

May 5, 2024 | Sixth Sunday of Easter



GO AND BEAR  
FRUIT THAT WILL  
**REMAIN.**

— JOHN 15:16 —

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

OLV



OLV

National Shrine  
& Basilica

A Father Baker Legacy

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## GET IN TOUCH!

### RECTORY OFFICE

**Monday - Friday: 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.**  
(closed on Th. and Fri. from 1—2 p.m.)

716-828-9444 • 716-828-9429 fax

[olvrectory@olvbasilica.org](mailto:olvrectory@olvbasilica.org)

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**Mary Doyle-Szlosek, Principal**

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[elementary@olvbasilica.org](mailto:elementary@olvbasilica.org)

[www.ourladyofvictoryelementary.org](http://www.ourladyofvictoryelementary.org)

### FAITH FORMATION

2760 S. Park Avenue, Lackawanna

**Sunday: 7:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.**

**Monday - Friday: 7:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.**

**Carmelann Zomeri, Director**

716-828-9437

[faithformation@olvbasilica.org](mailto:faithformation@olvbasilica.org)

### GIFT SHOP AND MUSEUM

**Open Daily 10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.**

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716-828-9433

[olvgiftshop@olvbasilica.org](mailto:olvgiftshop@olvbasilica.org)

## COME & WORSHIP

### BASILICA HOURS

The Basilica is open for private prayer every day during the following hours:

**Sunday: 6:30 a.m.—6:00 p.m.**

**Monday - Friday: 6:30 a.m.—7:00 p.m.**

**Saturday: 6:30 a.m.—7:30 p.m.**

### WEEKEND MASSES

**Saturday Vigil: 4:30 p.m.**

**Sunday: 8 a.m., 10 a.m., Noon, 4:30 p.m.**

### WEEKDAY MASSES

**Monday—Saturday:**

7:30 a.m. and 12:10 p.m.

There is an additional Mass at 8:15 a.m. on Fridays when school is in session.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

**Saturdays:** (except Holy Saturday)  
3:00—4:00 p.m. and 7:00—7:30 p.m.

**Eve of First Fridays:** 3:00—4:00 p.m.

**Eve of Holy Days:** 3:00—4:00 p.m.

### GUIDED BASILICA TOURS

Please call the Rectory Office at 716-828-9444 if you are interested in scheduling a group tour.

**Address:** 767 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, NY 14218

**Phone:** 716-828-9444

**Website:** [www.olvbasilica.org](http://www.olvbasilica.org)

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR PASTOR

### DEAR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST,

As you know, the month of May is dedicated in a special way to the Blessed Virgin Mary. Through our Blessed Mother's powerful intercession, we have the opportunity to deepen our prayer life, especially as we face the challenges of our society today. Just as Mary pondered all the early events surrounding Jesus in her heart (Luke 2:19), we are invited to contemplate what the Holy Spirit chose to inspire and share with us regarding Mary, not only as the Mother of Jesus, but as our own.

I share with you the following reflection:

What traits do you look for in a mother? What traits would God look for in a woman to mother His only Son? The Scriptures may paint the portrait, but the brush belongs to God.

- The Holy Spirit moves the most intimate inspiration. A woman created, a woman set apart. She stands as a model of chastity, of inner beauty, of humility and of purity; the golden vessel, chosen to carry the most important life the world will ever know.
- Are we not called every day to live for God? Did Mary not model openness to God the Father in every conceivable way? Did she leave any doubt that God's will was more important than her own? Did she run when it was difficult? Did she flee from discomfort? Did she trust in God even when the future was uncertain?
- Did Mary hide Jesus away or share Him with the world?
- Mary swaddled Him. She nursed Him. She guided Him through His early years. She stood beside Him... never abandoning Him...even in the most difficult moments.
- Now as our Mother, would Mary ever abandon us? God created her. Preserved her. He picked her. He descended upon her. He grew within her.
- Jesus listened to Mary, loved her, and honored her above any other. Not because she wanted it but because she deserves it. It was

Mary's "yes" to God that set His brothers and sisters back on the right path. It was her "fiat"—her yes—that forever changed the world. "May it be done to me according to Thy will." (Luke 1:38) One "Yes" opened the door to hope: hope in salvation, hope for life after death, hope for even the most wretched of sinners.

