

SEPTEMBER 20, 2026
25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**“Welcome O Holy Season of Autumn...Reveal the oft' hidden beauty within.
(the witchhazel bush flowers in the fall)**



OUR LADY OF THE VALLEY

111 WELLS AVE., PO BOX 311, MIDDLEBURGH, NY 12122
518.827.3301
olv2009@midtel.net

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM

Bishop of Albany Diocese: Mark O'Connell

Pastor: Fr. Thomas Zelker
tomzelker@gmail.com

Deacon: Gary Riggi

Administrative Assistant: Laura Pelton

Religious Education Director: Patty Paser

Parish Musician: Kathy Burgin

Liturgical Ministries Coordinator: AnneMarie Robinson
518-701-1575

Bereavement support: Call the office.

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
11:15 a.m. Our Lady of Fatima in Delanson

Weekdays:

9:00 a.m. Wednesdays Our Lady of the Valley in Middleburgh
9:00 a.m. Tuesdays at Our Lady of Fatima in Delanson.

DEVOTIONS

ROSARY: Mondays at 5:00 PM.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET: Last Monday of the month 5:00 PM.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION: Mondays 5:30—6:30 PM.

Liturgy Schedule

Saturday, September 19, 2026, 6:00 PM
(Anointing of the sick after Mass)

For all who seek God

Sunday, September 20, 2026, 9:00 AM
Ron Blackmur by wife Elizabeth

Ecumenical Prayer in Middleburgh, 1:00 PM at Nourish (former Methodist Church)

Monday, September 21, 2026
5:00—5:30 PM Rosary prayer
5:20—6:30 PM quiet Adoration

Wednesday, September 23, 2026, 9:00 AM
Joseph Pelton by the Pagano Family

Saturday, September 26, 2026, 6:00 PM
For all priests

Sunday, September 27, 2026, 9:00 AM
Joseph DePersia by the Pagano Family

Sacramental Preparation Invitation

Families who feel called to begin preparation for **First Reconciliation and First Eucharist** (typically for children in Grade 2, ages 7–8) or **Confirmation** (typically for teens in Grade 10, ages 15–16) are warmly invited to contact the rectory at 518-827-3301 for more information. **We look forward to walking with your family on this beautiful journey of faith and growth in Christ.**



BEATITUDES OF CHRISTIAN LIVING

"He who labors as he prays lifts his heart to God with his hands." — St. Benedict

As autumn's harvest ripens, may our daily work and prayer bear fruit that glorifies God.

Administration and Stewardship

Offerings:

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Collection: \$2712.66

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time Collection: \$2464.00

Thank you for your generosity!



WEEKEND MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 19, 2026, 6:00 PM

Greeters:

Mary Bailey

Ushers and Seat Counters:

Bill Kuehnle

Lector:

Ringuette

Altar Servers:

Peter Sherer

Eucharistic Ministers:

Michele Cullam, Katie Hagan

Set-up/Shut down:

Barb Valosin

Sunday, September 20, 2026, 9:00 AM

Greeters:

Michele Finin, Helen Lindstrom

Ushers and Seat Counters:

John Conroy

Lector:

Denise Lloyd

Altar Servers:

Mary McGrail

Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down:

Jackie Guntert, Pattie Sainsbury

Money counters:

Denise Lloyd, Elizabeth Blackmur

Saturday, September 26, 2026, 6:00 PM

Greeters:

Mary Bailey

Ushers and Seat Counters:

Bill Kuehnle

Lector:

Patty Paser

Altar Servers:

Michael and Wesley Ortiz

Eucharistic Ministers:

J. O'Brien, Katie Hagan

Set-up/Shut down:

Jane Munger

Sunday, September 27, 2026, 9:00 AM

Greeters:

Caroline Borst, Marilyn Nolte

Ushers and Seat Counters:

Jackie Guntert, Marcia Guntert

Lector:

Borst

Altar Servers:

Sam Borst

Eucharistic Ministers/Shut down:

Joanne Coonrad, Brynda Shultes

Money counters:

Borst, Ostermann

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



baby Zoey Nashville, Jodi Connors, Greg Filisko, Scott Troughton, Joseph Cassella, Andrea Virtuoso, Michele and Phil Smith, Arthur Barrett, John Lewis Simmons, Lynn Fileccia, Anthony Chieco, Barbara St. George, Mary Harmon, Carol Hoffmann, Bob Troidl, Betty Karlau, Mundy Zullo, Linda Ballou, Bill Valosin, Brian Barbella, Marge Sainsbury, Annette Casano, Charlie Paduano, Margaret Buzon, Marthe Therrien, Kelly and Caleb, Matt Nieminski, Angelo and Debbie DeMelfi, Sharon Wood, Jim Ault, Linda Pagano, Tom Barr, Mary Hazzard, Helen Zebrowski, Joyce Montgomery, Joan Wissert, Laurie Kinnicutt, Grant Coastes, Ina Fusco, Bernard Jermy, David Cullam, Jane Rothkopf, Sadie Dutcher, Nate Clements, Jean Pavenas, Debrah Fileccia, Skip Teale, Adam Schweikert

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

Please contact the office to have someone prayed for/added to the list.

