

DECEMBER 1, 2024

**“And there will dawn a new Heaven and new Earth
May peace be ours today”**



World Peace Prayer

**Lead us from death to life, from false-hood to truth,
From despair to hope, from fear to trust.**

**Lead us from hate to love,
From war to peace;**

**Let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world,
Let peace fill our universe.**

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY

111 WELLS AVE., PO BOX 311, MIDDLEBURGH, NY 12122
518.827.3301
olv2009@midtel.net

Bishop of Albany Diocese: Edward Scharfenberger

Pastor: Fr. Thomas Zelker
tomzelker@gmail.com

Deacon: Gary Riggi

Administrative Assistant: Laura Pelton

Religious Education Director: Sena Monaco

Parish Musician: Kathy Burgin

Liturgical Ministries Coordinator: AnneMarie Robinson
518-701-1575

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM

Parish Website:

<http://parishes.rcda.org/olvchurch/>

Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyoftheValleyParish/>

Bulletin Items:

All bulletin items must be submitted to the office by Monday morning.

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Lady of the Valley Roman Catholic Church advances the Gospel message of Jesus Christ through liturgy, personal support, and community programs that emphasize the Beatitudes to create a community of faith that welcomes all into God's eternal embrace.

SCHOHARIE COUNTY CLUSTER LITURGY SCHEDULE

Saturday Vigil Masses:

4:00 p.m. Our Lady of Fatima in Delanson

6:00 p.m. Our Lady of the Valley in Middleburgh

Sunday Masses:

9:00 a.m. Our Lady of the Valley in Middleburgh

11:00 a.m. Our Lady of Fatima in Delanson

Weekdays:

9:00 a.m. Wednesdays at

Our Lady of the Valley in Middleburgh

9:00 a.m. Tuesdays at Our Lady of Fatima in

Delanson.

Devotions:

Rosary First Sunday of the month at 8:20 AM

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday, November 30, 2024, 6:00 PM
For peace in our world

Sunday, December 1, 2024, 9:00 AM
Theresa Jandrositz 1st anniversary by Stephanie and Bob Tinker

Monday, December 2, 2024, 5:00—6:30 PM
Quiet Adoration

Tuesday, December 3, 2024, 6:00 PM
Confessions

Wednesday, December 4, 2024, 9:00 AM
Margaret Cameron by the OLV Parish Community

Saturday, December 7, 2024, 6:00 PM
Dave Cabano by Mary Power, Eileen Power, Dennis Harrigan

Sunday, December 8, 2024, 9:00 AM
Rose Ceroalo by Frank Ceroalo and Family



Our church is always open for quiet prayer, reflection, adoration, and contemplative walking.

Holy Communion

Low gluten and gluten free hosts are available for anyone affected by Celiac disease. Please see Fr. Tom Zelker or Deacon Gary Riggi.



We Pray Advent

We enter into our prayer in quiet, with familiar tunes of hope inviting us in. Candles are lit as Christ's light and flames our faith. We are reassured of God's boundless mercy, trust, and hope for us all in our sung Kyrie. We sing out, "Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee O Israel." We listen to how God has always been among us through the ages. Our response to the Hebrew Scripture is Psalm 25: "To you, O God, I lift up my soul; Lift up my spirit to my Lord. To You I lift up my soul." As we rise for the Gospel, we sing "Soon and very soon, Alleluia!" Our hearts abound in joy at the sound of God's Word among us... anticipation swells our souls. We come to the Table to remember and celebrate Christ's abiding presence within and among us. We sing of this mystery: "We proclaim your death O Lord and profess your Resurrection until you come again". With Resurrection faith we can enter into the Cross of our world as people of Hope. We join together in the melodic Lord's Prayer, letting Jesus' own words change all of us. In sacred stillness, after Communion, we invite God's Peace into our lives and the whole world.. in the midst of all the anger, the brokenness, wars, and darkness in our people we pray that we might not simply long for Peace, but that we might Be Peace. Today, lead us beyond ourselves... may Peace fill our hearts and the whole universe! We are sent forth in quiet to faithfully remember our role in the world as disciples of Jesus Christ.

BEATITUDES OF CHRISTIAN LIVING

"It is the beautiful task of Advent to awaken in all of us memories of goodness and thus to open doors of hope."
~ Pope Benedict XVI

During this time of Advent, we are reminded that God loves us so much. We must trust in His love and be kind and caring to each other.

