

# Our Lady of the Visitation Church

Newsletter - Fall 2011  
Volume 1, Issue 3

Pastor: Father Brian Hennessey  
Office Administrator: June Peter  
Parish Council Chair: Peter Huszcz

## Pastor's Message

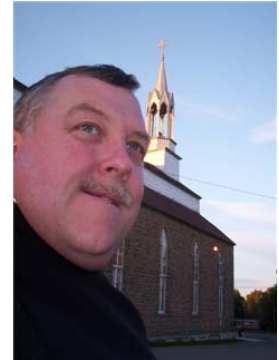


September marks the transition from summer shorts and flip-flops to back-to-school wear and busy schedules. I hope the summer has also meant some quiet time for reflecting on the important aspects of life - family, friends, community, health, and love.

Embrace the true joy of life and ensure that faith and community involvement are part of your schedule. We encourage everyone - young and old(er) - to put words into action and get involved. Come to church, join the choir, help with children's liturgy, lend a helping hand at upcoming events, and tell us about your ideas to keep Our Lady of the Visitation a happy and welcoming community of faith.

Take it to prayer.

- Father Brian Hennessey



### Contents

Pastor's Message	1
Greetings: Parish Council	1
Catholic Women's League	2
Mass Schedule	2
Parish Services	2
Upcoming Events	2
Legacy and Pledge Campaign	3
First Reconciliation	3
Visit Our Website	4
Contact Us	4
Photo Gallery	4

## Greetings from Your Parish Council

- Contributed by Peter Huszcz

Our Lady of Visitation Parish is a welcoming community of people of faith and of worship - men and women, young and old, laity, religious, and clergy - called by God to share the mission of Jesus Christ. The Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) enables members of Our Lady of Visitation Parish to have an active leadership role in the affairs of their parish.

The PPC is a consultative body that shares with the pastor duties of coordinating overall policies and goals of the parish. Members meet monthly with the pastor to discuss diverse issues such as daily church routines, the future growth and evangelic role of the parish in the community. Some of the highlights from this past year were the visit of Archbishop Terrence Prendergast and our parish's 166th anniversary celebration.

We thank all of the parishioners who have put countless hours into their PPC duties in the past. Your current council remains committed to fostering growth and faith at OLV.

Visit

[http://www.olvis.ca/parish\\_council.html](http://www.olvis.ca/parish_council.html) for a complete list of council members and feel free to share your ideas with them and maybe become active member of our beautiful Church.



*166<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration*

## Catholic Women's League - Contributed by Sandra Blais

The Catholic Woman's League of Canada is a national organization rooted in gospel values calling its members to holiness through service to the people of God.

We are currently in the process of re-activating the CWL at Our Lady of the Visitation Parish. We hope to receive our Charter in January 2012. Our annual dues will be collected starting in September for the year 2012 at a cost of \$25.00. This includes the "Constitution and Bylaws Booklet", membership card and a subscription to the "Canadian League Magazine" (which is published three times a year.)

Our members will be involved in various ministries, activities and interests at an involvement level of their choice. We will strive to pull together in various adventures to nourish our Catholic faith and families. Our

activities will provide support to existing programs, i.e. KOC, Parish Council etc. while seeking the opportunity to grow spiritually. We come together to rejoice in God's greatness and to unwind from the challenges of our world. Our Parish level council will consist of President, President Elect, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and nine Standing Committees.

All ladies are encouraged to attend our next meeting on **Wednesday, September 21st at 7:30PM** in the parish hall. Several positions are still available for your consideration and membership is open to those 16 years of age or older.

Our Lady of Good Counsel, Pray for Us.

For more information, contact Sandra Blais (President) at [jsblais@allstream.net](mailto:jsblais@allstream.net)

- ◆ Offerings
- ◆ Baptism
- ◆ Confirmation
- ◆ First Communion
- ◆ Reconciliation
- ◆ Anointing of the Sick
- ◆ Marriage
- ◆ Funerals
- ◆ RCIA
- ◆ Cemetery
- ◆ Liturgy and Worship
- ◆ Announced Masses
- ◆ Prayer Group

## Mass Schedule

Wednesday - 9:00 a.m.

Thursday - 9:00 a.m.

Friday - 9:00 a.m.

Saturday - 5:00 p.m.

Sunday - 9:00 a.m. (Children's Mass)

Sunday - 11:00 a.m.



## Parish Services

We support our community with a complete set of services, including **weddings, baptisms, and funerals**, held at the beautiful Our Lady of the Visitation Church.

Our beautiful parish hall is an amazing facility to accommodate many of these events and our staff is open to all requests and can support your special requirements with the personal touches you need.

## Upcoming Events

- ◆ September 17/18: Time and Talent
- ◆ September 24: Oktoberfest
- ◆ October 16: Harvest Supper
- ◆ October 21-23: William Buchanan Art Show
- ◆ November 19: René Cera Art Show
- ◆ November 20: Senior's Appreciation Dinner
- ◆ December 3 and 4: Bazaar & Bake Sale
- ◆ December 4: Choir Concert
- ◆ December 11: Children's Christmas Party
- ◆ December 18: Quilt Raffle Draw

**TIME AND TALENT:** We need you! Here's a great chance to find out about our volunteer opportunities and upcoming events and tell us about how you may be able to help! Check the Website for details!!

