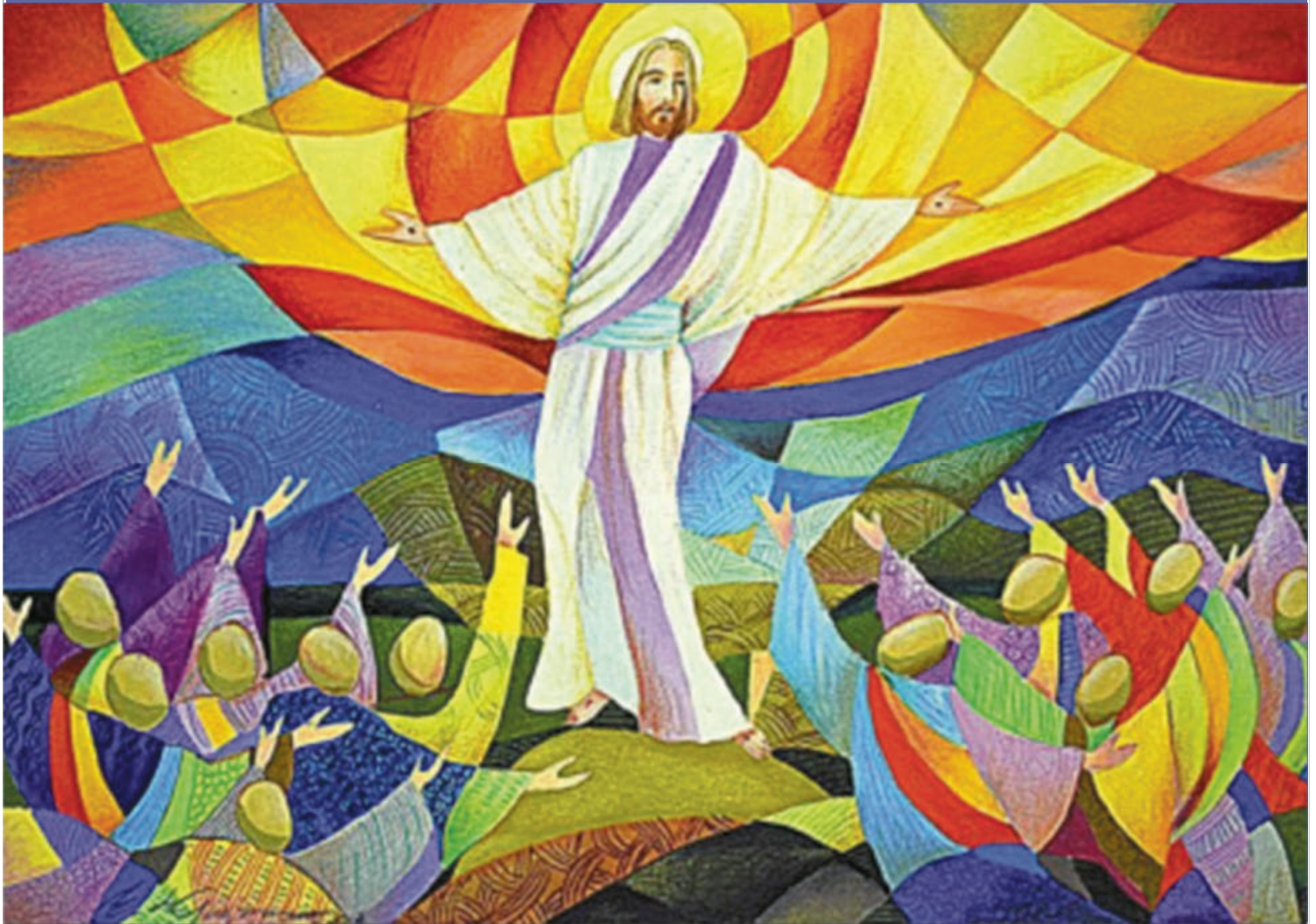


**APRIL 27, 2025**  
**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY)**



**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.

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**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, April 26, 2025, 6:00 PM**  
**Pope Francis** by parishioners  
**Christopher Costello** by Costello Family

