

Our Lady of the Visitation Catholic Church

305 N. Prince St. Shippensburg, PA 17257
Pastor and Campus Minister- Rev. Ben Dunkelberger—frbdunkelberger@hbgdiocese.org

Weekend Masses: Saturday 5:00 pm, Sunday 8:00 am and 11:00 am
Daily Mass: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 8:30 am, Wednesday 6:30 pm
First Saturday of the Month..9:00 am

(Only During the College Fall and Spring semesters: Weekday Mass: Mon. 9PM & every Sat. 9AM)

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

*"Blessed are you who
are poor, for the kingdom
of God is yours."
Luke 6:20*

Rosary:

Tuesday—Friday 8:00am

Morning Prayer:

Wednesday.....8:30am

Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament:

1st Fri. of the Month

7:30am –8:20 am

Fridays.....9:00am—7:00pm

Wednesdays..5:30pm-6:20pm

Reconciliation:

Saturdays...3:30pm—4:30pm

Wednesdays..5:30pm—6:20 pm

1st Fri. of the Month....7:30—8:20 am

1st Sat. of the Month....8:00—8:45 am

*(Only During the College Fall & Spring
semesters: Sacrament of Penance:
Mon. 8:30pm- 8:50pm &
every Sat. 8-8:50am)*

Blessed
are they who
hope in the Lord.

Parish Staff Contact Info.

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Church...(717) 532-2912 Campus...(717) 477-1244 Emergency...(717) 323-2679
Office Hours Monday-Thursday 9:00am—4:00pm Closed Holy Days & Holidays

75 Years of a Catholic Parish in Shippensburg



Honoring History and Always Forward



As we gather this weekend to remember and celebrate our 75th Anniversary together (*our parish was created by the Bishop on February 17th, 1950*), how should we think about our past, our present, and our future as a Catholic Parish family located within the Diocese of Harrisburg in South Central Pennsylvania? My encouragement for you this weekend and over the entire next year is to first be thankful and pray for all the people who came before us in faith. There are thousands and thousands of Catholics over seventy-five years who have lived within or were nourished by Christ in and through our parish, many of whom have lived heroic lives of faith during their unique time in history. We know some of their stories, but we will never know the stories of so many good and holy people this side of heaven. Pray for them and especially ask God to increase our gratitude for what they sacrificed for Jesus as well as in a specific way what they sacrificed for our spiritual good today, helping to establish the foundation that has now become our day-to-day parish life. Acknowledging our imperfections and real shortcomings individually and as a parish at times, we also always move forward towards the Christ-like ideal that Jesus inspires us to live each day.

I hope this weekend can be a beautiful celebration and gathering for our current parish family, but I do not want to stop there. **Instead, I would like to make this entire year (from Feb. 17th, 2025 until Feb. 17th, 2026) a year a reflection, gratitude, and most importantly preparation for what lays ahead.** We will have a number of big parish events throughout this year, which will include celebrations from our history as well as specific ways we are trying to move always forward towards the Christ-like ideal of what a parish family can become.

These events include our 40 hours celebration during the first Sunday night through Tuesday night in May (May 4th – 6th), our parish picnic on June 4th, our annual celebration of the dedication of the church building on July 2nd, a memorial Mass for all those who have passed away on All Souls Day, Nov. 2nd, and many other events and liturgies as well. We will be praying, planning, and getting organized to launch a new parish vision and mission by the end of this year-long celebration. Christ loves us too much to leave us without gratitude, without joy, and without hope and courage to live our Catholic faith right now at this moment in history with all our hearts. May we thank God for all the people who laid the foundation of faith before us here in Shippensburg, and filled with gratitude, mercy, and hope, may we move always forward towards Jesus Christ and towards His ideal and His vision for our lives and the future of Our Lady of the Visitation. God Bless you, and let's pray for each other as we celebrate our history!





Soup Sale Today!

Soups will be sold in the social hall after all Masses this weekend.

Help support the Ladies Auxiliary who supports your parish! Thank you!



It is Crab Cake time!

For the next 3 weekends,

the Knights of Columbus are taking orders for their homemade Crab Cake sale. The signup sheet will be in the back of the church until the weekend of February 22nd and 23rd. The cost remains at \$6.00 per crab cake.

They will be available for pick up after mass on March 1st and 2nd in the social hall kitchen.



Hersheypark Discount Ticket Offer!

Discount tickets to Hersheypark are available to the friends and families of the parish for significant savings.

Gate admission for Regular is \$90.80; our price is \$44.95 (ALL ages 3+) valid until 1/4/26.