- And Christ shows us how to love Mary. He wants us to know her, to admire her, to respect her and to trust her as our own, so He entrusted us to her and then gave her to each one of us. He wants us to know and experience the love that only a Mother can give—that only His Mother... the Mother of God... created and chosen by God, can give.
- God invites you to get to know Mary, to meditate on her heart as a window into His own. He calls us to honor her, modeling her humility, her openness, her chastity, and her abandonment to God's will for us.

*(excerpts taken from Mark Hart Reflection Life Teen International)*

May we honor our Blessed Mother Mary in a special way by taking time to pray and meditate upon the mysteries of the Most Holy Rosary of the Blessed Virgin Mary and by striving to do as she did and give our "yes" to God's will each and every day.

### AN EVENING WITH FR. BONIFACE HICKS, OSB

**Saturday, May 11 • 6:00 p.m. (following 4:30 p.m. Mass)**

Next Saturday, May 11th, we will welcome Fr. Boniface Hicks, OSB to OLV. Fr. Boniface, a Benedictine monk, accomplished author, and spiritual director, is known for his contributions to EWTN and other programs on theology and the spiritual life. (You can learn more about his background by visiting his website at [fatherboniface.org](http://fatherboniface.org).)

Fr. Boniface will celebrate the Saturday 4:30 p.m. Mass and, immediately afterwards, will be the guest speaker at a gathering in the Basilica hosted by our OLV Victorious Hearts couples' ministry, during which

he will share insights on how couples can enter into Mass more fruitfully during this year of Eucharistic Revival.

Whether you're dating, engaged, married, or discerning marriage, all are welcome to join us for this evening of fellowship and growth! No RSVP is necessary. Please come and join us!

### MAY CROWNING, Sunday, May 12 (Mother's Day)

On Sunday, May 12th, during the 12:00 Noon Mass, we will have the crowning of the statue of Our Lady of Victory. Children who have recently received their First Holy Communion are encouraged to attend this Mass wearing their First Communion attire. All are welcome!

### CATHOLIC CHARITIES APPEAL 2024:

As you know, our Parish Goal here at Our Lady of Victory National Shrine & Basilica for this year's appeal is \$131,058. **To date we have raised \$54,792.50 from 208 donors from our parish.** I encourage everyone to consider making a gift to this year's appeal. The need for assistance is great for those who are struggling financially, emotionally and physically.

**To make a gift, please mail in your donor card to Appeal 2024, donate online at [ccwny.org](http://ccwny.org), or text HOPE4WNY to 44321.** Please identify yourself as a parishioner of Our Lady of Victory National Shrine & Basilica, so our parish is credited to ensure we make our goal. For more information about Catholic Charities, visit [ccwny.org](http://ccwny.org).

Please remember that HOPE starts with you. In Matthew 25:40, Jesus' message is clear: "Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Your support of Appeal 2024 carries out Jesus' call and brings HOPE and help to the lives of children, families and adults across Western New York.

**GRATEFULLY, FR. DAVID**

## MASS INTENTIONS

### SATURDAY, MAY 4—Easter Weekday

- 7:30 am Natalie Lewis by Family  
 12:10 pm Louis Izzo by Tom & Linda Youngman and Jackie Izzo  
 4:30 pm Mario Inglese by his loving wife Mary and Family

### SUNDAY, MAY 5—Sixth Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 am Robin Govenitto by husband Dominic  
 10:00 am Michael J. Bona by Petrina Bona & Family  
 12:00 pm Living & Deceased Members of the OLV Altar & Rosary Society  
 4:30 pm Frank Chiodo by Mike & Paula Chiodo