**Sunday, April 27, 2025, 9:00 AM**  
**Pope Francis** by parishioners  
**Peter Monticelli** by Frank and Sena Monaco  
**Fr. Tom Holmes** by Jackie and Ed Guntert

**Monday, April 28, 2025, 5:00—6:30 PM**  
 Quiet Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Wednesday, April 30, 2025, 9:00 AM**  
 For the Conclave and the whole Church

**Saturday, May 3, 2025, 6:00 PM**  
**Daniel Slavinski** by Mom and Dad  
**John Cullam Jr.** by Michele Cullam

**Sunday, May 4, 2025, 9:00 AM**  
 First Eucharist Celebration

### We Pray Easter

Our Church is alive with flowers, colors, aromas, and Easter faith during these 50 Days of Resurrection. Our music and song gather, inspire, and uplift. Each week we exclaim "Glory to God", singing of a new Creation. Our response to the Acts of the Apostles (our first reading during Easter) is Psalm 118: "Sing to the mountains, sing to the sea. Raise your voices, lift your hearts. This is the day the Lord has made. Let all the earth rejoice." We approach the Gospel with the exuberant Caribbean "Alleluia". Jesus is the way, the truth, the life. We renew our faith in a resounding "I do" to the Creedal questions. When we gather around the Lord's Table we sing of our mystery: "Save us, Savior of the world, for by your Cross and Resurrection you have set us free." We are sent forth with an Alleluia in our heart witnessing to the unconditional love of God.

*Olivia Liuzzi, Mary McGrail, Gaia Pelton, Harper Risse,  
 Dylan Ryan, Elizabeth Ryan, Piper Schulmerich,  
 Welcome to the Lord's Table.*

On Sunday, May 4, we welcome seven young people to share our Eucharist for the first time. May their youthful ideals inspire us all.

### **BEATITUDES OF CHRISTIAN LIVING**

**"Put yourself in God's hands; He abandons no one."  
 ~ St. Andre Bessette**

God loves us very much and His love for us is never ending. We should give Him thanks and praise.

## **Administration and Stewardship**

### **Offerings:**

*Easter Sunday Collection: \$5208.00  
 Thank you for your generosity!*



## WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

### **Saturday, April 26, 2025**

**Greeters:**  
 Elise Ringuette

**Ushers and Seat Counters:**  
 Robin Hazzard

**Lector:**  
 Patrick Costello

**Altar Servers**  
 Arriette and Nathan Kuehnle

**Eucharistic Ministers**  
 Michele Cullam

**Set-up/Shut down:**  
 Robin Hazzard

### **Sunday, April 27, 2025**

**Greeters:**  
 Martha Conroy, Betty Karlau

**Ushers and Seat Counters:**  
 John Millett, John Conroy

**Lector:**  
 Brynda Shultes

**Altar Servers**  
 Peter Sherer

**Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down**  
 Margaret Ostermann  
 Jackie Guntert

**Money counters:**  
 Brynda Shultes, John Millett



“ Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you.”  
**Pope Francis**



*baby Zoey Nashville,  
 Ellen Wilford, Jodi Connors, Greg Filisko, Scott Troughton,  
 Claire Evans, Joseph Cassella, Jill Zullo,  
 Debbie Calabrese, Andrea Virtuoso, Michele and Phil  
 Smith, Ed Guntert, Arthur Barrett, John Lewis Simmons,  
 Lynn Fileccia, Nina Wayman, Nate Clements,  
 Patrick Turano*

Please contact the office to have someone prayed for/added to the list.



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

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 Earth Story**

There is a way that nature speaks, that land speaks. Most of the time we are simply not patient enough, quiet enough, to pay attention to the story.