*ADD-ON Hersheypark Single Use Meal Deal Tickets for \$19.06 each and

*ADD-ON Parking Pass - \$26.00 pre-ordered or pay \$35.00 onsite

Tickets purchased in 2025 are valid for any 1 public operating day throughout the 2025 calendar year, but will not be valid past their expiration date. Refunds, extensions or upgrades will not be offered

Orders forms are in the lobby of the church and must be received at the parish by Friday, April 25, 2025.

Parishes will receive tickets on or before the week of May 19, 2025.

The 2024 DAC has officially closed and it was a remarkable year!

Our Lady of the Visitation Parish Shippensburg

Parish Goal for 2024:	\$34,769.30
Gifts Received:	\$42,580.64
Outstanding Pledges:	\$220.00
Shortfall Payments:	\$0.00
Over/(under)goal in cash:	\$7,811.34
% toward goal cash rec'd:	122.47%
Average per donor:	\$430.11
Number of Donors:	99
Registered Households:	441
Percentage of Participation:	22.45%

2024 Diocesan Annual Campaign Update

as of February 5, 2025

Total Diocesan Goal:	\$7,442,245.00
Total Paid to Date:	\$8,238,674.34
Total Pledged:	\$1,301,371.50
Pledge Balance:	\$33,900.00
Number of Donors:	16,509
Number of Gifts:	32,948
Average/Donor:	\$479.89
Percentage of Participation:	25.19%

BEGIN YOUR LENTEN JOURNEY WITH US!

MARCH 5TH

8:30AM MASS @ OLV

NOON: LITURGY OF THE WORD @ THE SPIRITUAL CENTER

6:30PM: MASS @ OLV

Ash
Wednesday



Please join us for our next coffee hour on Sun. Feb. 23rd in Mary's Kitchen

after the 8am Mass. If you would like to host coffee hour please sign up in the lobby of the church.

February 8-9, 2025 (in pew)

Weekend Collection:	\$3,565.00
Building Improvements:	\$195.00
Parish Youth Education:	\$10.00
Social Outreach:	\$25.00
Votives/Donut Hour	\$12.65
Propagation of Faith:	\$15.00
Poor Missions:	\$301.00
TOTAL INCOME:	\$4,123.65



If you would like to give to the Sunday collection online either with an individual gift or with a recurring donation of your choice, please visit olvshippensburg.weshareonline.org.

AN INVITATION TO COME AND SEE

Interested
in Becoming
Catholic ?

Please join us for
the next RCIA meet-
ing on **Tuesday,**
February 18th from
7pm-8:15pm in the
social hall.

Becoming Catholic
A Journey of Faith

THE THREE ORDINARY VOICES OF GOD

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
MATTHEW KELLY

The Book of the Month for both January and February 2025 is ***The Three Ordinary Voices of God*** by Matthew Kelly. We gave this book away as a Christmas gift to everyone at the parish, and we will have more copies of the book to give away as well as we begin the month of February. It is a very easy, enjoyable, and engaging read at just over 100 pages. Matthew Kelly, as usual, does a wonderful job of helping us to access the deep topic of prayer using

gifted story-telling, analogies and examples that come to life, and practical tips to help us follow through with this most essential habit of our faith. Sometimes we do overcomplicate how we approach our spiritual lives, and recognizing how God speaks through three of our most fundamental human experiences: our needs, our talents, and our desires; Matthew Kelly brings to life how often and profoundly God wants to speak to us and move us closer to Him. This all leads to our ultimate desire, which is our desire for God Himself, so I encourage you to give this book a chance and please consider coming to our book discussion on **Wednesday, February 26th from 7:30 – 8:30 pm** in the Church social hall. This is just a quick reminder, but you don't have to read or book or be an expert in prayer to attend this meeting! It is a great way to simply hear my favorite parts, get a quick summary of the book, and talk to some other parishioners about prayer and how to live our Catholic Faith in a deeper way. Thank you again, and God Bless you all as we continue through the beginning of 2025 and Ordinary Time in the Church year!

The next potluck will
be Sunday March 16th

Following the
11am Mass.

Potluck
Sunday

Please bring own place settings
and a dish to share. Water, juice &
coffee will be provided.



The Word of God Alive:

Discussing the Readings with your children.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is teaching about the kingdom of God. When we follow his teachings and treat people as Jesus teaches, we live in right relationship with God and one another. Jesus teaches with a series of blessings first, then with a series of woes, or warnings, about what it means to live as a disciple.

Jesus says, "Blessed are you who are poor" and then "But woe to you who are rich." Is Jesus teaching that it is a sin to be rich?

