

**December 3, 2023:**  
**First Sunday of Advent**

And there will dawn a new Heaven and a new Earth...and let it begin with me...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:** Linda Connors

**Office Hours:**

**Monday - Friday 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 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 2, 2023 6:00 PM**  
For new beginnings

**Sunday, December 3, 2023, 9:00 AM**  
For peace in our world

**Monday, December 4, 2023, 5:00—6:30 PM**  
Quiet adoration

**Tuesday, December 5, 2023 6:00 PM**  
Reconciliation Service

**Wednesday, December 6, 2023, 9:00 AM**  
For the safety of all children

**Thursday, December 7, 2023 6:00 PM, Our Lady of Fatima**  
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Friday, December 8, 2023 12:00 PM, Our Lady of the Valley**  
Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

**Saturday, December 9, 2023 6:00 PM**  
Elizabeth Malone by Mary and Kevin Harmon

**Sunday, December 10, 2023, 9:00 AM**  
For children everywhere



Our church is always open for quiet prayer, reflection, adoration, and contemplative walking.

### We Pray

We enter into our prayer in quiet, candles are lit and light grows within us. We are reassured of God's boundless mercy and hope for us all in our sung Kyrie. We sing out, "Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel." We attentively listen to hear how God is always among us... Our response the Hebrew Scripture is Psalm 25: "To you, O God, I lift up my soul; lift up my spirit to my Lord. To you I lift up my soul."

As we rise for the Gospel, we sing with exuberance: "Soon and very soon, Alleluia!" Our hearts abound in joy at the Word of God among us.

We then come to the Table to remember and celebrate Christ's abiding presence within and among us. We sing of this mystery: "We proclaim your death O Lord and profess your Resurrection until you come again."

With living faith we can enter into the Cross of our world as people of Hope. We conclude with the World Peace Prayer leading us into the Reign of God today.

### BEATITUDES OF CHRISTIAN LIVING

**"Do what you can to show you care about others, and you will make our world a better place."**

~ Rosalynn Carter

Our love for each other embodies God's love for us. We must embrace each other and ensure that our love shows in our thoughts, our actions, and our words.

