

DECEMBER 3 • 2023

# FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



## **Our Lady of Good Counsel Catholic Church**

8601 Wolftrap Rd., Vienna, VA 22182-5026

P: 703.938.2828 • F: 703.938.2829

[www.olgcva.org](http://www.olgcva.org) • [www.olgcschool.org](http://www.olgcschool.org)

*Administered by the Oblates of  
St. Francis de Sales*

## **Mass Schedule**

Mon-Sat - 8:30am; 9am on holidays

Saturday Vigil 4pm

Sunday 8am, 10am (online),

12pm (en español), 5pm

## **View Mass Online**

[www.youtube.com/c/StreamingOLGC](http://www.youtube.com/c/StreamingOLGC)

## **Chapel open for prayer**

Mon - Fri, 9am - 5pm

**Confessions** Saturdays 9:00am

or by appointment

## **Office Hours**

Mon - Fri 9am - 4:30pm,

Closed 12-12:30pm for lunch

## **The Advent Wreath**

The Advent wreath is a beautiful and powerful symbol of everything we celebrate during this season of prayerful waiting. Many of us are probably very familiar with what the Advent wreath symbolizes.

There are four candles. Taken together, the four candles represent the four thousand years of waiting for the coming Messiah on the part of the ancient people of Israel. On each of the four Sundays of Advent another candle is lit. So, week after week, the wreath is bathed in more and greater light as we prepare for the birth of Jesus, the Light of the World.

The wreath is circular in shape. A circle has no beginning and no end. Thus, it stands for God for whom there is no beginning and no end.

The plantings that shape the wreath are green, the color of hope. They represent our hope for the coming of the Lord!

Each week parishioners assist the priest or deacon with the lighting of the candles. This symbolizes the collaboration between clergy and people, Church and world, in living and acting in such a manner as to make all of creation and every person ready for the triple Coming of Jesus: at his birth in Bethlehem, at the end of History in glory, and in each and every present moment of life!

The Advent Wreath is not just a thing of beauty. It represents the hopes and aspirations of every human heart, from the first stirrings of faith in the peoples of ancient Israel to each one of us who gather at Mass during the brief but beautiful Season of Advent.

—Rev. Lewis Fiorelli, OSFS

*“Salt and sugar are  
both excellent things, but  
too much of either spoils  
the dish.”*

— St. Francis de Sales

*“La sal y el azúcar son  
cosas excelentes, pero una  
cantidad excesiva  
estropea el plato.”*

— San Francisco de Sales





## Mass Intentions/ Intenciones de la Misa

Presider schedule available at:  
[bit.ly/OLGC-Presider-Schedule](http://bit.ly/OLGC-Presider-Schedule)

**Sat. Dec 2, 2023, / Sun. Dec 3, 2023**

+ Richard Calder  
+ James Kennedy  
+ Christopher Spagnoli  
+ Bill Horan  
+ Taddeo Barchitta

**Monday, December 4, 2023**

8:30am + Colleen Sheehan

**Tuesday, December 5, 2023**

8:30am + Manuel Marbella

**Wednesday, December 6, 2023**

8:30am + Eduardo Samson

**Thursday, December 7, 2023**

8:30am Jason Paul Tarazi Jr.  
7:00pm + Carlos & Irma Soler

**Friday, December 8, 2023**

8:30am + Lydie Gaspard  
12:10 The OLGC Community

**Saturday, December 9, 2023**

8:30am For all those who mourn

**Sat. Dec 9, 2023, / Sun. Dec 10, 2023**

+ Gabby Bruno  
+ Nancy Oliver McDonough  
+ Ruben Perez  
+ Wilfredo Banez Sr.  
+ Nicholas Robert Hoy

**Please keep those listed in the prayer  
intention book and the recently  
deceased in your prayers.**

+ Grace Kennedy

**We pray for those for whom  
candles are lit:**

Church: In thanksgiving for our OLGC  
Community

Chapel: For a fruitful Advent season

Our Lady: In thanksgiving for  
Antonio and Nicolas Berrios

## Welcome to Our Lady of Good Counsel

**W**e, as members of Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish, strive to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ by proclaiming our faith, educating ourselves and our children, sharing our persons, resources and gifts in the care and service of one another. We are called to foster an environment of hospitality in accordance with the Spirituality of St. Francis de Sales.