Administration and Stewardship

Offerings:

34th Sunday in Ordinary Time: \$T.B.A.
Thank you for your generosity!



WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, November 30, 2024 **Sunday, December 1, 2024**

Greeters:
Jane Munger

Greeters:
Martha Conroy, Betty Karlau

Ushers and Seat Counters:
Bill Kuehnle

Ushers and Seat Counters:
Jackie and Ed Guntert

Lector:
Patrick Costello

Lector:
Stephanie Tinker

Altar Servers
Arriette and Nathan Kuehnle

Altar Servers
Peter Sherer

Eucharistic Ministers
Gail Borst, Michele Cullam

Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down
Anne Marie Robinson, Marcia Guntert, Brynda Shultes

Set-up/Shut down:
Jane Munger

Money counters:
M. Ostermann, M. Borst

Saturday, December 7, 2024

Sunday, December 8, 2024

Greeters:
Elise Ringuette

Greeters:
Caroline Borst, Marilyn Nolte

Ushers and Seat Counters:
Bill Kuehnle

Ushers and Seat Counters:
Stephanie and Bob Tinker

Lector:
Patty Paser

Lector:
Denise Lloyd

Altar Servers
Arriette and Nathan Kuehnle

Altar Servers
Peter Sherer

Eucharistic Ministers
Michele Cullam,
Joanne Newsome

Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down
Brynda Shultes,
Joanne Coonrad

Set-up/Shut down:
Marilyn Schulmerich

Money counters:
Lloyd, Blackmur, Pagano



Danny Hardmin, Brian Collins, Patrick O'Grady, Irene Ostermann, Ed Masterson, Joan McCalip, Adrienne Bartholomew, Callie Shaw (baby), Joanne Snyder, Raymond Ceroalo, Jocelyn Ceroalo, Cathy Saccento, Mary Bixby, Stephanie Coxen, Pam Raquet, Margaret M. Ostermann, Margaret Cameron, Beverly Dyer, Lee and Finn, Frank Ceroalo, Kyle and Katie Collazo O'Connor, Marsia Ferguson, Anjaine, Jack Robinson, Jim Crum, the Simeon Family, Debbie Lints, Mary Carlson, Nora and Joe Dougherty, Matt Nieminski, Joyce Montgomery, Tina Welman, Rick Connors, Annie Conneely, Francis McKiernan, Barbara St. George, Jesse Lints, Robert Tinker, Joseph Scolaro, Davia Fileccia, Deborah Lobo, Joseph Cassella, Michele Eckland, Diane Czarro, Bill Valosin, Rick Stoddard, Tom Barr, Helen Zebrowski, Nada Gaber Pitu, Joan Luhrs, Kate Mahoney, Chris & Karen Nieminski, the Scott Family, Karen Connors, Danny Vrooman, Natasha Samson, Dianne Robinson, Ed Guntert, Steven Van Dyke, Megan Gersch, Sr. Louise Ann Fritz, Susan G., Dawn Schweikert, Pauline Bjornholm, Diane Williams, Jessica Divietri, Jacqui Owens, Loretta Bodisch, Marthe Therrien, Claire Evans, Margaret Casey Sprinkle, Douglas Bailey, Michelle Palmieri, Jill G. Zullo, Linda Brennan, Stephen Anka, Stephen Petko



**Growing In Faith Together
Religious Education Program for
children, youth and their families
(GIFT)**

Please note: Fall Season brochure is now available outlining GIFT sessions

for October, November and December. Also, our website is updated with GIFT information, prayer intentions by Pope Francis each month, links for parents, saint of the month links, weekly liturgy of the word and information regarding registering families for faith formation. The website: <https://olfgrowinginfaith.weebly.com/>

Kits are available for our young disciples to draw and color during the service. It includes first liturgy reflection and readings, art activities, coloring pages as well as a few jokes here and there! Please keep the papers and return bag and crayons. Thank you.

Preparation for First Communion:
If you have a child in 2nd grade, please call our office.



2024 RECONCILIATION FORMATION SCHEDULE

Retreats and Gatherings:

Celebration of First Reconciliation - Reconciliation Prayer Service, Tuesday, December 3rd at 6:00PM.

