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@ourladyofvictory.org
Website: www.ourladyofvictory.org

Sunday, December 4, 2016 - The Second Sunday of Advent

PASTOR: Rev. Msgr. Paul J. E. Burkard

PAROCHIAL VICARS: Rev. Samuel T. Giangreco, Jr.
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. (Tues., Wed., Fri., during School Year)

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@ourladyofvictory.org
Website: www.ourladyofvictoryelementary.org

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

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

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

ROSARY: Tuesday 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@ourladyofvictory.org or by phone at (716) 828-9424.

Pray for the canonization of our founder, Venerable Nelson Baker

Our ***Spring Sweepstakes Kickoff party is this Saturday evening, December 3, beginning at 5:30 p.m.***–the doors open immediately after the 4:30 p.m. Mass. Sweepstakes tickets can be purchased at the door. ***The date of the Spring Sweeps is March 11***. Mark your calendar.

Coffee and donuts will be served in the Marian Room after all Sunday morning Masses this Sunday. This has become a nice custom here at OLV. You are welcome to stop down for a quick cup of coffee, a donut and conversation with your fellow parishioners.

Thursday, December 8, is the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, a holy day of obligation. This is the patronal feast of our country. On May 13, 1847, the bishops of the United States choose Mary, under the title of the Immaculate Conception, as the patron of the United States. Their choice was approved by Pope Pius IX and made official on July 2, 1847. Since then, this feast has been celebrated as a holy day of obligation in our nation. ***Masses on that day will be celebrated at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. There will be a vigil Mass at 7:30 p.m. the night before the holy day.***

Next weekend, December 10 and 11, we will take up our annual collection for Retired Religious (priests, sisters and brothers who belong to Religious Orders). This collection has been taken up in our country for a good number of years. It helps pay the retirement costs for priests, sisters and brothers who belong to religious orders, who for many years worked in parishes, schools, hospitals, and other church-related ministries, and who now have significant retirement costs. Many of these were our teachers, catechists and health care providers as we were growing up. Today, they need our help in defraying the cost of health care and old age. There is a special envelope in your packet of envelopes for this collection. Please be generous in helping those who helped us so much. (This "Retirement Fund for Religious" collection is not intended to cover retirement costs for diocesan priests. Many people think it does, but diocesan priests, like Father Sam and myself and so many diocesan priests who have served here over the years, have our own retirement plan through the Diocese of Buffalo. Bishop Malone just initiated a special collection in August to help pay for mounting medical bills for retired diocesan priests. This collection will be taken up each year in August.)

The small ***Advent/Christmas reminder cards*** with the times of Advent confessions and Christmas and New Year Masses are now available throughout the Basilica. Check out these dates and times a part of your preparation for the Christmas celebrations.

Lectors are asked to please pick up the new Lector Workbook in the sacristy. Make sure you check off your name so that we know who has one. Thank you.

May Jesus bless you and Our Lady of Victory watch over you.

Father Paul

Summary of the Readings
Second Sunday of Advent

Saint John the Baptist appears on the scene today as Advent enters its second week. The mysterious consumer of locusts and wild honey, John echoes the words of the prophet Isaiah as he calls for repentance in the face of the nearness of the kingdom of heaven. The rhythms of the Christian life are often confounding. Each year we meet the Baptist and hear his calls for repentance. Each year we see him pointing to the one who is coming after him, the Lord Jesus. Yet each year the words and actions of John the Baptist echo anew in our hearts, because we have fallen into old sinful traps again and again. Advent gives us the opportunity once again to turn away from our sinful ways and embrace the gospel way of life. John the Baptist invites us to prepare the way for the Lord, in whom we place our hope.
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MINISTRY
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Weekend of December 10-11

Lectors:

Saturday, December 10
4:30 p.m.—S. Puckhaber

Sunday, December 11
8:00 a.m.—B. DeMike
10:00 a.m.—No Lector—Children's Liturgy
12:00 p.m.—J. Howell
4:30 p.m.—M. Monroy

Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday, December 10
4:30 p.m.—Clark, Cwiklinski, Dulak, Jackson, Welsch

