p.m.
NO 4:30 p.m. Mass
Novena in Honor of the Birth of Our Lord Ends
Rectory, Museum & Gift Shop Closed

Thursday, December 26—St. Stephen

- 6:00 p.m. Legion of Mary Meeting (MR)
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Mus R)

Friday, December 27—St. John

- 1:00-5:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration (Bas)

Saturday, December 28—The Holy Innocents

- 3:00-4:00 & 7:00-7:30 p.m. Confessions

Sunday, December 29—The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

- NO Religious Ed Classes
- 1:00 p.m. RCIA (Rectory)



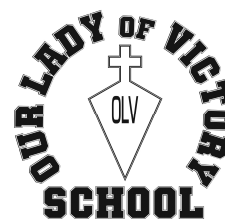
As we celebrate Christmas, we realize and remember that God keeps the great promise of the gift of Jesus! Of course, God amazes us with other gifts we never could have imagined or asked for, and we realize this as we look at what he provides for us in everyday life: solid ground that supports us, gravity that keeps us from floating away, the atmosphere that provides us with air to breathe, a shield to protect us from the heat of the sun, and water to keep us healthy, and so much more. What a world we have been given, but I know God wants to give us something more precious: a share in His very own life. So Emmanuel came to us in Bethlehem. God gave himself to us as an infant, one who could do nothing for itself. As we celebrate Christmas, we realize this gift has changed everything because God’s heart is opened to us.

The Christmas season scriptures are filled with epiphanies, that is events that clearly show that people realize the gift of this very special baby is the promised Messiah.

In our own churches this Christmas, as we stand in front of the manger and gaze in wonder with Mary, Joseph, the angels, the shepherds and the Magi, we realize this holy child, Jesus, is our God. What a wonderful gift to celebrate not only this Christmas but each and every day of the year.

On behalf of Our Lady of Victory School, we wish you all a very special and beautiful Christmas.

School will resume on January 2.



OLV Elementary Open House

On *Sunday, January 26, 2020, from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.* OLV Elementary will be holding their annual *Open House*.

OLV Elementary School has provided students with a vibrant, safe, and nurturing environment for more than 120 years! Whether in classrooms, computer labs, or sports fields, our teachers shape the leaders of tomorrow and provide the building blocks for unlocking each child’s vast potential. OLV offers small class sizes, spiritual formation, and a proven track record of preparing children for high school and life! Additionally, we offer a morning / after school care program to further the social and educational development of our children. OLV is a licensed STREAM institution that has a forward-thinking curriculum that focuses on the areas of Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, the Arts and Mathematics.

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Sunday, December 15th

Due to an early deadline, totals for the December 15th Sunday collection will be listed in an upcoming bulletin.

Pro-Life

We continue to follow the timeline of Mary's pregnancy with Jesus. Week 40: We've made it to the final week! Thighs are about 3 inches long and the heart has beat about 54 million times before birth and now it's time to be born! Air breathing begins. The baby is now the size of a fully grown newborn!

Thank you for following along on Mary's pregnancy journey. We hope that this has shown what beautiful and miraculous things are happening in the womb and that every life is precious.



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Planning A Holiday Trip?

When you are out-of-town, you can find Mass times for parishes all over the country via the Internet. Log on to www.masstimes.org. Enter the city, state or zip code you will be visiting and get a list of parishes in that area with the address and phone number for each parish, a schedule of Mass days/times and directions to the parish.

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Vocation Thought ~ Fourth Sunday of Advent

Today we hear that Jesus' coming into our world and all of the love he poured out for us, through much sacrifice, was done in obedience to the Father's will. Remember that it may be God's will that you be a priest, or a religious sister or brother. If so, will you follow Jesus' example of faithfulness? If God is calling you to a Church vocation, call Father Andrew Lauricella at 716-847-5535.

Christmas Decorating at OLV Basilica

As we prepare to celebrate the upcoming Christmas season, **volunteers are needed** to help decorate the Basilica and to water the Christmas flowers during the week and after weekend Masses. If you would like to help decorate, please join us in the Basilica **this Sunday, December 22, at 5:30 p.m.** (following the 4:30 p.m. Mass). If you are able to assist with watering the flowers throughout the Christmas season, a watering schedule will be posted in the work sacristy where you can sign up for the day(s) of your choice. For questions about volunteering or more information, please contact Gregory Stachowski at 716-949-1085. All are welcome to come and help us prepare our beautiful Basilica for the celebration of Christmas!



Please remember Our Lady of Victory in your will.



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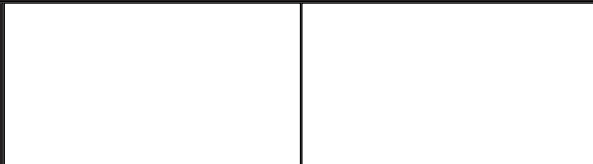
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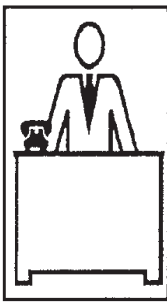
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