Please be in contact with our staff if you have questions about any matter related to the life of the church. Below is a list of the many people here to help.

**Pastor** Rev. Matthew Hillyard, OSFS.....frhillyard@olgcv.org  
**Parochial Vicar** Rev. Mathias Kumar, OSFS.....mkumar@olgcv.org  
**Retired** Rev. William Metzger, OSFS.....william.metzger@olgcv.org  
**Retired** Rev. Lewis Fiorelli, OSFS.....lfiorelli@oblates.org  
**Deacon** Christopher Moore .....cgmoore@olgcv.org  
**School Principal** Robin Williams 703.938.3600 .....rwilliams@olgcv.org  
**School Admissions & Testing** Valerie Taylor 703.938.3600 .....vtaylor@olgcv.org  
**Liturgy/Music/Funerals** 703.896.7411 .....liturgy@olgcv.org  
**Children's Faith Formation** Amy MacKinnon 703.896.7426 .. amackinnon@olgcv.org  
**Faith Formation Office** Jackie Madden 703.896.7415.....jmadden@olgcv.org  
**Dir. of Faith Formation/Youth** Derek Rogers 703.896.7409 .....youth@olgcv.org  
**Communications/Bulletin** Maude Hales 703.896.7412 .. communications@olgcv.org  
**Director of Finance** Emilynda Clomera 703.896.7402 .....eclomera@olgcv.org  
**Records Manager** John League 703.896.7413 .....records@olgcv.org  
**Child Protection Liaison** Christine Moan 703.896.7423 .....cmoan@olgcv.org  
**Advancement/Annual Giving** Alison McKee & JoAnne Kinyon . advancement@olgcv.org  
**Events Manager** Frank Fletcher 703.896.7418 .....events@olgcv.org  
**Events & Fellowship Coordinator** Pam Trimble 703.896.7457 .. ptrimble@olgcv.org  
**Parish Office Manager** Maria Romero 703.896.7419.....welcome@olgcv.org  
**Intentions/Ministry of Care** Maria Romero 703.896.7419.....welcome@olgcv.org  
**RCIA/Adult Sacraments** Barb Steele .....rcia@olgcv.org  
**Información en español** Maria Romero 703.896.7419 .....welcome@olgcv.org  
**Pastoral Council** (Tina Wickham) .....PastoralCouncil@olgcv.org  
**Finance Council** (Regina Stranix) .....FinanceCouncil@olgcv.org  
**Society of St. Vincent DePaul** (Linea de Ayuda) 703.938.3210.....svdp@olgcv.org  
**Respect Life/Gabriel Project** Betsy Argauer 703.255.3744 .....betstim@gmail.com  
**Knight of Columbus Santa Maria Council #4654**.....www.knightsvienna.org  
**Counseling** Catholic Charities **Consejería** Caridades Catolica .....703.425.0109

Our website, [OLGCVA.org](http://OLGCVA.org), is a source of lots of information about our parish life. There are a number of ways you can communicate with staff for specific needs through the site. The links below provide first steps to various things you may need.

OLGC Funerals: [www.olgcv.org/liturgy-worship/funerals](http://www.olgcv.org/liturgy-worship/funerals)

Devotional Candles: [www.olgcv.org/liturgy-worship](http://www.olgcv.org/liturgy-worship)

Join the Parish: [olgcv.org/register](http://olgcv.org/register)

Schedule an Event: [olgcv.org/about-us/facilities](http://olgcv.org/about-us/facilities)

Add Item to Bulletin/Media: [olgcv.org/about-us/communications](http://olgcv.org/about-us/communications)

Mass Intention Request: [olgcv.org/liturgy-worship/devotions/mass](http://olgcv.org/liturgy-worship/devotions/mass)





# THE CORNERSTONE PROJECT

## THE TIME IS NOW

We have **\$2M** to raise by December 31 in order to fund The Cornerstone Project.

Giving Tuesday is November 28th, a generosity movement that unleashes the power of people to transform their community.