Sunday, December 11
8:00 a.m.—Barr, Fitzgerald, M. McCann
10:00 a.m.—Dehlinger, T. McCann, Powers, Swan, T. Wing
12:00 p.m.—Andrzejewski, Bonafede, Ciallela, Trabucco
4:30 p.m.—Grasso, Jackson, Stachowski

Servers:

Saturday, December 10
4:30 p.m.—P. Diamond, C. Riedy, A.R. Swiger

Sunday, December 11
8:00 a.m.—G.R. Harrington, K.R. Wick
10:00 a.m.—K. Pietrkiewicz, D. Lang, E.K. Wood
12:00 p.m.—Carroccia, Ely, Grinder, Negron
4:30 p.m.—D.N. Clark, B. Gwozdz, B. Lopez

Tours: December 11: Mickey Kipler

Mass Schedule
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Week of December 4, 2016

Saturday, December 3
4:30 Anthony Sadek by Timothy & Marcia Moore

Sunday, December 4—Second Sunday of Advent
8:00 Maria Luciano by Mother, Christine Avino
10:00 Mary Powers by The Powers Family
12:00 Living & Dec. Members of the Altar/Rosary Society
4:30 Ann O'Leary by The O'Leary Family

Monday, December 5
7:30 Our Lady of Victory Spiritual Society
Kathy Novak by Bequest of Nathalie Belz
12:10 Ronald Handzlik by Sister, Linda Klice

Tuesday, December 6—St. Nicholas
7:30 Joseph P. Merrick by The Downey Family
8:15 Dec. Mem. of the Sasiadek Family by David Sasiadek
12:10 Patricia Motyka by Family & Friends
Dorothy Lelek by Virginia Chmielowiec
7:30 Barbara Sarick by Tony & Lynn Monaco (Chapel)

Wednesday, December 7—St. Ambrose
7:30 Robert James Armstrong by Family
8:15 All Souls Intentions
The Toomey Family by The Toomey Family
12:10 Jean & Jerome Zurek by Daughter, JoAnn Zurek
Linda Eagan by William Eagan & Children
7:30 Our Lady of Victory Golden Treasury

Thursday, December 8—The Immaculate Conception of the BVM
7:30 Helen Wieleba by Estate
Rita Gallagher (Death Ann.) by Pat & Marilyn Gallagher
9:00 Edmund F. Burke by Estate
Robert A. Downey by The Downey Family
12:10 Marie Kalenda by Sisters, Betty & Rose
Arnold Primosch, Theresa Wimmer & Alfrieda Keller by The Primosch Family
4:30 Natalie B. Stachowski by Ellie Wieleba
William Roberts by Family

Friday, December 9—St. Juan Diego
7:30 Carmina DiPronio by Estate
8:15 Claire McGuire by Daughter, Michelle
12:10 Clara Delecki by Family
Henry Kawa by Family

Saturday, December 10
7:30 Francis C. Igoe by The Downey Family
12:10 Mario Fabbro by Rosa Deganis
1:30 Wedding: Jeffrey John Mokski & Ashley Nicole Bauman
4:30 Brian "Jimmy" Bohan by Loving Wife, Donna

Sunday, December 11—Third Sunday of Advent
8:00 Deceased Members of the Holy Name Society
10:00 John Lalka by The Powers Family
12:00 Ambrose & Alice Friedman by The Friedman Family
4:30 Loretta Dusza by Jane & Ernie Dusza

Sunday, December 4—Second Sunday of Advent
Coffee and Donuts after Morning Masses (MR)
8:40 a.m. Religious Ed Classes (1-9)
8:45 a.m. Confessions Grades 6-9
11:00 a.m. Altar & Rosary Society Meeting (Mus R)
1:00 p.m. Baptisms (Bas)
1:00 p.m. Altar & Rosary Society Christmas Party (Curly's)

Monday, December 5
7:00 p.m. Bible Study (Caf)
7:00 p.m. Folk Group Practice (Mus R)

