

DECEMBER 22, 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, December 21, 2024, 6:00 PM
Dave Cabano by Peggy and Steve Fields

Sunday, December 22, 2024, 9:00 AM
Arvona Paduno by the Pagano Family

Monday, December 23, 2024, 5:00—6:30 PM
Quiet Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday, December 24, 2024
4:00 PM Christmas Eve Mass Our Lady of Fatima
*6:30 PM Christmas Eve Mass Our Lady of the Valley

Wednesday, December 25, 2024
9:00 AM Nativity of the Lord Mass at Our Lady of the Valley
11:00 AM Nativity of the Lord Mass at Our Lady of Fatima



Saturday, December 28, 2024, 6:00 PM
For children around the world

Sunday, December 29, 2024, 9:00 AM
For all our families

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.



Rejoice... Christ is born! No longer in a manger, but here in our midst, from the Table.

BEATITUDES OF CHRISTIAN LIVING

"We are Your people, walking in darkness yet seeking the light. To You, we say, "Come Lord Jesus." ~ Henri Nouwen
In our joy and love for the birth of Jesus, we embrace the beauty of Christmas by taking care of each other through prayer, love,

Administration and Stewardship

Offerings:

3rd Sunday of Advent: \$2477.00
Thank you for your generosity!



WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 21, 2024 **Sunday, December 22, 2024**

Greeters:
Gabe Ringuette

Greeters:
John Conroy, Doreen Buzon

Ushers and Seat Counters:
Bill Kuehnl

Ushers and Seat Counters:
Marcia Guntert, Sharon Riggi

Lector:
Ringuette

Lector:
Borst

Altar Servers
Arriette and Nathan Kuehnl

Altar Servers
Sera Wargo

Eucharistic Ministers
Gail Borst
Tom Valosin

Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down
Rosemary Gutkaiss,
Jackie Gunbert

Set-up/Shut down:
Barbara Valosin

Money counters:
M. Ostermann, Michele Borst

Saturday, December 28, 2024 **Sunday, December 29, 2024**

Greeters:
Marilyn Schulmerich

Greeters:
Betty Karlau, Helen Lindstrom

Ushers and Seat Counters:
Bill Kuehnl

Ushers and Seat Counters:
John Conroy

Lector:
Pat Costello

Lector:
Brynda Shultes

Altar Servers
Arriette and Nathan Kuehnl

Altar Servers
Sam Borst

Eucharistic Ministers
Joanne Newsome
Gail Borst

Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down
Marcia Guntert
Pattie Sainsbury

Set-up/Shut down:
Marilyn Schulmerich

Money counters:
John Borst
Brynda Shultes



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 Conners, 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 Conners, 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, baby Zoey Nashville,
Ellen Wilford, Jodi Connors



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

Please note: Winter Spring Season brochure will be available soon out-lining

GIFT sessions for January, February and April. 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: ofgrowinginfaith.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.

The Christic

I am looking at a tree, but I see such astounding beauty and graciousness, the tree must be You, O God,
I look at the wild weeds playing across the fields, and their wild joyful freedom speaks to me of You, O God.
Yesterday, I saw a child crying alone on a busy corner, and the tears were real, and I thought, you must be crying, O God.
God, you are the mystery within every leaf and grain of sand, in every face, young and old, you are the light and beauty of every person.
You are Love itself.

Will we ever learn our true meaning, our true identity?
Will we ever really know that we humans are created for love?
For it is love alone that moves the sun and stars and everything in between.

We are trying too hard to find You, but You are already here,
We are seeking life without You, but You are already within,
Our heads are in the sand, our eyes are blinded by darkness,
our minds are disoriented in our desperate search for meaning.
Because You are not what we think You are:

You are mystery.
You are here and You are not,
You are me and You are not,
You are now and You are not,
You are what we will become.
You are the in-between mystery
The infinite potential of infinite love,
And it is not yet clear what You shall be,
For we shall become something new together.



Away in a manger...

By the Ortiz Family



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.

PARISH PRAYER, SERVICE AND FUN

Young Adult Semi-formal Epiphany Ball

Saturday, January 11, 2025, 6:00—10:00 PM, St. Mary's Church Hall, Crescent, NY. Cost \$30. Call our Diocese at 518-453-6625 for info.

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.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION

MASS: TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24,

4:00pm at Our Lady of Fatima

*6:30pm at Our Lady of the Valley

Wine and cheese reception after our 6:30PM Mass.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25, Mass

9:00am at Our Lady of the Valley

11:00am at Our Lady of Fatima

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY Mass

Saturday, December 28

4:00pm at Our Lady of Fatima, 6:00pm at Our Lady of the Valley

Sunday, December 29

9:00am at Our Lady of the Valley, 11:00am at Our Lady of Fatima

FESTIVAL OF TREES at BLENHEIM- Monday, December 30: leaving OLV Parking lot at 11am... journeying to Lansing Manor and the Schoharie Visitor Center (Rte 30) to revel in the tree display, returning for a festive lunch at Our Lady of the Valley Hall

SOLEMNITY OF MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD (New Year's 2025)

MASS: Tuesday, December 31, 4pm at Our Lady of the Valley,

Wednesday, January 1st, 11am at Our Lady of Fatima.

FIRST DAY HIKE- Wednesday, January 1st, 12:15pm at Our Lady of Fatima parking lot. We begin the New Year, brimming with hope and a hike through the woods along the Schoharie.

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD Mass

SATURDAY, January 4, 2025

4:00pm at Our Lady of Fatima, 6:00pm at Our Lady of the Valley

SUNDAY, January 5, 2025

9:00am at Our Lady of the Valley, 11:00am at Our Lady of Fatima

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD Mass

Saturday, January 11, 2025

4:00pm at Our Lady of Fatima, 6:00pm at Our Lady of the Valley

Sunday, January 12, 2025

9:00am at Our Lady of the Valley, 11:00am at Our Lady of Fatima

On Monday, 1/13/2025, we begin Winter Ordinary Time until Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025.

Christmas Blessings



Cards may be sent to Fr. Tom Holmes, St. Mary's Church, 163 Columbia Tpke, Rensselaer, N.Y. 12144.

Cards of thanks and well wishes may be written for Linda Connors and dropped off at Church. They will be delivered to her personally.

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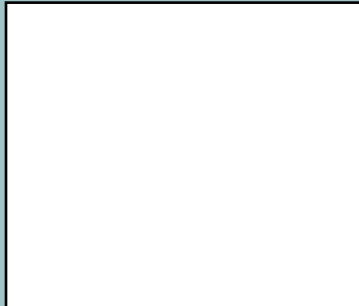
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