Each one of you is a cornerstone of OLGC, and your actions make our community of faith stronger. Together, we can do extraordinary things for our spiritual home.

As you consider Giving Tuesday and your year-end giving, we ask you to direct your support to The Cornerstone Project with a gift over and above your typical offertory.

### Completed Projects (FY21-23)

Phase 1 & 2 School HVAC  
Campus security system  
School flooring  
Bell Tower crack repair  
Church sound system  
Church walls crack repair

### Upcoming Projects (FY24-27)

Phase 3 HVAC system & rooftop units  
Campus roofing  
Narthex flooring  
Narthex bathrooms  
Church flooring  
Parking lot resurfacing  
Church pew refurbishing  
*and more*



## THE CORNERSTONE PROJECT

### PLEDGE COMMITMENT

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

In support of The Cornerstone Project, I/We pledge the following:

☐ \$100,000 ☐ \$75,000 ☐ \$50,000 ☐ \$25,000 ☐ \$15,000 ☐ \$10,000 ☐ \$5,000  
☐ Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payable as follows:

☐ Annually ☐ Quarterly ☐ Monthly

Timeframe:

☐ 5 yrs ☐ 4 yrs ☐ 3 yrs ☐ 2 yrs ☐ 1 yr

Payment Method:

☐ Faith Direct ☐ Check ☐ Electronic Funds Transfer ☐ Check this box and the Office of Advancement will contact you to establish your gift.



**Scan  
QR Code  
to donate  
now**

## Readings for the Week/ Lecturas de la Semana

### Week of December 3-10, 2023

#### SUNDAY First Sunday of Advent

Is 63:16b-17, 19b, 64:2-7; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19;  
1 Cor 1:3-9; Mk 13:33-37

#### MONDAY

Is 2: 1-5; Ps 122:1-2, 3-4b, 4cd-5, 6-7, 8-9; Mt  
8:5-11

#### TUESDAY

Is 11:1-10; Ps 72:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17; Lk 10:21-24

#### WEDNESDAY

Is 25:6-10a; Ps 23:1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6; Mt 15:29-37

#### THURSDAY Memorial of Saint Ambrose, Bishop and Doctor of the Church

Is 26:1-6; Ps 118:1 and 8-9, 19-21, 25-27a; Mt  
7:21, 24-27

#### FRIDAY Solemnity of the Immaculate

#### Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Gn 3:9-15, 20; Ps 98:1; 2-3ab, 3cd-4; Eph 1:3-6,  
11-12; Lk 1:26-38

#### SATURDAY

Is 30:19-21, 23-26; Ps 147:1-2, 3-4, 5-6; Mt 9:35-  
10:1, 5a, 6-8

#### SUNDAY Second Sunday of Advent

Is 40:1-5, 9-11; Ps 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14; 2 Pt 3:8-  
14; Mk 1:1-8

### Monthly Collections

Fiscal Year July 2023—June 2024

	Sep 2023	Oct 2023
Offertory	167,288	194,571
Total Budgeted	168,507	206,494
Variance	(1,219)	(11,923)
YTD Received	453,665	648,236
Budget YTD	528,747	735,241
Variance	(75,082)	(87,005)

### Weekly & Second Collections

You may give with checks or cash  
via envelopes, give online at  
[membership.faithdirect.net/VA875](http://membership.faithdirect.net/VA875),  
or text amount to 703.810.7674.  
Thank you.

### December Collections

- 3 Christmas Flowers
- 10 Catholic Charities
- 25 Christmas Journey

## Calendar (Subject to change, updates at [www.olgcva.org/about-us/calendar](http://www.olgcva.org/about-us/calendar))

### December 4—10

#### MONDAY

Little Rock Scripture Study	10 - 11:30 AM	Zoom
Rosary Makers	10 AM - 12 PM	SJC-Aviat Rm
Funeral: Grace Kennedy	11 AM - 12 PM	Chapel
Quilters	11 AM - 3 PM	off site
House League/CYO	4:30 - 9 PM	Fr. Brisson Gym

