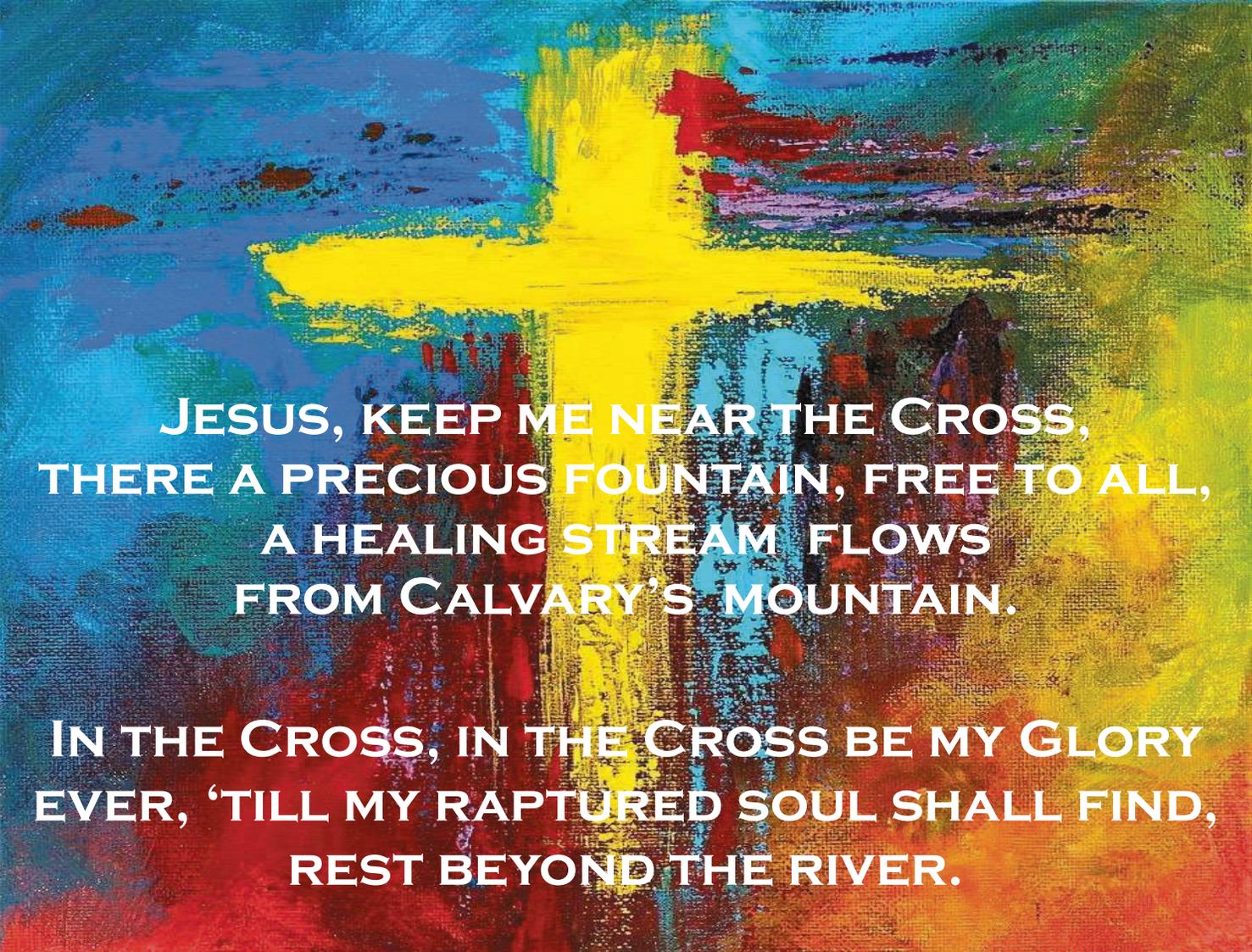


**MARCH 23, 2025**  
**3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF LENT**



**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 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

**Monday, March 24, 2025, 5:00—6:30 PM**  
 Quiet Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

**Wednesday, March 26, 2025, 9:00 AM**  
 For families in crisis

**Friday, March 28, 2025, 7:00 PM**  
 Stations of the Cross

**Saturday, March 29, 2025, 6:00 PM**  
**Dorothy Ruth Cullam** by Michele Cullam

**Sunday, March 30, 2025, 9:00 AM**  
 For Christians in areas of conflict

### 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:

*Second Sunday of Lent Collection: \$2159.00*  
*Thank you for your generosity!*



## WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

**Saturday, March 22, 2025**

**Greeters:**  
 Gabe Ringuette

**Ushers and Seat Counters:**  
 Robin Hazzard

**Lector:**  
 Patrick Costello

**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

**Saturday, March 29, 2025**

**Greeters:**  
 Jane Munger

**Ushers and Seat Counters:**  
 Bill Kuehnle

**Lector:**  
 Patrick Costello

**Altar Servers**  
 Arriette and Nathan Kuehnle

**Eucharistic Ministers**  
 Jane Munger  
 Patrick Costello

**Set-up/Shut down:**  
 Jane Munger

**Sunday, March 30, 2025**

**Greeters:**  
 Caroline Borst  
 Joanne Coonradt

**Ushers and Seat Counters:**  
 John Conroy, Marcia Guntert

**Lector:**  
 Kate Katsur

**Altar Servers**  
 Sam Borst

**Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down**  
 Jackie Guntert  
 Betty Karlau

**Money counters:**  
 Margaret Ostermann  
 Michele Borst

### BEATITUDES OF CHRISTIAN LIVING

**"Love endures everything, love is stronger than death, love fears nothing."**  
 ~ St. Faustina

During this time of Lent, we are reminded of how much Jesus loves us. His love for us is never ending.



*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 will be held on: Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup> after the 9:00 AM Mass at Our Lady of the Valley.

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

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.

Stations of the Cross for Children will be held on Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup> 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 26 at 5:00 PM at St. Mark's Church.

**Moms' Prayer Group**

Upcoming meeting: Monday, March 31<sup>st</sup>. We start at 5:00 PM with Eucharistic Adoration in church, then meet in the hall at 5:30 for faith-filled conversation. Mothers of all ages are welcome!

**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.



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.

**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: 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.



**Holy Week Prayer**

**Passion (Palm) Sunday Mass:**  
Saturday, April 12, 6:00 PM and Sunday, April 13, 9:00 AM.

**Holy Thursday Mass:**  
April 17, 4:00 PM.

**Good Friday**  
April 18  
Middleburgh Stations of the Cross: 12 noon — outdoor walking prayer.

Women of Jerusalem prayer: 2:00 PM  
(We need readers to assist in this inspiring drama — please call our office).  
Passion of the Lord: 7:00 PM at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Delanson.

**Holy Saturday**  
April 19  
12 noon—Blessing of food.  
7:30 PM—Easter Vigil Mass—fire, Word, Initiation, Eucharist  
(there is no earlier Mass today).

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
April 20  
Mass: 9:00 AM at Our Lady of the Valley  
11:15 at Our Lady of Fatima

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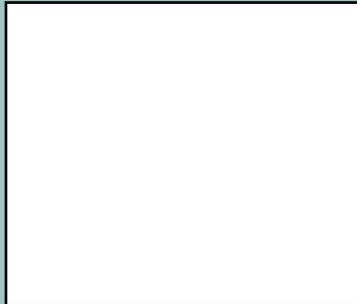
  
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