

MARCH 9, 2025
1ST SUNDAY OF LENT

**JESUS, KEEP ME NEAR THE CROSS,
THERE A PRECIOUS FOUNTAIN, FREE TO ALL,
A HEALING STREAM FLOWS
FROM CALVARY'S MOUNTAIN.**

**IN THE CROSS, IN THE CROSS BE MY GLORY
EVER, 'TILL MY RAPTURED SOUL SHALL FIND,
REST BEYOND THE RIVER.**

OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY

111 WELLS AVE., PO BOX 311, MIDDLEBURGH, NY 12122
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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.

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday, March 8, 2025, 6:00 PM

Mae Blaisdell, John Barr by Robin Hazzard

Sunday, March 9, 2025, 9:00 AM

Vincent Pagano, Lourdes Barretto by the Pagano Family
David Priest by Ed and Jackie Guntert

Monday, March 10, 2025, 5:00—6:30 PM

Quiet Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday, March 14, 2025, 7:00 PM

Stations of the Cross

Saturday, March 15, 2025, 6:00 PM

Marge Hazzard by Robin Hazzard
Arthur Hollingsworth by Mary and Kevin Harmon

Sunday, March 16, 2025, 9:00 AM

Mark deRoziere by Family

We Pray Lent

Our worship space is simple, stark, and prayerful. Purples remind us of our call to continual conversion. Reds beckon us to live as a holy sacrifice for others. Bold willow branches help us to look forward to eternal spring; their winding twigs lead us along our pilgrim journey. The waters of our Baptismal Font are stilled until Easter. Our Eucharist is a sacred conversation with God and a sacred conversation with each other. The Cross centers us in our mission. We gather together asking our Lord to keep us ever near the healing, freedom giving Cross of Jesus; may the Glory of God uplift us in life giving faith. We acknowledge the sin and need for our own healing among us and the whole world. We sing in the ancient Greek "Kyrie, Christe eleison "as we have for countless centuries, trusting in the overwhelming abundance of God's mercy for all. Our response to the Hebrew Scriptures is Psalm 136; "for your love is never ending". We recall how our Creator has always been among us, sharing the Divine gifts of wisdom and peace. We approach the Gospel in stillness, with wonder and awe, as we hear God's story unfold among us. The Lord invites us to gather around the Table to be renewed by Christ's real presence as food for our journey. We sing of our mystery: "We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again." We are empowered to embrace the Cross of our neighbors as a community of life. Our Eucharistic prayer engages us to be the sacrament of Christ in our whole world. We sing: "We are God's People, beloved in Christ." The Great Amen culminates our prayer of thanksgiving. After sharing Communion, we listen and hear God speak tenderly, gently to each one of us, "I have loved you with an everlasting love, I have called you and you are mine." We respond wholeheartedly, invigorated in hope and faith to go forth as beloved, yet humble people abounding in peace, compassion, and love for our world! And Christ is with you.

Administration and Stewardship

Offerings:

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time Collection: \$2178.00

Thank you for your generosity!



WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, March 8, 2025

Greeters:

Barb Valosin

Ushers and Seat Counters:

Bill Kuehnle

Lector:

Patty Paser, Brynda Shultes

Altar Servers

Arriette and Nathan Kuehnle

Eucharistic Ministers

Barb Valosin

Tom Valosin

Set-up/Shut down:

Barb Valosin

Sunday, March 9, 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,

Rosemary Gutkaiss

Money counters:

Lloyd, Blackmur, Pagano

Saturday, March 15, 2025

Greeters:

Barb Valosin

Ushers and Seat Counters:

Bill Kuehnle

Lector:

Patty Paser

Altar Servers

Arriette and Nathan Kuehnle

Eucharistic Ministers

Katie Hagan,

Tom Valosin

Set-up/Shut down:

Barb Valosin

Sunday, March 16, 2025

Greeters:

John Conroy, Doreen Buzon

Ushers and Seat Counters:

John Conroy

Lector:

Sharon Riggi

Altar Servers

Sera Wargo

Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down

Theresa Charland

Marcia Guntert

Money counters:

Jane Munger,

Bonnie Jorgensen

BEATITUDES OF CHRISTIAN LIVING

"As Lent is the time for greater love, listen to Jesus' thirst...He knows your weakness. He wants only your love, wants only the chance to love you."

~ Mother Teresa

Live each day with Jesus at the center of our hearts and quiet our hearts during this time of Lent in order to see His love for each of us.



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,

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)

First Eucharist preparation session will be held on Sunday, March 9th after the 9AM Mass at Our Lady of the Valley and Tuesday, March 11 at 4:30PM at Our Lady of Fatima.