For more details, visit:

[www.olvis.ca](http://www.olvis.ca)  
and

[www.avisitationbanquetcentre.com](http://www.avisitationbanquetcentre.com)

**WILLIAM  
BUCHANAN**

*René Cera*

*Art Shows*

## Legacy and Pledge Campaign - Contributed by Marie Trojan

As of the end of August, parishioners and friends of the parish have donated over \$28,000 for 2011. That leaves \$22,000 to be raised by the end of this year. Bids are being received for the paving, curbs and landscaping. We will do as much as funding allows us this year. Father Brian asks that you take it to prayer and be as generous as possible. Thank you for your continued support!

**Donation Plaques:** This fall, we will start putting up the donor recognition plaques in the entrance

way to the Hall. We will start with the Founder's Group for donations \$2,000 and over. What a wonderful way to be part of your parish's great heritage!

Please visit [www.olvis.ca](http://www.olvis.ca) for more details and **make your contribution today!** Thank you for your consideration to participate in the Pledge Campaign for your parish, and for your ongoing prayerful support and thoughtfulness.

## First Reconciliation and Communion

- Contributed by Sacramental Preparation Committee

Each fall children in grade 2 and above begin preparing to receive the sacraments of first reconciliation and first communion. Our program is family and parish based and is complimented by the teaching the children receive in our catholic schools. The sacramental preparation program begins with parent information meetings in October. At the Rite of Welcoming, in early November, the children officially begin their preparation.

Fr. Brian and the Sacramental Preparation Committee members work together with grade 2 teachers at St. Mary School to support the children in their faith journey. Each fall, grade two students and teachers from Saint Mary's have a class trip to OLV and Fr. Brian teaches them about the things you see in a catholic church and their significance. The program is made up of several components: attendance at Mass, completing Mass activity sheets, and workbooks which provide teaching about each sacrament.

First Reconciliation is held in late winter and First Communion is held at selected regular Sunday Masses during the Easter season.

### First Reconciliation and First Communion 2011/2012

- Eligible age: children in Grade 2 and above.
- Parent meetings at OLV:
  - Wednesday, October 19, 7:00 pm
  - Sunday, October 23, 12:30 pm
- Rite of Welcoming: Early November TBA. Families are requested to attend so that the children can be welcomed into the program and receive their program workbooks.
- FIRST RECONCILIATION SERVICE will be held at OLV Church in late winter/early spring 2012; Date TBA
- FIRST COMMUNION celebrations will be held during regular Sunday Masses (by reservation only) during the 2012 Easter season.

### Confirmation

- Eligible ages: Children in Grade 6 and above
- Children will register and complete parish confirmation program
- Confirmation is celebrated by Archbishop Prendergast during the Easter season 2012 (date will be set by the Archdiocese).

## Book Your Next Event

- ◆ Wedding receptions, anniversaries, birthdays, trade shows, seminars, community events
- ◆ Call (613) 822-1777
- ◆ Visit [www.avisitationbanquetcentre.com](http://www.avisitationbanquetcentre.com)





**Our Lady of the Visitation**  
5338 Bank Street  
Gloucester, Ontario  
K1X 1H1

Phone:  
(613) 822-2197

Fax:  
(613) 822-0393

E-mail:  
[olvis@rogers.com](mailto:olvis@rogers.com)  
or  
[communications@olvis.ca](mailto:communications@olvis.ca)

**We're on the Web!**  
[www.olvis.ca](http://www.olvis.ca)

Revenue Canada Charity  
128967353RR0116

## Visit our Website

Staying in touch with our parishioners, supporters, and community members is important to us. We launched our Website - [www.olvis.ca](http://www.olvis.ca) - in 2008, to broaden our reach and make it easier for everyone to find out what's going on at Our Lady of the Visitation.

**FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION, INCLUDING POSSIBLE DATE and TIME CHANGES, ENSURE YOU VISIT THE WEBSITE.**

We encourage you to visit the Website today and browse the up-to-date information on upcoming and past events, updates on fundraising efforts, summaries of parish services, and other updates.

Please provide us feedback on what you'd like to see on the Website by contacting [olvis@rogers.com](mailto:olvis@rogers.com).

To receive future issues of our newsletter, join our E-mail list by sending an Email to [communications@olvis.ca](mailto:communications@olvis.ca) today!

*Heather Anderson, Webmaster, Newsletter Editor*

## Contact Us

Father Brian Hennessey, the many volunteers, and the friendly office staff are all available to answer your questions about our church, events, and the benefits of getting involved.

Please phone or Email [olvis@rogers.com](mailto:olvis@rogers.com) with newsletter contributions, suggestions, comments, or questions about OLV.

*Newsletter contributors:*

*Father Brian Hennessey, June Peter, Heather Anderson, Marie Trojan, Cathy Philpott, Sandra Blais. Peter Huszcz*

## Bazaar & Bake Sale

Tables are available at \$25.00 for OLV's Bazaar & Bake Sale on December 3rd and 4th. Call the Hall office at 613-822-1777 for information.



*Book Your Next Event at A  
Visitation Banquet Centre*

## Oktoberfest -- Saturday Sept 24<sup>th</sup>

Join us for fun evening with authentic German food. Music by the famous Edelweiss Band from Montréal and entertainment by the GTEV Maple Leaf Almrausch Schuhplattler Folkdancers who performed last year and are the best in Canada!. Tickets are \$30.00 per person and reserved seating for groups of 4 or more can be arranged. Only 160 tickets are available **and they are selling fast!** Call 613-822-1777 for information or visit [www.olvis.ca](http://www.olvis.ca).



*Oktoberfest*