### MONDAY, MAY 6—Easter Weekday

- 7:30 am The Alessi & Andrade Family by Robert & Monica Alessi  
 12:10 pm OLV Spiritual Association Members  
 Anna Gawlak by her brother

### TUESDAY, MAY 7—Easter Weekday

- 7:30 am Mary Katherine Twist by Family  
 12:10 pm Kevin Fitzgerald by Sam Leo  
 Donald F. Riegel by Mel & Beverly Rogalski

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 8—Easter Weekday

- 7:30 am Arlene Stoklosa by Rose Scahill  
 12:10 pm Grace Giancarlo by Michelle Liberatore  
 Jane Mastrandrea by Derek & Diane Smith  
**4:30 pm Holy Day Vigil**—Florence DeChellis by Joseph & Mary Ellen  
 Daniel Neubeck by Family

### THURSDAY, MAY 9—The Ascension of the Lord (Holy Day of Obligation)

- 7:30 am Patricia Hartman by Mike & Maureen Colren  
 9:00 am Virginia M. Scahill by Rosemary Scahill and Peggy Pfalzgraf  
 12:10 pm Joseph J. Caligiuri by Family  
 Dennis Mullan (living) by the Petrykowski Family  
 7:30 pm Adela Rivera by her children and grandchildren  
 Jill Harris by the Family of Gary & Michele Phillips

### FRIDAY, MAY 10—Saint John of Avila, Priest; Saint Damien de Veuster, Priest

- 7:30 am Mary Stremlow by Carol Diliberto  
 John P. Shea by Patricia Shea  
 8:15 am Living & Deceased Parishioners of Our Lady of Victory Basilica  
 Rev. Romulus Rosolowski, OFM Conv. by Bill Spaulding  
 12:10 pm Geraldine Iannuzzelli by her family  
 Daniel Dybalski (Anniversary of Death) by Terry

### SATURDAY, MAY 11—Easter Weekday

- 7:30 am OLV Spiritual Society Intentions  
 12:10 pm Paula Biniewski-Heimburs by Gabriella Gorman  
 4:30 pm Laura Mancuso (Anniversary of Death) by Whitey Boettcher

### SUNDAY, MAY 12—Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 8:00 am Living & Deceased Parishioners of Our Lady of Victory Basilica  
 10:00 am Living & Deceased Parishioners of Our Lady of Victory Basilica  
 12:00 pm Living & Deceased Parishioners of Our Lady of Victory Basilica  
 4:30 pm Living & Deceased Parishioners of Our Lady of Victory Basilica



The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on Saturdays from 3:00—4:00 and 7:00—7:30 p.m.

Confessions will also be heard on the Eve of Ascension Thursday, which is **Wednesday, May 8 from 3:00—4:00 p.m.**



## JOIN US IN PRAYER

### Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m.

All are welcome to join in praying the Rosary for Peace on Tuesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. in the Basilica.

### Tuesdays • 6:30 p.m. May 7, May 21, June 4, and June 25

Join our "Victory for Christ" prayer group in the Basilica's lower level chapel to praise, thank, and give witness to God.



### Friday Afternoons

Join us each week for Eucharistic Adoration in the Basilica on Fridays after the 12:10 p.m. Mass until 5:00 p.m.





**Congratulations to the following children who received their First Holy Communion here at Our Lady of Victory Basilica on Saturday, April 27:**

Chase Caligiuri  
Mayci Caligiuri  
Isabella Carcione  
Lorenzo Ceccarelli  
Meena Danieu  
Lincoln Doeing  
Liam Eddy  
Leah Furgala  
Vitor Gerent  
Rosemary Hanzly  
Ryan Hudy  
Reese Hyde  
Grace Kalinka  
Emery Keem  
Theodore Lindstrom  
Brooke Martin  
Maeve McCabe  
Nathan Ondesko  
Michael Regelski  
Gabriel Remmes  
Rilyn Rost  
Audrey Schmauss  
Camryn Sireika  
Phalynn Supples

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### DOUGHNUTS & DISCIPLESHIP

**Sunday, May 5 • after 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. Masses**

Join us this Sunday, May 5, in the Basilica's Marian Room after the 8 a.m. or 10 a.m. Mass for coffee, juice, and doughnuts! Sponsored by the generosity of the Fr. Baker Council of the Knights of Columbus and hosted by the Columbiettes.