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#### TUESDAY

Tuesday Bible Study	9:45 - 11:45 AM	Zoom
Daisy Girl Scout Troop 50296	3 - 5 PM	School-Loft
Girl Scout Troop 50274	3 - 4:30 PM	SJC-Brisson Rm
House League/CYO	4:30 - 9 PM	Fr. Brisson Gym

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#### WEDNESDAY

Girl Scout Troop 50198	3 - 4:30 PM	SJC-Brisson Rm
House League/CYO	4:30 - 8 PM	Fr. Brisson Gym
BSA Troop 976 Adult Mtg	6:30 - 8:30 PM	School
BSA Troop 976 meeting	7 - 8:30 PM	Counsel Rm
RCIA Catechumenate	7:30 - 9 PM	SJC-Brisson Rm
St. Vincent DePaul Society	7:30 - 9 PM	Narthex Mtg Rm
Men's Basketball	8 - 10 PM	Fr. Brisson Gym

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#### THURSDAY

Prayer Shawl Ministry	9:30 - 11 AM	SJC-Brisson Rm
House League/CYO	4:30 - 8:30 PM	Fr. Brisson Gym
Immaculate Conception Eve Mass (Bilingual)	7 - 8 PM	Church
Men's Basketball	8:30 - 10 PM	Fr. Brisson Gym

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#### FRIDAY

Immaculate Conception Mass	8:30 - 9:30 AM	Church
Immaculate Conception Mass	12:10 - 1:10 PM	Church
Girl Scout Troop 50118	2:45 - 4:45 PM	DeSales Hall
House League/CYO	4 - 9 PM	Fr. Brisson Gym
Open Mic Night	7 - 10 PM	DeSales Hall

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#### SATURDAY

Elementary CCF	8:30 - 10 AM	School
Confessions	9 - 9:30 AM	Reconciliation Room
Baptisms	10 - 11 AM	Chapel
Elementary CCF	10:30 AM - 12 PM	School
Sweets with Santa	1 - 4 PM	DeSales Hall
BSA Troop 976 Leadership Training	3:30 - 7 PM	SJC-Brisson Rm

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#### SUNDAY

Christ House Food Collection	9:30 AM - 1 PM	Parking Lot-St Joseph Center
Children's Liturgy of the Word	10 - 10:30 AM	Chapel
Breaking Open the Word	10:30 - 11 AM	Chapel
Grief Support Group	1:30 - 3 PM	SJC-Brisson Rm
Nightlife	6 - 8 PM	DeSales Hall
Jr. High CCF	6:15 - 7:45 PM	School

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## Sweets with Santa!

Please join us for OLGC Sweets with Santa on December 9<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 4 pm, before the 4 pm Mass. Skip the mall, save money, savor sweets and see Santa with your OLGC community!

The \$20 per ticket cost is for children only. Accompanying adults are no charge. Ticket cost includes a visit with the OLGC Santa as well as a printed 5x7 picture with Santa in a personalized event frame. You will also receive an electronic version of your photo.

This will also be an opportunity to hear from one of the beneficiaries of our Joy of Christmas Giving Program—St. Vincent de Paul Society, drop off your previously-wrapped gifts chosen from the Giving Tree, or select a gift from the Giving Tree. At 3:15, before mass, the children will receive a “J is for Jesus” Candy Cane lesson. Please join us for 4 pm Mass after the event.



We encourage you to purchase tickets in advance but they will also be sold at the door.

## Merry Christmas!

Order your tickets now at [olgcv.org/fellowship/sweets-with-santa](http://olgcv.org/fellowship/sweets-with-santa).

Schedule your photo with Santa at [bit.ly/OLGC-Santa-photo](http://bit.ly/OLGC-Santa-photo)

Sign up to help out at [bit.ly/OLGC-Santas-helper](http://bit.ly/OLGC-Santas-helper)

## Support OLGC This Holiday Season

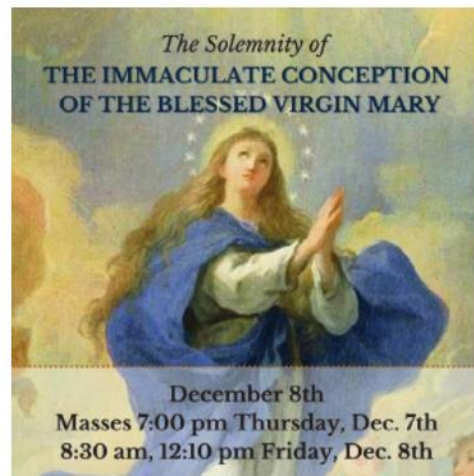
The OLGC Parish Office is selling the 2023 official White House Christmas ornament (\$25). Last year's White House Christmas ornaments are also available (\$20), as well as a limited number of other ornaments and candles. Check, cash & credit card accepted. Stop by parish office M-F 9am - 4:30pm.