Tuesday, December 6—St. Nicholas
7:00 p.m. St. Vincent de Paul Society Meeting (R)
7:00 p.m. Rosary for Peace (Bas)
7:30 p.m. Mass, Prayer Group Meeting (SC) (MR)

Wednesday, December 7—St. Ambrose
3:00-4:00 p.m. Confessions
7:30 p.m. Vigil Mass (Bas)
NO RCIA Class

Thursday, December 8—The Immaculate Conception of the BVM
Holy Day Masses at 7:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 12:10 p.m., 4:30 p.m.
1:00 p.m. Legion of Mary Meeting (MR)
7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal (Mus R)

Friday, December 9—St. Juan Diego
1:00-5:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration (Bas)
2:00-3:00 p.m. Pro-Life Holy Hour (IH)

Saturday, December 10
Religious Retirement Collection
9:00 a.m. Children's Liturgy Practice (MR)
3:00-4:00 & 7:00-7:30 p.m. Confessions (Bas)

Sunday, December 11—Third Sunday of Advent
Religious Retirement Collection
8:40 a.m. Religious Ed Classes (1-9)
8:45 a.m. Confessions Grades 3-5
10:00 a.m. Children's Liturgy (Bas); Reception (MR)

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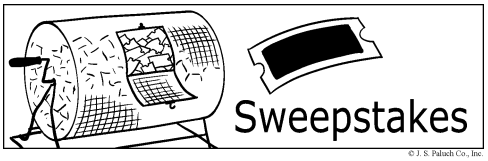

OLV Annual Sweepstakes

Sweeps tickets are on sale now! Get your tickets after weekend Masses or in the Rectory, Gift Shop and at the School Office during regular business hours. Each ticket is $50.00 and admits 2 people (21 and over) to the Sweepstakes night on ***March 11, 2017***.

School News

As we begin this season of ***Advent*** we will be praying for the grace to understand what the birth of Christ means for us. We will also put our prayers into action as we light the Advent Wreath each Monday morning and learn about the lineage of Jesus through stories as we adorn the Jessie tree with ornaments. Our little ones will plant wheat seeds for each good deed they do as a gift to baby Jesus. On Christmas day they will cut the wheat and lay it in the manger saying, "Jesus lies on our good deeds." All of our classes are practicing their Christmas songs for the ***Christmas Concert on the 21st of December*** and our choir will take their beautiful voices over to the Victory Ridge apartments to fill the building with Christmas cheer. Advent is a special season and we will be working to assist all of our children to realize the specialness of the true gift of Christmas…. Jesus.

Our first quarter is now over. Time passes so quickly. Over 75 students were treated to a pancake breakfast (***The Breakfast of Champions***) for getting all of their homework in on time. Our students have worked hard and many were honored at our ***Honor Roll Ceremony*** for meeting the criteria for first, second honors, or Merit Roll. Congratulations!

Our school year is well into our ***STREAM*** curriculum and activities. Great appreciation is extended to Ms. Marian Abram for coordinating our stream program and to all of our teachers for training and carrying out these very important lessons throughout the year.

"Building STREAM? Yes we are!"

As STREAM ACADEMY prepares to take a pause for December and January, OLV students will be participating in many STREAM initiative Field Experiences, Community Connections and Events. STREAM Academy Arcade and Robotics students will compete at the ***Diocese X STREAM Games*** on December 4. On December 1, the 6th grade will participate in ***two workshops at the Museum of Science***. They will be "digging up the past" of Egypt using the tools of archeologists and anthropologists and will also be exploring Rocks and Minerals in a hands on workshop. This highlights the interdisciplinary nature of STREAM with both Social Studies and Science students.

During the Week of December 5 through 9, the entire school will participate in the largest learning event in history, with over 180 countries and 100 million students. This is called the ***Hour of Code*** and is a global movement designed to introduce students to the wonderful world of computer coding in a fun and exciting way.