We gather, we pray, and we serve Our Lady of the Valley Parish

Wednesday, September 23

we begin our daily Mass for the season at 9:00 AM.

Apple cider making and Blessing of pets



Friday, October 2 on the OLV West Lawn.
Beginning at 3:30 PM, we press apples (bring lots of fruit) and make fresh cider (bring bottles or jugs). Donuts, too!

At 5:00 PM, we, inspired by St. Francis of Assisi, pray with our animal friends (all pets, farm animals, and well-behaved children are welcome).

Pie-making

We'll be making apple pies on Saturday, October 3rd starting 8:00 AM. Bring your peeler or knife.



Community Anointing of the Sick

Sunday, October 4, immediately after our 9:00 AM Mass. Anyone in need of healing — physical, emotional, spiritual — is welcome to stay for this prayer.

Summer flowers

Garden flowers are always welcome to enhance our worship.

Vegetable Exchange



Vegetables and fruits may be shared at the outdoor table at our parking lot entrance. Also, please remember our homebound neighbors and anyone in need.

Our Home-bound people

If you know of someone or can think of someone home-bound, please call our church office.

Change Our World

In our hall is a container to collect all that pocket change that seems to lurk everywhere. All donations will be given to local charities. Our recipient will be *The Old Stone Fort, Schoharie*. All pennies, nickels, dimes, etc. are accepted.



Middleburgh Food Pantries



Food pantry needs: **chunky soups, peanut butter, cereal, rice, soap, cleaning supplies (detergents), personal hygiene items.** We also need help at our Food Pantry based at the Middleburgh Reformed Church. If you can assist, please call Russ Ryan at 518 817-1414.

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.



Parish Events

Low Bridge—From Albany to Buffalo: Erie Canal Boat Ride

Sunday, September 27. Arrive at Erie Canal Cruises, 800 Mohawk St., Herkimer (right off Exit 30 of the Thruway) at 2:30 PM to board. Cost \$20. Call our office for reservations.

We can car pool, if desired. There are dinner possibilities in Herkimer. Individuals and groups decide on their own about eating.



Ecumenical Prayer Service "The Fabric of Covenant."

Sunday, September 20, 1:00 PM at the "Nourished at Middleburgh" (formerly Middleburgh Methodist Church). On this Constitution Day, we strive to live our faith as citizens of the United States.

Neighbors Eating Together (NET Dinners)

We begin our Wednesday evening (5 PM—6:30 PM) dinners served by the Churches of Middleburgh. On October 7 at Nourished of Middleburgh (the Methodist Church) on the corner of Main and Clauverwie. Our Lady of the Valley hosts the second Wednesday of each month (October 14). St. Mark's and the Reformed Church will follow. All are always welcome to come together, converse, and enjoy some delicious food. Helpers are also needed. Come and become neighbors.

Diocesan Events

Please join us to celebrate Healthcare Workers & Respect Life Month

Health Care Professionals and Respect Life Month Mass with Bishop Mark O'Connell will be held on Sunday, October 18, 2026 at 5:00 PM at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. All Healthcare workers, family, friends and the public are also encouraged to attend to help pray for, support and celebrate our healthcare community. This will also give an opportunity to honor Respect Life Month. Catholics across the diocese will come together to witness to the inherent dignity and transcendent value of every human being. There is no registration required. Any questions? 518-453-6644.

A Prayer for the New Season

Welcome, Autumn, arms full of summer's blessings.
Carrying the seeds of life for next year's planting.
Come, enter my home with your golden wisdom;
be my guest and share my table.

Welcome, Old Wise One,
may I be your student in the school of gratitude.
Guide me in reflecting upon the summer now gone,
that I might give thanks for all the many gifts
that have enriched me in that season of growth.

I greet you, spirits of darkness
that dwell in the night and within me.
While you are frightening, you are also a source of power;
may I not fear you
but learn to live in holy harmony with you;
you are not evil unless you dominate me.
Night within me, I welcome you as well;
may all your spirits that reside in me
live in harmony with the Spirit of the Holy.
Amen +

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