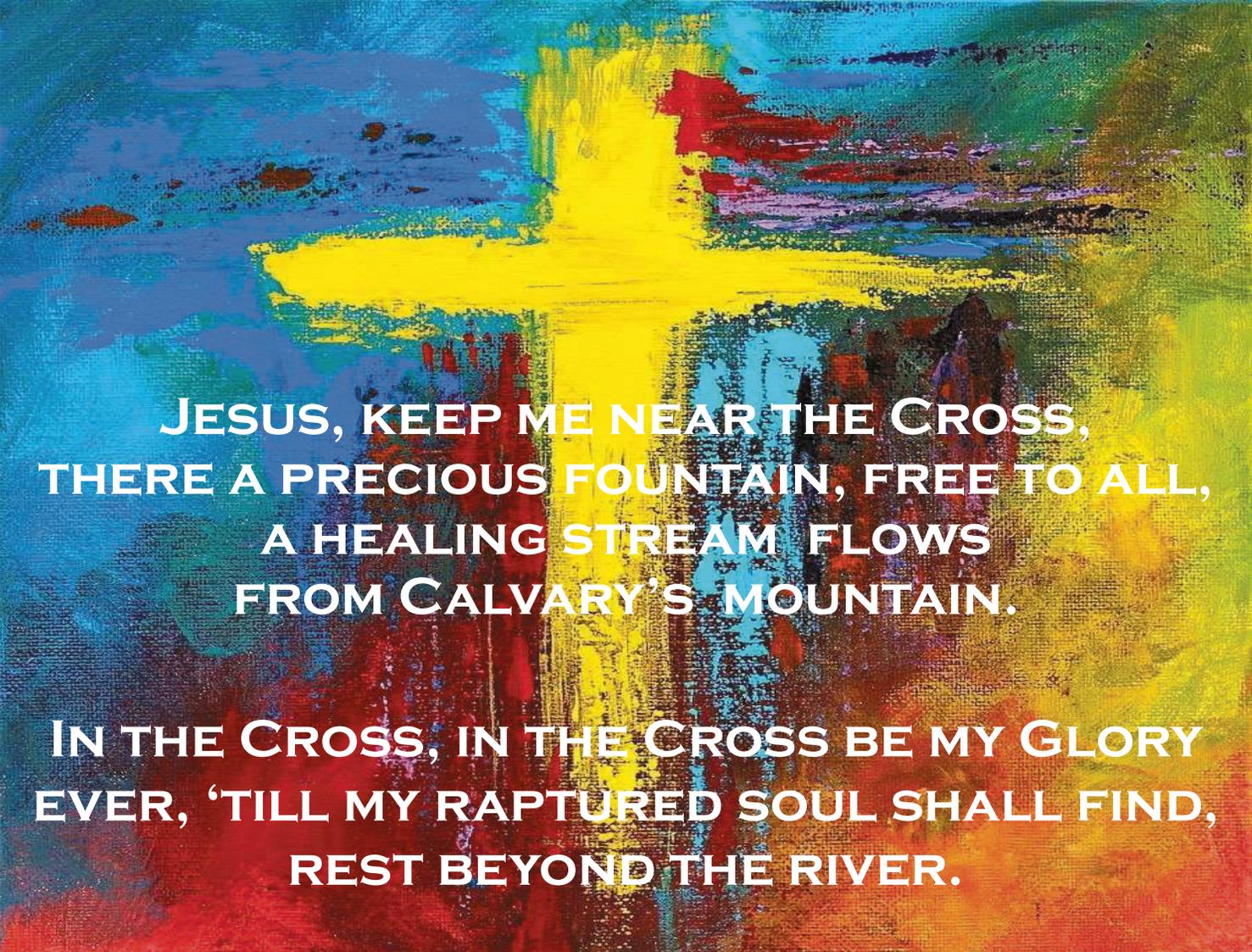


**MARCH 16, 2025**  
**2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**



**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  
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.

## Liturgy Schedule

**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

**Monday, March 17, 2025, 5:00—6:30 PM**  
 Quiet Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Wednesday, March 19, 2025, 9:00 AM**  
 For the whole Church

**Friday, March 21, 2025, 7:00 PM**  
 Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, March 22, 2025, 6:00 PM**  
**Theresa Wright** by Robin and Tina  
**Annabelle Rivenburgh, John Cullam Sr.** by Michele Cullam

**Sunday, March 23, 2025, 9:00 AM**  
 For our Parish community

### 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:

*First Sunday of Lent Collection: \$1986.30*  
*Thank you for your generosity!*



## WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**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

**Saturday, March 22, 2025**

**Greeters:**  
 Gabe Ringuette

**Ushers and Seat Counters:**  
 Robin Hazzard

**Lector:**  
 Ringuette

**Altar Servers**  
 Luna Pelton

**Eucharistic Ministers**  
 Michele Cullam  
 Gail Borst

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

**Sunday, March 23, 2025**

**Greeters:**  
 Martha Conroy, Betty Karlau

**Ushers and Seat Counters:**  
 John Millett, Denise Lloyd

**Lector:**  
 Brynda Shultes

**Altar Servers**  
 Peter Sherer

**Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down**  
 Margaret Ostermann,  
 Patti Sainsbury

**Money counters:**  
 Shultes, Millett

### BEATITUDES OF CHRISTIAN LIVING

**"I fear nothing, because of the promises of Heaven; for I have cast myself into the hands of Almighty God, who reigns everywhere."  
 ~ St. Patrick**

We are so blessed to know God's love for us. God wants us to live our lives loving and caring for each other each and every day.



*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*

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)**

The next preparation session for First Eucharist preparation will be held on: Sunday, March 23rd<sup>th</sup> after the 9AM Mass at Our Lady of the Valley (and Tuesday, March 25th at 4:30PM at Our Lady of Fatima). Please pray for our young disciples preparing to celebrate their First Eucharist: Olivia Liuzzi, Mary McGrail, Gaia Pelton, Harper Risse, Dylan Ryan, Elizabeth Ryan, Piper Schulmerich.

Our next GIFT session will held on March 30<sup>th</sup> after the 9:00AM Mass at OLV and will focus on the Creed – We believe in the Holy Spirit.

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 19 at 5:00 PM.

**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.

**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.

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.



“ 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

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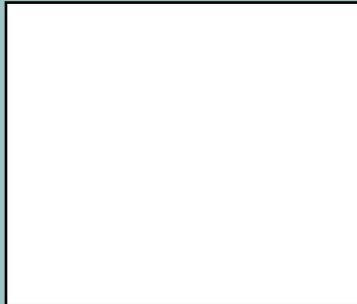
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