Also planned for December is ***a field experience for 7th grade at Tifft Farm***. We will be telling you even more in coming weeks about the many activities already planned for January, including ***visits on site by Buffalo Zoo staff*** for grades 1 and 2, ***UNYTS*** on site for science classes and the exciting ***Finding Noah Field Experience***. For further information and to make donations for STREAM related activities, please contact Our Lady of Victory School office at 828-9434.
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Children's Liturgy
Sunday, December 11, at 10:00 a.m.

Advent is the season for preparing for Christ's birth. Join us as we celebrate the season at ***our next Children's Liturgy on Sunday, December 11, at 10:00 a.m.***

This is a very special liturgy for our community. Right after the Mass during our refreshment hour, we will get a visit from Santa! ***We are asking every family to bring a new, unwrapped toy to give to Santa***. This is our ***Reverse-Gift-Giving***, a more than 20-year tradition for Children's Liturgy. Santa will take the toys he collects and give them to the St. Vincent de Paul Society who will distribute the toys to less fortunate families in our community. The toys need not be costly or large. It may help to get a toy that your own children would like to get for themselves. Please involve the children in selecting the toy. This can be a wonderful way to help them see the importance of giving! We will also be collecting food for St. Vincent's Christmas distribution.

Practice for this liturgy will take place on ***Saturday, December 10*****,** and will meet in the Marian Room. Singers practice from 9:00 till 9:45 a.m. All others practice from 9:45 till 10:30 a.m. The Ministers list is:

Readers: Vanessa Lewczyk, Jared Sokolik, Nathan Powers
Collectors: Riley Coughlin, SueAnn Pukalo, Egypt Trotman, Sophia Davis
Gift Bearers: Logan George
Greeters: SueAnn Pukalo, Liam Sokolik
Singers: Emma Geisendorfer, Elianna Spoonley

All ministers must practice for the Mass unless previously excused by Tina. We need another gift bearer and we can always use more singers! Please call Tina Hatem (826-5075) if your child is a minister and will be unable to attend Mass or practice.

We had a wonderful community experience at our November Mass! We gathered after Mass and met new friends and gained so many new volunteer ministers! Join us this month! If you and your family have never been to a Children's Liturgy, please come. We always have room for more!

Baker Victory Services Angel Tree

In this season of giving and sharing, please remember that there are many children who will not see their Christmas wishes come true. Each angel on the ***Angel Tree*** represents one of those children. If you would like to help a child have a happier Christmas, please take an angel from the tree and return ***unwrapped*** gift(s) with the angel securely attached ***by December 7***. The contact person is Barb Farrow (828-9796). Help make this a Christmas to remember for a child in need. Merry Christmas and may God bless you.

Christmas Confession Schedule

Thursday, December 22: 3:00-4:00 PM
Friday, December 23: 3:00-4:00 & 7:00-8:00 PM

Christmas Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve - Saturday, December 24
4:00 PM - Children's Liturgy
6:00 PM - Christmas Vigil
12:00 AM - Midnight Mass

Christmas Day - Sunday, December 25
Nativity of the Lord
(Holy Day of Obligation)
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 Noon
No 4:30 PM Mass

New Year Mass Schedule

New Year's Eve - Saturday, December 31
4:30 PM - Vigil Mass

New Year's Day - Sunday, January 1
The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God
(Holy Day of Obligation)
8:00 AM, 10:00 AM, 12:00 Noon
No 4:30 PM Mass

Young Adult News

Ever feel like you're the only one who believes this stuff? You're not alone! Are you between the ages of 18 and 39? ***There are two groups of young adults who meet regularly to build community, growing in faith and friendship.***

"Frassati WNY" meets on Tuesdays in Our Lady of Pompeii School in Lancaster for Scripture, discussion, and prayer, along with offering opportunities for various social and service activities. The Frassati link is to a closed group on Facebook, so please request to join!

"[re] Young Adult Ministry" meets the 3rd Thursday of the month at St. Benedict's in Amherst for live praise & worship, a witness talk, and prayer, followed by fellowship.