## In November, we welcomed our newest members to the OLGC community through the waters of baptism:



Sven Kristoff Kobosko	Henry Peter Battjer
Hailey Marie Hughart	Gael Jesus Villanueva-Nolasco
Benjamin Stolle Tucker	Carlos Alberto Cruz Bautista
Naomi Gail Byers	



## Christmas Flower and Environment Collection

This annual collection is taken up to help to cover the costs of decorating the church for Advent and Christmas seasons. It is through this collection that the OLGC community “decks the halls” for the holiday season. Your donation provides for the festive celebration of Christmas.





## TUESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

### James Bible Study: Pearls for Wise Living



James is one of the most practical books of the Bible. Its teachings speak loudly to those who feel torn between the competing demands of this world and their faith.

This study offers "pearls for wise living" by applying the wisdom of James to our current day. For anyone who has struggled to live a truly Christian life, James offers a wealth of practical solutions for handling and even sanctifying everyday circumstances.

OLGC Tuesday Morning Bible study *James: Pearls for Wise Living* begins on January 9 at 9:45 am by Zoom. Participants will meet every week to view an engaging video presentation followed by a time of lively group discussion and fellowship.

For more information contact Fran Davenport for zoom link at [bwdavenport@cox.net](mailto:bwdavenport@cox.net).

To order the study set for \$29.95: *James: Pearls for Wise Living* Workbook with Digital Access visit [ascensionpress.com](http://ascensionpress.com)

## Single Seniors

The Single Seniors will meet at 11:30 am at Olive Garden on December 8 for food and fellowship. We will enjoy a luncheon in a private room. As always, we encourage newcomers to join us. Please RSVP to David Graf at 703.938.2962.



## OLGC's Joy of Christmas Giving

### Adopt a Family

Add a family in need to your gift giving this year. Families are referred to the program by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Vienna public schools, and OLGC families. If you would like to sponsor a family on your own, or team up with friends, co-workers, or parish groups, contact Fran Davenport at 703.867.3278, Maria Madocks at 703.319.0010 or via email at [olgchristmasgiving@gmail.com](mailto:olgchristmasgiving@gmail.com) to be matched with a family.

### Giving Tree

Bring a smile to someone's face this season by choosing a tag from the Christmas Giving Tree in the Narthex and purchasing a gift. The Giving Tree supports individuals through charitable organizations in our community.

For those wishing to participate online, visit [bit.ly/online-giving-tree](http://bit.ly/online-giving-tree). Questions? Contact Theresa Caputy at [etlc26@aol.com](mailto:etlc26@aol.com) or

Chris Desmarais at [chrisdesmarais526@gmail.com](mailto:chrisdesmarais526@gmail.com).

### VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

If you'd like to do more, help is needed as we collect, organize, hand out and deliver Christmas gifts. Sign up at [bit.ly/giving-tree-volunteers](http://bit.ly/giving-tree-volunteers).



## CYO Tennis: Wimbledon II Champions

Congratulations to our Wimbledon II team for their outstanding first-place victory!

To the US Open I, II and Wimbledon I teams, a heartfelt note of admiration for your dedication and sportsmanship throughout this successful season. Your

commitment has been truly inspiring.

To our invaluable team coaches, volunteers, and supportive family and friends, your unwavering dedication made this season's success possible—thank you!





