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OLV Celebrating 180 Years as
a Faith Community

Our Mission Statement
The name of Jesus will be glorified in the parish of Our Lady of the Visitation. "Through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, we will discover and develop the gifts Jesus has bestowed upon us. We invite all people to know, love and serve Christ and proclaim His Gospel."

Days and Times may be seasonally adjusted

Masses:
Tuesday: 4:30pm
Wednesday: 9:00am
Thursday: 9:00am
Friday: 9:00am followed by Adoration
Saturday: 4:30pm
Sunday: 9:00am & 11:00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation:
Before weekday Mass
Saturday 3:30pm – 4:15pm

Sacrament of Baptism:
Celebrated the 2nd & 4th Sunday of each month – 12:00pm.
Please call the office at least three months in advance of your anticipated date. A Baptism preparation course is generally required.

Anointing of the Sick:
Upon request. Please contact the office or pastor.

Sacrament of Marriage:
Please contact the office one year in advance of your anticipated wedding date. A marriage course is mandatory.

Adoration:
Fridays 9:00am – 6:00pm

Pastor: Father Matthew Brunet
Deacon: Deacon Pat McNulty

OLV Office Hours: 9:00AM – 3:30PM Weekdays

Banquet Hall Manager: Marie Trojan 822-1777

Parish Groups

Parish Council	Tim Hubers	822-2197
Finance Council	Joe Basile	822-2197
KOC (2 nd Wed.)	Martin Thompson	822-2197
CWL (3 rd Wed.)	D'Arcine Thompson	986 8179
Recycle/reuse	Sandra Blais	443 1453

Liturgy:

Eucharistic Ministers	Maggie & Henri Yrenaya	822-2197
Lectors & Commentators	Maggie & Henri Yrenaya	
Ushers & Greeters	Tim Hubers	822-2197
Music	Cathy Philpott	822-2197

Sacraments:

Baptismal Preparation	Deacon Pat & Mireille McNulty	830-2662
1st Communion	Martin Thompson	822-2197
Confirmation	Anne Marie Simard	
	Dave Saucier	822-2197
RCIA (becoming Catholic)	Deacon Pat McNulty	830-2662

Spiritual Growth:

Children's Liturgy	PJ Moore	822-2197
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Planning and Operations:

Bulletin	Phyllis MacFarlane	822-2197
Cemetery	Margaret Quinn	821-2728
	Colleen Nottell	822-8270
Fundraising	Marie Trojan	769-7570
Major Projects Coordinator	Mario Houde	521-6840
St. Mary - Elementary School	Jennifer Divell	822-2985
St Francis Xavier - High School	Tanya Noble-Moore	822-7900
St Veronica	Lisa Hurd	343 292-5484

Our Lady of the Visitation
5338 Bank Street – Gloucester, ON, K1X 1H1
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Welcome new parishioners! Please introduce yourself to our pastor and then take a moment to complete a parish registration form available at the back of the church. It is to your benefit and that of your family to be properly registered. Tax receipts are provided for those who use offering envelopes or those gifting by automatic withdrawal via: www.olvottawa.ca

















Dec 20th & 21st, 27th & 28th 2025






4th Sunday of Advent & Holy Family

Jan. 1st, 2026 - Mary, Holy Mother of God

Jan 3rd & 4th – Epiphany of the Lord

ANNOUNCED MASSES

 Repose of the souls	 Special Intention			
Sat Dec 20	4:30		Mary Willems Maria Santangelo Donna McDonald	John & Family The Family Fred & Paula
Sun Dec 21	9am		Bea Quinn Yolande Bekkers Edith Cuddihey	The Family The Family Leighton & Callista Kelly
	11am	 	Special Intention Dianne Wood Chigbo Ikejiani	Carolyn Murphy Deacon Pat & Mireille Michael Magda
Tues Dec 23			NO MASS	
Wed Dec 24	4:30	  	Paul & Catherine Vinet Fr. Bill Penney & Fr. Matthew Rosario Spagnola Roberto Porcari	Craig Vinet Craig Vinet Elisabeth Porcari
	7pm		Knights of Columbus-OLV Thanksgiving for the Divine Infant	Craig Vinet McNulty Family
	9pm		OLV Office Staff Ruben & MacFarlane Families	Craig Vinet MacFarlane Family
Thurs Dec 25	10am	 	Phil Quinn Raisa Nicola Perchatkina Thanksgiving	Cathy & Family Magda Family Karen
Fri Dec 26			NO MASS	
Sat Dec 27	4:30		For the People of our Parish, OLV	
Sun Dec 28	9am	 	Hedwig Wojtowicz Nicholas Wilzynsky George & John Deronne Sami Kerba	Pauline Pauline Kouba Family Small Family

	11am		For the People of our Parish, OLV	
Tues Dec 30			NO MASS	
Wed Dec 31	4:30		Dianne Wood	Karen
Thurs Jan 1	10am		Michael McCall Sr	Karen
Fri Jan 2			NO MASS	
Sat Jan 3	4:30		Denise Clayton	Karen
Sun Jan 4	9am	 	For the People of our Parish, OLV Gianni & Family	 Gianni & Family

Sunday Reflection: Today’s Gospel story is so familiar that it feels like a warm blanket surrounding us, comforting us, giving us a sense of peace and security. We are drawn into the unfathomable mystery of God’s astounding decision to enter our reality as one of us so that, through the Son, we might find the way to eternal life. That statement alone is enough to engage us in fruitful contemplation.