Please go to their Facebook pages to find out more--and bring a friend!

https://www.facebook.com/groups/257158691085077/
https://www.facebook.com/we.are.re/

From the St. Vincent de Paul Society

The OLV St. Vincent de Paul Society thanks the parish community. Because of your generous contributions of food, money and time, we delivered Thanksgiving baskets to almost 200 needy families in our neighborhood. We will also have a ***Christmas food distribution and can use help packing on Friday, December 16, and drivers for delivering on Saturday, December 17.*** Please call the rectory and leave a message for the St. Vincent de Paul Society and a member will call you.

Our Weekly Offering

Sunday, November 20th

Weekly:	$	15,037.61
Monthly:	$	290.00
Total:	$	15,327.61
Shrines	$	1,412.41
Pennies	$	143.14
Catholic University	$	5.00
Catholic Education	$	5.00
Christmas Flowers	$	60.00
Fuel	$	255.00
World Missions	$	5.00
Human Develop.	$	912.00
All Saints	$	15.00

Sunday, November 27th

Weekly:	$	13,457.93
Monthly:	$	240.00
Total:	$	13,697.93
Shrines	$	2,412.93
Pennies	$	169.65
Catholic University	$	15.00
Christmas Flowers	$	1,116.00
Fuel	$	212.00
Human Develop.	$	70.00
Latin America	$	10.00
World Missions	$	1.00

Jeffrey John Mokski & Ashley Nicole Bauman

We welcome *Ezekiel Richard Kirkwood* and *Evelyn Jane Pacholczak* into our Parish Community. They were baptized on Sunday, November 27, 2016 in Our Lady of Victory Basilica.

Please remember in your prayers those who have died: *Flora G. D'Innocenzo, Margaret (McGinnis) Lavey, Dennis L. Pikowski, Stephanie Klas* and *Laurence J. Duggan.*

AREA HAPPENINGS

Advent Vespers Service: Christ the King Seminary will host its annual Advent vespers service on ***Sunday, December 4, at 4:00 p.m. in the seminary's St. John Vianney Chapel***. The Most Reverend Richard J. Malone will preside. Alan Lukas, director of music for the seminary and the Diocese of Buffalo, will lead the Christ the King Seminary Festival chorus, made up of seminarians, faculty and others at the seminary through a selected arrangement of Scripture passages and sacred songs. A reception will follow the service. A free-will offering will be taken. All are welcome. For further information visit www.cks.edu or call Gayle Mann, coordinator of events and scheduling at 716-805-1438. Christ the King Seminary is located at 711 Knox Road in East Aurora.

Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe: St. Anthony's Parish, 306 Ingham Avenue, Lackawanna, invites you to come celebrate the ***Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe*** with a Mass and Procession of Roses on ***Sunday, December 11, at 11:00 a.m.***

Blood Drive at VFW Post 898 Main Hall, 2909 South Park Avenue, Lackawanna on ***Tuesday, December 13, from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m.*** For an appointment, please call 1-800-RED CROSS or visit redcrossblood.org. Walk-ins welcome!

580 Nativity Sets on Display: Father Roy Herberger invites you to experience a display of 580 nativity sets from 58 countries. These international crèches will be shown ***at SS. Columba-Brigid Church, 75 Hickory & Eagle Street*** (one block south of Clinton). The building is handicapped accessible. The hours are from 1:00-4:00 p.m. every Saturday and Sunday in December, except the weekend of the 24-25, and until the weekend of January 14-15. There is no charge and there is a ***special section for children***. If anyone would like to view the display during the week with a large group (e.g. school children, senior groups, church organizations, etc.) please call Father Roy at 852-2076.

Literacy New York Buffalo-Niagara will be opening a new ***Literacy Drop In Center*** in Lackawanna in January. The agency is currently seeking volunteers to serve as tutors for this exciting new program which will be held at the Lackawanna Library. Volunteers would work with adult ESL students who are trying to improve their reading, writing and English language skills. Those interested in making a difference in their community by serving as a literacy tutor should contact Marco Notaro by email at marc.notaro9@gmail.com or at 716-876-8991 for more information and to register for an upcoming training.

Please remember Our Lady of Victory in your will.

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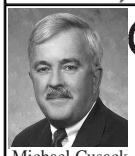
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