

JANUARY 12, 2025
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD



OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY

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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, January 11, 2025, 6:00 PM
Domenick L. Palmatier by Michele Cullam

Sunday, January 12, 2025, 9:00 AM
Veronica Preli by Joseph Cassella
Marie Williams by Margaret and John O'Brien

Monday, January 13, 2025, 5:00—6:30 PM
Quiet Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Wednesday, January 15, 2025, 9:00 AM
Cathy O'Connor by Margaret O'Connor

Saturday, January 18, 2025, 6:00 PM
For newborn babies everywhere

Sunday, January 19, 2025, 9:00 AM
Diane Becker by Jackie and Ed Guntert

Bulletin cover art by Henry and Mary McGrail.

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.



Christ frees us from the waters of death to be givers of life.

BEATITUDES OF CHRISTIAN LIVING

"We should live our lives as though Christ were coming this afternoon."

~ Jimmy Carter, 39th President of the United States

Live each day with Jesus at the center of our hearts and help others see His love and grace.

Administration and Stewardship

Offerings:

The Holy Family Collection: \$1743.82

The Epiphany Collection: \$2338.18

Thank you for your generosity!



WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, January 11, 2025

Greeters:
Barb Valosin

Ushers and Seat Counters:
Bill Kuehnle

Lector:
Stephanie Tinker

Altar Servers
Arriette and Nathan Kuehnle

Eucharistic Ministers
Barb Valosin,
Tom Valosin

Set-up/Shut down:
Barb Valosin

Sunday, January 12, 2025

Greeters:
Michele Finin, Helen Lindstrom

Ushers and Seat Counters:
Jackie and Ed Guntert

Lector:
Denise Lloyd

Altar Servers
Peter Sherer

Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down
Jim Buzon,
Marcia Guntert

Money counters:
Denise Lloyd, Elizabeth
Blackmur, Linda Pagano

Saturday, January 18, 2025

Greeters:
Gabe Ringuette

Ushers and Seat Counters:
Bill Kuehnle

Lector:
Patty Paser

Altar Servers
Arriette and Nathan Kuehnle

Eucharistic Ministers
Gail Borst
Michele Cullam

Set-up/Shut down:
Jane Munger

Sunday, January 19, 2025

Greeters:
John Conroy, Doreen Buzon

Ushers and Seat Counters:
Marcia Guntert, Sharon Riggi

Lector:
Stephanie Tinker

Altar Servers
Sera Wargo

Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down
Rosemary Gutkaiss,
Jackie Guntert

Money counters:
Margaret Ostermann,
Michele Borst

*All are sisters and brothers
Bathed in the waters of Baptism.*



*Thanks to all for your kindness during our Christmas season.
Your cards, gifts and well wishes are most appreciated
.—Fr. Tom Zelker*

Pray For...

*baby Zoey Nashville,
Ellen Wilford, Jodi Connors, Greg Filisko, Scott Troughton*

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)

If you missed the first GIFT session, our next GIFT session will be held on

January 12th at Our Lady of Fatima at 9:30 AM. Our topic: The Creed “We believe in the Communion of Saints”.

Winter Spring Season brochure is now available 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.

The Vitality of our Baptism

It seems that many great things in history start with a single human being. If a person says something full of life that names reality well, the message often moves to the second stage of becoming a movement. That’s the period of greatest energy. The church is at its greatest vitality as the “Jesus Movement,” and the institution is merely the vehicle for that movement. The movement stage is always very exciting, creative, and also risky. The early disciples were called “followers of the Way”.

It’s risky because God’s movement in history is larger than any denomination, any culture, or any tradition’s ability to verbalize it. We feel out of control in this stage, and yet why would anybody want it to be anything less? Would we respect and love a God that we could control? I don’t think so! Yet we move rather quickly out and beyond the risky movement stage to the machine stage. This is predictable and understandable.

The institutional or machine stage of a movement will necessarily be a less-alive manifestation. This is not bad, although it is always surprising for those who see church as an end in itself, instead of merely a vehicle for the original vision. We need “the less noble” parts of the Body to keep us all growing toward love (1 Corinthians 12:22–24). There is no other way; but when we don’t realize a machine’s limited capacities, we try to make it into something more than it is. We make it a monument, a closed system operating inside of its own, often self-serving, logic. By then, it’s very hard to take risks for God or for gospel values.

Eventually this monument and its maintenance and self-preservation become ends in themselves. It is easy just to step on board and worship at a monument without ever knowing why or longing for God ourselves.

At this point, we have jumped over the human and movement stages and have become what authors Mark Gibbs and T. Ralph Morton called “God’s frozen people.” There is no hint of knowing that we are beloved by God and invited to an inner journey. In this state, religion is merely an excuse to remain unconscious, holding on to a memory of something that must once have been a great adventure. Now religion is no longer life itself, but actually a substitute for life or, worse, an avoidance of life.

The secret is to know how to keep in touch with the human and movement stages without being naïve about the necessity of some machines and the inevitability of those who love monuments. We must also be honest: all of us love monuments when they are monuments to our human, our movement, or our machine.

PARISH PRAYER, SERVICE AND FUN

Discussion

A question/answer and discussion about our Church’s vision of loving service with deacon Gary, Sunday, January 12, 2025 at 10:15 AM (after hospitality) in our church hall. Moderated by Robbin Jorgensen. Come and share your wisdom and insights.

NET Dinner

Our next, free dinner (Neighbors Eating Together) is Wednesday, January 15, 5:00—7:00 PM at the Reformed Church on River Street: pancakes, sausages, fruits.

Moms’ Prayer Group

Moms of all ages are meeting on the last Monday of the month, January 27th, starting with Eucharistic Adoration at 5:00 PM. We meet to support one another in conversation and prayer.

Knights of Columbus 10 Weeks’ Winners!

Week 6: \$25 Sam Gallman, \$15 Al Bisogne, \$10 Maureen Mooney

Week 7: \$25 Michael Lang, \$15 Arrietta Kuehnlé, \$10 Liz Wamok

Week 8: \$25 Tara Miller, \$15 Jerry Werner, \$10 Annie Young

Week 9: \$25 Matt Usuriello, \$15 Bill Sherer, \$10 Steven Stensen

Week 10: \$200 Bill Sherer, \$100 Crystal Borelli, \$50 Ashley Ortiz

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.



First Day Hike.

Trip to Blenheim and the Christmas tree exhibit and Lansing Manor.



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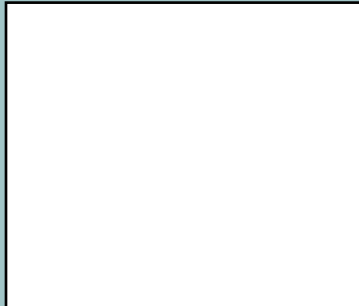
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