## Información Parroquial en español

Preguntas o sugerencias, ofrecer misas, pedir oración durante la misa por recién fallecidos, funerals, comuníquese con Maria 703.896.7419, [mromero@olgcv.org](mailto:mromero@olgcv.org)



### EL ADVIENTO

El Adviento comienza el 3 de diciembre, cuatro Domingos antes de la Navidad, es decir, 4 domingos antes del nacimiento de nuestro señor Jesús; lo que significa la llegada de un nuevo año litúrgico y con ello la posibilidad de una vida más plena, una vida "Haciendo Algo Nuevo". La luz, la esperanza y la alegría le dan sentido a esta temporada y la Corona de Adviento es el símbolo de todo ello: "ella recuerda que la luz se irá abriendo paso en medio de la tiniebla y que la vida triunfará sobre la muerte. Esa luz no es otro que Dios hecho hombre: Jesucristo", El domingo 10 de diciembre celebramos el Segundo Domingo de Adviento vamos a encender la segunda vela

de nuestra corona como signo de que seguimos preparándonos para recibir a Jesús con el corazón reconciliado.

### SACRAMENTO DEL BAUTISMO DE NIÑOS MENORES DE 6 AÑOS:

Comuníquese con Maria Romero 703.896.7419 [welcome@olgcv.org](mailto:welcome@olgcv.org)  
Sacramento del bautismo: para Charlas de padres y padrinos deben inscribirse de antemano, una vez completada esta y entregado los documentos requeridos le confirmaremos su fecha del bautizo. [olgcv.org/sacraments/baptism](http://olgcv.org/sacraments/baptism)

### CONFESIONES

Confesiones en español durante el mes de noviembre son el sábado 11 y 18 de 9 - 9:30 a.m. o de lunes a

jueves únicamente con cita. Puede llamar para hacer una cita con el Padre Mateo al 703.938.2828 o envíe un correo electrónico a [frhillyard@olgcv.org](mailto:frhillyard@olgcv.org). No se escuchan confesiones los domingos antes o después de la misa.

### CORNERSTONE

El mes de junio lanzamos nuestro Proyecto Cornerstone; Pueden encontrar información adicional en nuestro correo electrónico semanal, en el mostrador de bienvenida o en nuestra página web. Nuestro Párroco P. Hillyard les pide como comunidad en espíritu de oración, consideren donar y ayuden a recaudar 12 millones de dólares. La parroquia tiene urgencia de hacer reparaciones de nuestra instalaciones de la iglesia y la escuela. Recuerde no importa la cantidad solo le pedimos que cada familia se comprometa a apoyarlo. Puede usar el código QR. Gracias por su generosidad.

### REZAR EL ROSARIO

Acompañemos en el jardín de Ntra. Sra. del Buen Consejo, los domingos a las 11:15am y los lunes a las 7:30pm vía Zoom. Comuníquese con Carlos Berrios [berrioscg@gmail.com](mailto:berrioscg@gmail.com).



### CELEBRACIÓN DE LA VIRGEN DE GUADALUPE

La misa de Ntra. Sra. de Guadalupe será el martes, 12 de diciembre. Tendremos una presentación de la aparición, procesión, misa, el milagro de las rosas y un compartir después de la misa.



# Senior Moments

Marge Van Lierde  
Gitkagirl@gmail.com  
571.831.3951



## SEASONED CITIZENS' LUNCHEON

"A Most Wonderful Time" is the theme of this month's luncheon for seniors of OLGC. And it's also a promise that if you come, you'll have lots of fun. It will take place on Thursday, December 14 when the doors to DeSales Hall will open at noon. This is the time to wear that Christmas sweater, scarf, or other holiday garb to add to the festivities!



The menu will feature lasagna, mixed vegetables, Italian garden salad, garlic bread, dessert, and beverages. In addition, Hector Munk will be entertaining you again with his superb piano renditions of seasonal songs and carols. Together with being able to visit with your friends and perhaps make some new ones, this event promises to be perfect for firing up that Christmas spirit!

Although there is no charge, reservations are required, for planning purposes. Email [seasonedcitizens@olgcvva.com](mailto:seasonedcitizens@olgcvva.com), call Dagny at 703.281.5525, or RSVP at [bit.ly/Seasoned-Citizens-Dec2023](http://bit.ly/Seasoned-Citizens-Dec2023). Please note that take-home meals

are only available for homebound OLGC parishioners. Contact Heidi to make arrangements: [heidilinksnyder@gmail.com](mailto:heidilinksnyder@gmail.com).