The wisdom we need for our time will be gained as we remember that we are not separate from nature. The voices we need to listen most closely to at this time are the voices that the dominant culture has overlooked, dismissed, ignored, or silenced. The voices of Indigenous peoples who have never forgotten our place in the web of belonging.

The voices of women, of communities of color, of those deemed outsiders who have suffered the impact of a dominant culture of supremacy for generations. Voices from third world countries, from religions outside our comfort zone whose perspectives are essential to even see our own blindness. The voices of the trees, the storms, the cicadas, the rivers, and the tiny viruses whose interconnected suffering and resiliency is essential in this time of dramatic change. The wisdom we need at this pivotal time in our history will be found there, outside the edges of the dominant culture. And by *listening*, we mean practicing kinship, intentionally entering into relationship, through respectful and authentic conversation and presence.

This kinship is at the core of wild church. Kinship is recognizing that our beloved community includes the whole, alive, interconnected world.... It is falling in love again with the world, considering the well-being of all the sacred others in our decisions. It is taking on the suffering of our beloveds and engaging in their healing. It is an embodiment of a Hebrew concept known as *tikkun olam*, which means "repairing the world"—the whole world.

As we learn the language of leaves and the banter of berries and then share these little moments of poetic wisdom with one another, we are re-storying our place. We are creating new stories that can guide us into a new and yet ancient way of being human.... Re-storying our relationship with Earth as sacred kin provides a spiritual and emotional foundation of belonging we need to support all the layers of work ahead of us.

Earth has her own rituals, expressed in stories of glaciers, seasons, spring blossoms, anthills, wildfires, and birdsongs. As we listen with affection to the stories the land tells, we are compelled to integrate their stories into *our* stories. To remain alive, our old narratives need to be connected with new meaning particular to our geographies and context. A beloved myth or story from a sacred text or scripture carries deep wisdom that comes alive when it is reoriented to our own time and place.



The Easter Bunny brings joy and chocolate to all of God's children.

**PARISH PRAYER, SERVICE AND FUN**

**Rice Bowls**

Please return all Rice Bowl donations by Monday, April 28. Your assistance keeps our Church vibrant in our ministry to the poor throughout our world.

**Moms' Prayer Group**

Mothers' Prayer Group's meeting is Monday, April 28 5:00 to 6:30 PM starting with Eucharistic Adoration.

**Parking Lot Justice**

If you have difficulty parking in our church lot, please let the Bowling Alley folks know. It is our parking lot; parishioners have exclusive rights during Mass or parish events.

**Upcoming Summer Events**

Pyramid Lake Nature Retreat with FTZ; Women's writers; Dorothy Day Cycling Weekend; Men's Weekend—online "Pyramid Life Center"

Middleburgh Day Camp, August 4—8 for kids grades 1-6, "Creation Care Camp".

Schoharie Valley Community Camp, July 14-18, kids pre-K—8.

**Next N.E.T. (Neighbors Eating Together) Dinner**

Our next N.E.T. Dinner is Wednesday, May 14 at 5:00 PM at OLV.

**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 very much for your generosity. So far we have collected: 14,550.00.

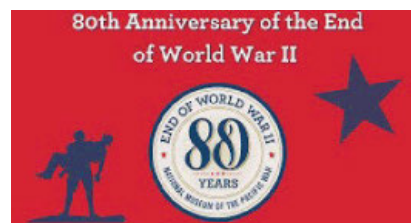
**Cradle of Love**

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.

Our Church is open for quiet prayer, meditation walks, and peace.

**Honoring Those Who Served**

This year marks the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II in 1945. V-E Day (Victory in Europe) is May 8th; V-J Day (Victory in Japan) is August 15th). We will lay wreaths in front of church to commemorate those days of victory, peace, mourning, sacrifice, and hope. In Church, we would like to remember anyone who served in any capacity during the War. Please bring to our office a 4x6 or 5x7 photograph of a loved one, neighbor or parishioner to be placed on our wall of holy remembrance.



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