## Administration and Stewardship

### Offerings:

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Collection: \$1888.75

Christ the King Sunday Collection: \$2518.25

*Thank you for sharing your treasure and for your generosity!*

## WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**Saturday, December 2, 2023:**

**Greeters:**  
Pat Costello

**Ushers and Seat Counters:**  
Bill Kuehnle

**Lector:**  
Pat Costello

**Altar Servers**  
Arriette and Nathan Kuehnle

**Eucharistic Ministers**  
Pat Costello, Michele Cullam

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

**Sunday, December 3, 2023:**

**Greeters:**  
John Conroy, Betty Karlau

**Ushers and Seat Counters:**  
Jackie and Ed Guntert

**Lector:**  
Sharon Riggi

**Altar Servers**  
Sera Wargo, Luna Pelton

**Eucharistic Ministers/Shutdown**  
Theresa Charland, Marcia Guntert

**Money Counters**  
Jane Munger, Bonnie Jorgensen

**Saturday, December 9, 2023:**

**Greeters:**  
Barb Valosin

**Ushers and Seat Counters:**  
Bill Kuehnle

**Lector:**  
Ringuette

**Altar Servers**  
Gabe and Elise Ringuette

**Eucharistic Ministers**  
Joanne Newsome, Tom Valosin

**Set-up/Shut down:**  
Barbara Valosin

**Sunday, December 10, 2023:**

**Greeters:**  
Joanne Coonradt, Marilyn Nolte

**Ushers and Seat Counters:**  
Stephanie and Bob Tinker

**Lector:**  
Borst

**Altar Servers**  
Sera Wargo

**Eucharistic Ministers/Shutdown**  
Jackie Guntert, Betty Karlau

**Money Counters**  
Kuehl and DeMeyere



Danny Hardmin, Brian Collins, Bill Valosin, Patrick O'Grady, Irene Ostermann, Jessica DeVietri, Ed Masterson, Joan McCalip, Adrienne Bartholomew, Callie Shaw (baby), Joanne Snyder, Raymond Ceroalo, Jocelyn Ceroalo, Cathy Saccetto, Mary Bixby, Ed August, Stephanie Coxen, Pam Raquet, Margaret M. Ostermann, Margaret Cameron, Beverly Dyer, Lee and Finn, Frank Ceroalo, Kyle and Katie Collazo O'Connor, Dennis Dailey (Afghan War veteran), Marsia Ferguson, Anjaine, Jack Robinson, Jim Crum, the Simeon Family, Debbie Lints, Mary Carlson, Nora and Joe Dougherty, Matt Nieminski, Joyce Montgomery, Eileen Scanlon, Thomas "Tucker" Hirsch, Tina Welman, Rick Conners, Annie Conneely, Francis McKiernan, Barbara St. George, Jesse Lints, Robert Tinker, Joseph Scolaro, Lisa Frangoulis, Davia Fileccia, Jamie Howard, Tom Guilianelli, Deborah Lobo, Joseph Pelton, Joseph Cassella, Paul Pagano, Donald Gaffney Jr., Michele Eckland, Diane Czarro, Bill Hudzik, Rick Stoddard, Tom Barr, Helen Zebrowski, Shane Stark, Nada Gaber Pitu, Joan Luhrs, Dick Kristel, Kate Mahoney, Chris & Karen Nieminski, Rose Ceroalo, the Scott Family, Karen Conners, P. J. D.,

**Advent This Week**

Calendars, Little Blue Books and *oplatek* are available. **Giving Tree gifts**, wrapped with a tag attached, are due back by December 16<sup>th</sup>.

Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 5:00 PM Happy Birthday Jesus Party at OLV Church Hall, and Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:15 AM at OLV Hall: wreath making, games, food. Collecting toddler clothes.

Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM Communal Reconciliation at Our Lady of the Valley.

Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM St. Nicholas Day Covered Dish Supper at OLV Hall. Share a seasonal dish. St. Nick promises to stop by.

Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 9:30 AM Advent Tea and Scripture Discussion at OLV Hall.

Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM Immaculate Conception Mass at Our Lady of Fatima.

Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 noon Immaculate Conception Mass at Our Lady of the Valley.

Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> before and after Mass Rosary Society Bazaar at OLV Hall.

**Psalm of an Emerging Emmanuel**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”,

I pray with upraised eyes.

Drop down, O Dew of Heaven,  
that God might walk and talk on earth,  
might heal and feed our sin-soaked world.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,  
my prayers like searchlights  
comb the starry wintry skies.

Descend from the black hole of some neighboring  
galaxy  
to green with your grace  
our barren earth.

Such an Advent waiting prayer  
can be a lifelong profession of patient longing,  
unless I know, with all my heart,  
that Emmanuel not only comes down  
but also comes forth and emerges.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,  
come forth from deep within me  
with Christmas luminous beauty.

For my heart has become the sacred crib,  
the birthing place of God among us.  
Peace on earth and justice for all  
will only become manifest in our lives  
when enough of your sons and daughters  
awaken to your divine design  
that has made each of us  
an emerging Emmanuel.



**GIFT**

Faith formation families are invited to participate in Happy Birthday, Jesus! Party this weekend after the 9:00 AM Mass. We are collecting baby and toddler items to support Community Maternity Services.

Please note that the Liturgy of the Word newsletter is available for our young disciples grades 1 – 5. They are in plastic bags with crayons that can be used during Mass. Please return plastic bags and crayons, and take the newsletter home to go over with your children to review each Sunday’s Mass message.

**PARISH PRAYER, SERVICE AND FUN**

**Community Christmas Caroling**

Sunday, December 17th, 6:30 PM at the Middleburgh Reformed Church. Come and be uplifted by songs of the season; refreshments, too!

**Visit to Robinson Terrace Nursing Facility, Stamford**

Monday, December 11th, 2:00—3:30 PM. Live entertainment, snacks and visiting parishioners. Sponsored by our Rosary Society.

**Diocesan Appeal**

The 2023-2024 Appeal letters have gone out to all parishioners. If you did not receive one, offering envelopes are now available in the pews. Please make sure you put “Our Lady of the Valley” on the envelope. We do this together because we believe it is of vital importance to continue the ministry of Jesus in our 145 county Diocese... caring for the sick, educating our children, finding housing for the homeless, feeding the hungry, and training seminarians and parish leaders. This year our parish assessment is \$23,738.00; last year it was \$21,150.00. Thank you for your support!

**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.

**Knights of Columbus #4475**

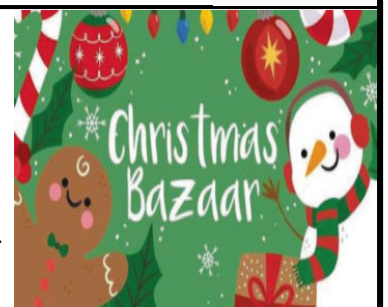
**Ten Week Club Winners**

Week 4: \$25 Michael Lang,  
\$15 Megan DuShane,  
\$10 Michael Kuehl



**Rosary Society Corner**

Our Christmas Bazaar will be on the weekend of December 9th and 10th before and after Mass. Cookie donations can be dropped off at the church hall on 12/9 after 10:00 AM. Thank you!



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