

DECEMBER 29, 2024

THE HOLY FAMILY SUNDAY

“See what Love God has bestowed on us by calling us the children of God”



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

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

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

Tuesday, December 31, 2024, 4:00 PM at OLV
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Wednesday, January 1, 2025, 11:00 AM at OLV
Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God

Friday, January 3, 2025 2:00 and 3:00 PM
Christmas Mass at Kingsway Nursing Home

Saturday, January 4, 2025, 6:00 PM
Sabina Wisniewska by Laura Pelton

Sunday, January 5, 2025, 9:00 AM
Anna VanFlukes by Betty and Willie Karlau
Cheri Neuman by Brenda Weideman

Bulletin cover art by Luna F. Pelton

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 Christmas

Our lives are overwhelmed with joy as we celebrate God's Incarnation, the Word made Flesh, the Birth of Jesus, the Dawn of a New Day. We sing "Glory to God", echoing the song of the angels to us. Our response to the Hebrew Scripture is the Canticle from St. Luke: "Today our Savior is born, this is the day!" Psalm 96 shouts with all Creation the exuberance of our wondrous joy. We stand for the Gospel acclamation: "Halle, hallelujah, I am the Light of the world." We gather around the Table and proclaim our mystery: we are set free by Christ's Cross and Resurrection." In Christ we are forever saved. When we eat and drink that saving Love courses through us, our community. Christ is born today!

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.

BEATITUDES OF CHRISTIAN LIVING

"Pray, hope, and don't worry." ~ St. Padre Pio

Embrace God's love for us and trust in His plan. Be a beacon of light, hope, and love for family, friends, and neighbors.

Administration and Stewardship

Offerings:

4th Sunday of Advent: \$5.B.A.
Thank you for your generosity!



WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 28, 2024

Sunday, December 29, 2024

Greeters:

Marilyn Schulmerich

Greeters:

Betty Karlau, Helen Lindstrom

Ushers and Seat Counters:

Bill Kuehnle

Ushers and Seat Counters:

John Conroy

Lector:

Pat Costello

Lector:

Brynda Shultes

Altar Servers

Arriette and Nathan Kuehnle

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

Saturday, January 4, 2025

Sunday, January 5, 2025

Greeters:

Patrick Costello

Greeters:

Martha Conroy, Marilyn Nolte

Ushers and Seat Counters:

Robin Hazzard

Ushers and Seat Counters:

Stephanie and Bob Tinker

Lector:

Patrick Costello

Lector:

Borst

Altar Servers

Luna Pelton

Altar Servers

Peter Sherer

Eucharistic Ministers

Michele Cullam

Gail Borst

Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down

Brynda Shultes,

Joann Coonradt

Set-up/Shut down:

Robin Hazzard

Money counters:

Jane Munger,

Bonnie Jorgensen



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, baby Zoey Nashville, Ellen Wilford, Jodi Connors



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

Our next GIFT session will be held January 5th at Our Lady of the Valley after the 9AM Mass and January 12th at Our Lady of Fatima at 9:30AM. Our topic: The Creed “We believe in the Communion of Saints”.

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: 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.

A Winter Sunday Prayer

I lift up my heart to you, Creator God of heaven and earth and of all seasons. In your cyclic design the earth now leans away from the fire of the sun in this season we call winter.

Although the sun’s light weakens as the earth tilts away, I ask in this time alone with you that your light not lessen within me. May I, with you that your light not lessen within me. May I, with your assistance, not turn away from the truth when it visits me, even the truth about myself. I desire rather that I turn toward the light in all I say and do, in all I think and dream. Guided by your light I now enter the cave of my heart to be alone with you in stillness.

I rejoice, O Blessed One, that you have placed within my small heart not only your divine seed by the essence of all that you have created. I now express my joy in your being, as I invest these words with love for you.

Today, Sunday, is a day of prayer and worship for your children who follow Christ. May my prayer be in harmony with all the prayers, songs and acts of devotion that rise up to you from churches and places of worship.

May I also be one with all who fail to worship you, with all who reject you and your dream because those of us who profess to be Jesus’ disciples have failed to be living examples of your love and justice. Instill in me this Sunday the fiery heat of the sun — and of the Son — so that ablaze with devotion for you, I may en flesh your love and kindness in all I do and with everyone I meet on this first day of the week.

Mindful of the needs of those I love, I pause to lift up into your sacred heart the special intentions of: _____. Care for them and for all the children of this planet as it journeys through the winter of endless space.

Blessed and beautiful are you, my God. May your light be my sun this winter.
Amen.



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

NET Dinner

Our next, free dinner (Neighbors Eating Together) is Wednesday, January 8, 2025, 5:00—7:00 PM in our Church Hall.

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.

Christian Service

- ⇒ Our parish put together over 70 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. They are shared with children all around our world.
- ⇒ Our Adopt a Family Program served 65 families—180 children and 130 adults—with dinners and gifts. Our parishioners donated gifts for 7 families. Thank you all so much.

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 SEASON

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.

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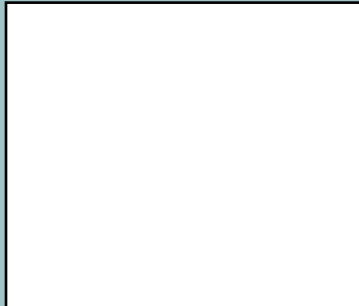
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