### ALTAR & ROSARY SOCIETY PLANT SALE

**Weekend of May 4—5**

The Altar & Rosary Society is holding its Annual Mother's Day Plant Sale on this Saturday (May 4) after 4:30 p.m. Mass and after all Masses on this Sunday (May 5). Plants will be on sale on the lower level of the Basilica. Give Mom, Grandma, or any special "mom" a beautiful plant for her special day.

### AN EVENING WITH FR. BONIFACE HICKS, OSB

**Saturday, May 11 • 6:00 p.m. (following 4:30 p.m. Mass)**

The Victorious Hearts couples ministry is planning a special evening here in the Basilica on Saturday, May 11 with guest speaker Fr. Boniface Hicks, OSB. Starting at 6:00 p.m. (following the 4:30 p.m. Mass), Fr. Boniface will share insights on how couples can enter into Mass more fruitfully in this year of Eucharistic Revival.

Whether you are dating, engaged, married, or discerning marriage, all are welcome to join us for an evening of fellowship and growth. No RSVP is necessary.

For questions, please email [VictoriousHeartsOLV@gmail.com](mailto:VictoriousHeartsOLV@gmail.com).

### OLV SERVICE CLUB SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Please join us on **Saturday, May 11 at 10 a.m.** in the OLV Infant Cemetery as we place flowers and pray for mothers who have lost young children.

Our next service day at Resurrection Life Food Pantry (2145 Old Union Road, Cheektowaga) is **Thursday, May 16 at 6:00 p.m.** We need at least five members to participate.

On **Tuesday, June 4 from 5—7 p.m.**, we will host a festival for residents of OLV Human Services on Martin Road. Volunteers are needed to assist with face painting, karaoke, snow cones, lawn games, and a picnic dinner.

High school seniors can apply for an OLV Service Club Scholarship. Up to \$500 will be awarded. Email [bowood62@gmail.com](mailto:bowood62@gmail.com) for an application, which is due by June 1st.

**For questions or to volunteer, call Bridget Wood at 716-536-3887.**



"No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends," Jesus tells us. This does not always mean one heroic act of self-sacrifice. It can also be a life laid down in daily self-denial and service to others. The priesthood is just such a life. There is no greater love! To learn more, contact Fr. Dave Baker at 716-847-5535 or visit [buffalovocations.org](http://buffalovocations.org).

## FAITH FORMATION

### CONFIRMATION NEWS

To participate in Confirmation Preparation, students must:

- Be currently in 9th grade
- Be a registered member of a parish in our Family of Parishes, which includes Our Lady of Victory Basilica, Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Our Mother of Good Counsel, St. Anthony, Queen of Angels, and Our Lady of Bistricea
- Be currently enrolled in and up-to-date with the requirements of our Faith Formation program OR be currently attending a Catholic High School

If you meet these requirements and have not received a letter from the Faith Formation Office, please contact Carm Zomeri at 716-828-9437 or [faithformation@olvbasilica.org](mailto:faithformation@olvbasilica.org).

### UPCOMING CONFIRMATION DATES

- **Group Session at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Gym on Sunday, June 2 from 12:00—1:30 p.m.** – We will be discussing service, saints, and sponsors. Lunch is included for all candidates.
- **MANDATORY Confirmation Retreat: Sunday, September 29, 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.**

- **Classes for Confirmation** will be held at OLV on Thursday evenings from 6:00—8:00 p.m. on **July 11, July 18, July 25, August 8, and August 15**

### FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION

Registration is open for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year. Classes will begin in October.