ADVENT

Human beings cannot live without hope. Unlike the animals, we are blessed – or cursed – with the ability to think about future and to fear our actions on shaping it. So essential is this to human life, that human beings cannot live without hope, without something to live for, without something to look forward to. To be without hope, to have nothing to live for, is surrender to death in despair.

But we can find all sorts of things to live for and we can hope for almost anything: for some measure of success or security or for the realization of some more or less modest ambition; for our children, that they might be saved from mistakes and sufferings and find a better life than we have known; for a better world, throwing ourselves into politics or medicine or technology so that future generations might be better off. Not all these forms of hope are selfish; indeed, they have given dignity and purpose to the lives of countless generations.

Advent is to learn what to hope for. And we take the help of the Old Testament. The people of the Old Testament had the courage to hope for big things: that the desert would be turned into fertile land; that their scattered and divided people would eventually be gathered again; that the blind would see, the deaf hear, the lame walk; would be united in the blessings of everlasting peace. Clearly, their hopes were no different from ours or from any human being's: lasting peace, tranquil lives, sufficiency of food, an end to suffering, pain and misery.

Thus we hope for the same things as the Old Testament people, for their hopes are not yet realized. But we differ from them in two ways. First, the coming of Jesus in history, as a partial fulfillment of God's promises, immeasurably confirms and strengthens our hope. Secondly, we differ from the Old Testament people because Jesus has revealed to us that God is not afar off, but is already in our midst. Hence, we look up to John the Baptist and Mary: because they recognized the new situation, they serve as models for the church in discerning the presence of our Savior in the world.

PARISH PRAYER, SERVICE AND FUN

Middleburgh Food Pantries

Food pantry needs: cereal, rice, pancake mix, crackers, cookies, fruit bars.

Diocesan Appeal

Our parish assessment for 2024-2025 is \$23,223.00. Donation envelopes are available in Church or at our office. Please make sure your contribution envelope states Our Lady of the Valley. Thank you so much for your generosity.

Cradle of Love

We're continuing to collect diapers and baby wipes for Community Maternity Services in the bassinet in the hall. Please no toys or baby furniture, diapers and wipes only. Thank you for your continued support of this important need in our community.

ADVENT

We serve, we pray, we support

LITTLE BLUE BOOKS and **THE WORD AMONG US**- reflections from Biblical Prophets

CHURCH CALENDARS- a year of Grace

QUIET ADORATION- Mondays, 5pm-6:30pm at Our Lady of the Valley

OPEN DOORS-Our Church is always open for meditation, walking, and prayer

THE GIVING TREE-Take a tag ornament from the tree, purchase the gift, wrap it, tape tag securely, return gift by 10am Sunday, December 15

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS WITH GIFT FAMILIES-Sunday, December 1 10:15am at Our Lady of the Valley Hall; Sunday December 8 at Our Lady of Fatima Hall

CONFESSIONS- Tuesday, December 3 at 6pm Our Lady of the Valley

MIRACLE ON MAIN STREET-Friday, December 6, 5pm at Our Lady of the Valley Hall and Lawn: **REINDEER RING TOSS** hosted by the Knights of Columbus; **BAKE SALE** hosted by our Rosary Society; **TLC CLOGGERS** and **YOUTH TROUPE** dancing to the carols

ADVENT TEA – Saturday, December 7, 11am Our Lady of the Valley Hall: prayer conversation, and inspiration for women

COMMUNITY CAROLING AND CONCERT Sunday, December 8, 6:30pm at Middleburgh Reformed Church: music, singing, and fun

SOLEMNITY OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION - Monday, December 9 MASS: 12 noon at Our Lady of Fatima; 6pm at Our Lady of the Valley

JEWISH ROOTS AND TRADITIONS- Tuesday, December 10, 6pm at Our Lady of Fatima Hall: A local Jewish leader explains their religious year, the Feast of Lights (Hanukkah) and shares a potato pancake dinner.

Pregnant? Alone? Need help?

Call the Gabriel Project:
(833) 227-3273

To learn more, visit our website:
sites.google.com/view/gabriel-project-stamford



If you have experienced the pain of miscarriage, please know that you are in the prayers of our community. Your struggles and sorrows may present a unique cross in your life of faith that may be difficult for friends and family members to understand, but the Church is here to support you.

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