Our next GIFT session will held on March 30th after the 9:00AM Mass at OLV and April 6th at OLF at 9:30AM This will focus on the Creed – We believe in the Holy Spirit. A special presentation, “The Butterfly – A Story of Transformation” will be performed as part of and prior to the GIFT session at OLF on April 6th – All are welcome to attend.

Stations of the Cross for Children will be held on Friday, April 4th at OLV. The children will act out the Stations this year. Rehearsal will be announced.

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.

PARISH PRAYER, SERVICE AND FUN

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

Our next N.E.T. Dinner is Wednesday, March 12 at 5:00 PM in our Hall. Chicken Marsala is on the menu. Thanks for sharing desserts... they are so tasty.

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

A traditional home-made corned beef dinner with cabbage, potatoes, carrots, and, of course, soda bread on Sunday, March 16, 2025, at Our Lady of the Valley parish hall. Serving from 3:30 to 6 p.m. Suggested donation \$17. Take-outs available. Proceeds to benefit our athletes competing in the SPECIAL OLYMPICS of the CAPITAL DISTRICT. Sponsored collaboratively by Knights of Columbus Council 4475, Middleburgh Cub Scouts and the Our Lady of the Valley Cafe.

Movies to Lend — Stories of Faith (sign-out at the office).

- Cabrini*: sister Frances Cabrini's work with immigrants;
- Black Robe*: Jesuit missionaries among Native American;
- Mission: The Church, slavery, and politics in Latin America*;
- The Gospels*: Exploring the land where Jesus lived;
- The Shack*: story of death, anger, love, and God.

Register and Be Counted

If you would like to “officially” register for our parish and be on our mailing list for parish information, *The Evangelist* Catholic newspaper, the Diocesan Appeal, etc., please fill out a form available at our Church entrances. Long time parishioners are invited to update their old census forms with a new one. Thank you.

Visiting Homebound Neighbors

If you know of anyone who is unable to come to Church and pray with us, please call our parish office. Our Mass is also available on our website.

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: 11,181.00.

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.

LENT 2025

WE GATHER, WE PRAY, WE SERVE

Stations of the Cross, Fridays of Lent at Our Lady of the Valley Church: Soup and sandwich at 6pm; prayer at 7pm.

Labyrinth of Peace, pilgrimage of conversion, Our Lady of Fatima Hall: Saturday, March 22, 1pm-6pm and Sunday, March 23, 9:30pm-2pm. We walk quietly in the footsteps of Christ.

Parables of Jesus: Stories of Boundless Love

Monday, March 31, 6pm at Our Lady of Fatima; Tuesday, April 1, 6pm at Our Lady of the Valley; An hour long discussion and sharing of Jesus' wit.

Reconciliation Service, Tuesday April 8, 6pm at

Our Lady of the Valley Church.

Adoration, Mondays at 5pm, Our Lady of the Valley Church: Quiet time in Christ.

Rice Bowls, We support the ministry of Catholic Relief Services here and throughout our world; feeding the poor and hungry, planting trees, and helping farm families. Your donations are needed more than ever in the face of government cut backs.

Little Black Books: Everyday inspiration.

The Word Among Us: Daily Bible Insights.

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

During this year of Holy Pilgrimage, our Church doors are designated as “A Threshold of Hope”. We go forth from this sacred space to witness to the sacred everywhere. Every time we come in, we remember that it is most important that we go out!... refreshed, invigorated, , uplifted, and committed to give birth to new hope in our world. For Christ's sake!
P.S. As you go through our Main Street doors, look up and see the hand-carved sign of hope. Smile and be someone's Good News.

Change the World by Changing Me

The Holy Monk says this about himself:
I was a revolutionary when I was young and all my prayer to God was “Lord, give me the energy to change the world.”
As I approached middle age and realized that half my life was gone without my changing a single soul, I changed my prayer to “Lord, give me the grace to change all those who come in contact with me. Just my family and friends, and I shall be satisfied.”
Now that I am an old man and my days are numbered, my one prayer is, “Lord, give me the grace to change myself.” If I had prayed for this right from the start I should not have wasted my life.
Everybody thinks of changing humanity. Hardly anyone thinks of changing himself.

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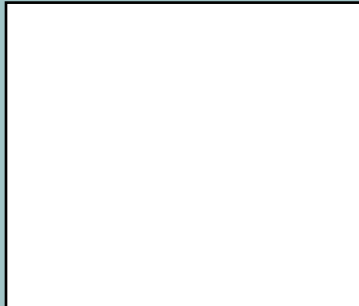
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