Forms are available through the Faith Formation Office. Please contact Carm Zomeri at 716-828-9437 or [faithformation@olvbasilica.org](mailto:faithformation@olvbasilica.org).

## Vacation Bible School is coming!

Sign up for one or both of these exciting summer camps.

Open to all youth entering K-5 as participants.

Grades 6-12 can be Youth Assistants.

**Cost \$30 per child/week. REGISTER AND PAY ONLINE.**

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## Come and Sea

July 15-19, 2024

6pm-8pm

at Our Lady of Victory Basilica

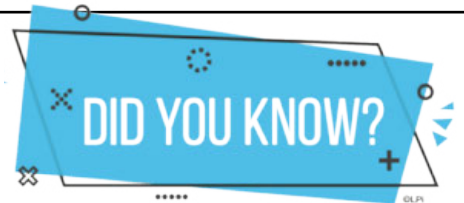
Questions contact Carm Zomeri  
[czomeri@olvbasilica.org](mailto:czomeri@olvbasilica.org) 716-828-9437

*Living in God's Kingdom*  
*August 12-16, 2024*

9am-12pm

at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

Questions contact Lynn Lipczynski  
[llipczynski@olshop.org](mailto:llipczynski@olshop.org) 716-824-8209



**Our Lady of Victory is not an ordinary elementary school,** but an educational institution that values academic excellence, fosters a sense of community and belonging, provides opportunities for sports and extracurricular activities, and prioritizes the well-being and growth of each child.

Private tours are now being offered.

**Please call 716-828-7592 if you want your child to share in the awesome legacy of Fr. Baker.**

Shadow Days are also available.

Check the website at [OurLadyofVictoryElementary.org](http://OurLadyofVictoryElementary.org) for more information.

**OLV**  
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# SUPPORT OLV

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## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

In order to maintain our beautiful Basilica and support the mission and ministries of our parish, we depend on weekly offertory donations.

Offertory envelopes can be mailed or dropped off at the Rectory Office at:  
**767 Ridge Road,  
 Lackawanna, NY 14218**

For online giving, please go to <https://olvbasilica.weshareonline.org>

We are very grateful for your ongoing support of Our Lady of Victory Basilica!

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION for Sunday, April 7, 2024

#### PARISH COLLECTIONS

Weekly	\$19,813.90
Monthly	\$2,452.00
Easter	\$1,850.00
Easter Flowers	\$30.00
Pennies to Heaven	\$67.00
Votive Candles/Shrines	\$7,932.57

#### ADDITIONAL COLLECTIONS

Altar & Rosary Society	\$10.00
Catholic Home Missions	\$25.00
Holy Land / Good Friday	\$80.00

**Total** **\$32,260.47**



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## VISIT THE BASILICA GIFT SHOP

The OLV Gift Shop, located on the lower level of the Basilica next to the Father Baker Museum, carries a wide variety of Catholic gifts and religious merchandise, including materials related to Father Baker and Our Lady of Victory Basilica.

**The Gift Shop is open 7 days a week from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
 (closed from 11:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. for lunch).

Your purchases support OLV and help us to continue the legacy of Father Baker. Please stop in to see what we have to offer!

**Support OLV Basilica today  
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MINISTRY SCHEDULE			
DATE	TIME	LECTOR	EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Sat. 5/11	4:30 p.m.	Jeffrey Stenzel	Kathleen Clark, Mary Stenzel
Sun. 5/12	8:00 a.m.	Stanley "Russ" Plandowski, Jr.	Eugene Allman, Shelia Allman, Catherine Bergen
	10:00 a.m.	Nathaniel P.	Molly McClenathan, Patricia Osborne, Timothy Wing
	Noon	Arthur Smith	Sandy Swiech, David West, Doreen West
	4:30 p.m.	Kathy Dimitrievski	Donna Gelle, Stefan Gelle, Joanne Setlock



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