No, Jesus is first teaching that the needs of the poor come first. At the same time, the rich and those who are not poor, are asked to share what they have with those who are in need.

How might we share what we have with the poor?

You can donate items that we are not using, like clothing, books, toys and school supplies to those in need. You are not too young to help or work with your family to help the poor.

Jesus says, Blessed are you who are hungry, and then, "Woe to you who are filled now." What so you think Jesus is teaching with these two sayings?

Jesus teaches that nobody should go hungry, that we need to share the food we have with those who do not have enough. In our parish we have the opportunity to donate soup that is used at Hound Packs to feed the children in our area who do not have enough food for the weekend. Presently we are packing over 200 bags a week.

Jesus says, "Blessed are you who are weeping, and then, "Woe to you who are laughing now." Why would someone be weeping or crying?

There are so many things that can make us feel sad: a loved one dying, being sick, feeling left out or lonely, not making the team, when we don't get our own way or being homesick. Everyone feels sad from time to time. When Jesus says, "Woe to you who are laughing," Jesus is warning us not to laugh at someone.

What can you do to stop bullying?

You can stand up to the bully and tell the bully to stop. Or you can stand with the ones being bullied and let them know you are their friend. You should never participate in any bullying action yourself.

think...act...be like...
Jesus

Living our Faith: This week, put Jesus' teachings into action and live as his disciple.



**Knights of Columbus &
The Ladies Auxiliary**



The next KofC meeting is Thursday, March 6th at 7pm in the parish hall. Please see Pat Shay at 732--319-6132 for more information on the KOC.

The next Ladies meeting is Wednesday, March 5th at 2pm in the parish hall. For more info. on the Ladies Aux. please contact Donna Bonitz at 717-860-4909 or ddbbonitz@gmail.com.



All students in grades 6-12 are invited to our next Youth Group Meeting on **Saturday February 22nd from 6-8pm** in the social hall. **Bring your friends!**



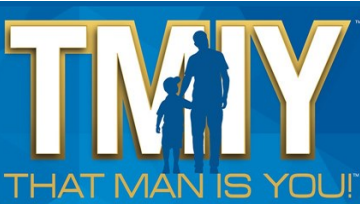
Mardi Gras Tea
All women of the parish are invited to attend Sunday, March 2nd 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm. This is an afternoon of sharing and fun to celebrate before the beginning of Lent. Those attending are asked to bring: a tea cup or mug, some finger food to share, a happy and joyful spirit, a friend. The theme this year is **BAKING**. Questions or for more information contact Mary Poffenbarger 301-639-3297 email - missmary@lockfarm.net



Run with a Priest! (...or walk or bike!)
Every 1st & 3rd Saturday we will meet outside the social hall around 9:45am. Take a short run (walk or bike) on the Rails to Trails.



The next choir practice will be **Wednesday, February 19th** from 7:15pm-8:30pm.



For All Men 18 Years or Older SCHEDULE:

- 7:00am Breakfast
- 7:30am Presentation (Video)
- 8:00am Small Group
- 8:30am Closing Prayer and Dismissal

Next meeting will be Sat. Feb. 22nd in the social hall.



Saturday, 9:00am 5:00pm	February 15 In Memory of Dorothy Detwiler In Memory of Mary Hare
Sunday, 8:00am 11:00am	February 16 In Memory of the Stewart-Gelas Family In Memory of Harold Best
2:00pm	People of the Parish
Monday, 9:00pm	February 17 Private Intentions
Tuesday, 8:30am	February 18 In Memory of Michael Simpson
Wednesday, 6:30pm	February 19 Intentions of Mike & Cheryl Bannon
Thursday, 8:30am	February 20 Intentions of Gloria Hudock
Friday, 8:30am	February 21 Intentions of Melissa Stahl
Saturday, 9:00am 5:00pm	February 22 Intentions of Pat Emmons In Memory of Theresa Fremer Schlenker
Sunday, 8:00am 11:00am	February 23 People of the Parish In Memory of Steven P. Grezner



You may sign up for a weekend to have flowers placed at the tabernacle in honor or in memory of someone. The flowers cost 40.00. The flowers will be ordered and delivered from Fishers Florist. The sign up sheet is in the lobby of the church. Envelopes are provided near the sign up sheet for payment that you may put in the collection bin. Please contact Sue German at 717-816-0552 with questions.



All are welcome to join us in the social hall after the 8:30am Mass on Thursday mornings.



If you would like to be part of a prayer group to help the Poor Souls in Purgatory through prayer, please call Michelle at 717-552-7252.