In his Gospel Matthew is inviting his Jewish readers to consider how Jesus is the fulfillment of everything they have heard from the long line of prophets in their history. He emphasizes the role of Joseph, who is of the house of David, to assure the unbroken patrilineal heritage of the Messiah, which is detailed at the beginning of chapter 1 of Matthew’s Gospel. The angel encourages Joseph to accept the responsibility of supporting Mary in bringing the Son of God into the world.

But for me the most significant detail in this beautiful story is Matthew’s quotation from Isaiah: “and they shall name him Emmanuel... ‘God is with us.’” It is utterly mind-boggling to consider that the omnipotent, eternal, omniscient God in whom we believe would deign to put aside all that to become human just so he could *be with us*. May this inspire our contemplation in the days that remain before Christmas. Rev. Leonard Altilia, SJ, Montreal, QC

Nativity of the Lord-Dec 24th & 25th: In primary school, I memorized verses from Luke in order to recite the story of Jesus’ birth at the school Christmas pageant. Hearing those words each year takes me back to a simpler time and a child’s understanding of Christmas.

As an adult, I struggle through the chaotic time of Advent and Christmas, figuring out how to celebrate the Incarnation – God made flesh – in a secular world. As I pray and ponder, I realize it’s not for our heads to understand – it is God’s work, a spiritual job, a gracious gift.

One recent Christmas, our priest described how Jesus came as a baby so we could learn to love and follow him. He called this “cuddly power.” Since I have held many babies in my family and my nursing work, I understand cuddly power. Contemplating this baby Jesus helps us to pay attention to his powerful message.

Now Christmas time is here! The Scriptures give us glimpses of celebration: bringing light in the darkness, peace on earth, good news, making angels sing (and trees, too!), feeling the hope of eternal life. It’s a joyous mystery. We can show our gratitude with our joy and our songs of praise as we gather with others. And, like Mary, who cuddled baby Jesus, maybe we, too, can hold these images in our hearts and ponder them throughout the Christmas season. Jeanne Lambert, Bishop’s Mill, ON

Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph – Dec 28th
Today when we read of Herod’s wicked intentions, are we disturbed? Could such shocking things happen in our time? Like Joseph, we are called to ponder such questions, to pray, reflect and trust in God.

As people of faith, we recognize the Herods of our day who continue to make choices that impact our families and our world. We have witnessed profound change, most of which is good, but some of which is worrisome.

It can be hard to sort through and make sense of what is occurring all around us. Our sense of peace is challenged with concern for the ones we love. We wonder how they will manage in a world that seems to have such little regard for human life, faith and the purposes of God.

We are grateful that Joseph listened to the angel of the Lord. He obediently responded and acted with urgency. We too must keep our hearts open to God’s will, trusting in our Lord as we persevere in faith. We can hope that others will see us as people of prayer, reflection and service, living sacramental lives guided by God’s word. While we can’t see into the future, we can do our best by trusting God, as did Joseph and Mary, choosing to live each day joyfully and sharing the light of Christ with others. Jennifer and Harry McAvoy, Newmarket, ON

Mary, the Holy Mother of God – Jan 1st
Mary, the Holy Mother of God. You might think that, as a Sister of the Congregation of Notre Dame of Montreal, I come with a ready-made devotion of Our Lady. In fact, my vocation awareness was sparked by CND sisters whose devotion to Mary and St. Marguerite Bourgeoys sparked my own.

As our readings today reflect, God has had an eye out for each of us for some time now. And God chose a variety of people, places and events to bring to our awareness the role we are invited to accept to being about the fullness of the reign of God here and now.

It might be easy to say “O God, not me. I am not good enough, holy enough, I am not enough.” But that is not who we are called to be. Consider the woman we remember today. In earlier texts, we heard now Mary questioned her role: but that did not stop her “yes.” May our concerns, questions and hesitations not inhibit our “yes.”

The readings today are familiar, for they are the same every year. Those who gathered by that manger left, glorifying and praising God. So, while our lives change, as we leave today may our “yes” resound with each new day,

each new invitation. And as time moves on, may we, like Mary, treasure all these words and ponder them in our hearts. Sr. Susan Kidd, CND, Charlottetown, PEI

Epiphany of the Lord – Jan 4th
Imagine being so full of wisdom that you see something before others do. Or having such a close relationship with God that you receive insights that transform your life. Revelations from God are a curious thing in our scientific age, as it respects the laws of reason (often working within them) but is not limited by them.

Often the stars in the sky will strike us as wonderful examples of the beauty of creation. For some of us these stars provide information (such as those who use them as a means of navigation). Consider for a moment seeing in those stars a message that will change all of human history. This is what happened to the wise men in today’s Gospel.

If the stars can provide an external source of information, perhaps our dreams and reflection can be an internal source, if we take care that they are not misunderstood. Revelation should always lead us to acts of faith, mercy and love.

Let us be grateful today for the gift of our Saviour and Lord who willingly accepted suffering to liberate us from our difficulties. May we pray today that God will reveal to us insights into our own lives that will change us, just as the wise men were transformed by the message hidden in the stars. John O’Brien, Oakville, ON

OLV OFFICE: The office will be closed from Fri. Dec 19th at noon – and opens Mon. Jan 5th, 2026.

Thank you Volunteers: Our Lady of the Visitation is blessed with dedicated volunteers in every aspect of parish life. Know that your contribution makes our parish a vibrant welcoming community. They may not know you but please accept the sincere gratitude of everyone who enters the doors of Our Lady of the Visitation Church. You do make a difference and may your giving spirit bring joy to your life.