The book swap table will be available. Thank you so much for your donations of books and jigsaw puzzles (nothing else, please). The next luncheon will take place on February 15.

## ADVENT AND THE WREATH

This weekend we celebrate the first Sunday in Advent, and every year I like to begin this season with a short reflection. This time it's about the wreath, written by Maria Rodgers O'Rourke.

"Since the Middle Ages, the Advent wreath has been part of Christian spiritual preparation for Christmas. This tradition emerged from an ancient practice of farmers and laborers who, having completed the season's harvest, used greenery and candles to celebrate the solstice and the coming spring.

The wreath is rich in symbolism for Advent preparation. The light is, of course, that of Jesus Christ, coming to a world so desperately in need of his perfect love. The greenery assures us that no matter the losses or challenges we face, God's love renews any situation, resurrecting that which was thought to be dead.

The wreath's circle symbolizes the Advent journey. As we've discovered in life, the attainment of wisdom and peace is not a linear journey, rather, it is a circular one. We may travel through the same issues many times in life, but when we face these issues with open hearts, we grow ever closer to God. This month, we will journey with Mary and Joseph, the Magi, and Christians around the world and rediscover the light and life of Jesus Christ. Light an Advent wreath this year. Celebrate these blessed days that focus our attention on the reason for the season."

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

As the need is growing for additional assistance for the elderly in our area, more volunteers are needed. Perhaps one of the things you might consider once the busyness of the holidays is over is to volunteer for the Shepherd's Center. There are many needs, but it appears the greatest is for drivers. Those are the "angels" who pick up folks who don't drive any longer and have no way of getting to their medical appointments or to shop.

You can choose how often you drive, and how many hours a week or a month you can give of your time for this worthy cause. Believe me, at the end of the day, you'll find you got more than you gave. If you can drive once a week? Great! If it's only once a month, that's great too. You'll be doing a wonderful service to those who no longer can manage to get where they need to be.

The benefits of volunteering include receiving a sense of achievement and purpose. It helps you feel part of a community. It helps you feel better about yourself by improving your self-esteem and confidence. It allows you to share your talents, learn new skills and create a better balance in your life. It also helps combat stress, loneliness, social isolation, and depression. Best of all, you meet new people, which can help you feel more connected and valued. Please, think about all of this and if you're willing to help, call the Shepherd's Center, 703.281.0538.

## Elder Wisdom

Friends are relatives you  
make for yourself.

—Eustace Deschamps





## GOOD THINGS HAPPENING @ OLGC SCHOOL

### Thanksgiving Joy

Our Kindergarten students helped us kick off the Thanksgiving holidays by leading us in Mass this past Tuesday, November 21. After leading us in Mass they did a marvelous job at presenting the beloved "Turkey Tango" tradition that started over ten years ago!



### DINING FOR DOLLARS

#### Grab a Smoothie and Support OLGC!

Wed. Dec. 5, 4-8pm

A portion of every smoothie purchase goes to OLGC PTO

WHOLE FRUITS.  
ORGANIC VEGGIES.  
NO SYRUPS.  
NO COMPROMISES.



258 Maple Avenue E, Vienna

### DINING FOR DOLLARS

There's nothing BASIC about Dining for Dollars in December!

BASIC  BURGER

Wednesday, Dec. 12, 4-9pm,  
head to Basic Burger in Vienna  
for a delicious burger, chicken, salad,  
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### Upcoming Diocesan Events

Visit [arlingtondiocese.org/all-events](http://arlingtondiocese.org/all-events) for details

**Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
for Couples Struggling with Infertility,  
Miscarriage or Infant Loss led by  
Bishop Burbidge  
Monday, December 4 | 7:30pm

**The Significance and Science of**  
**Our Lady of Guadalupe**  
Tuesday, December 5 | 7:30pm

**Popular & Precarious: The Science,**  
**Silence and Solutions with IVF**  
Wednesday, December 6 | 7:00pm

**Cooking up Some Fun**  
Saturday, December 9

**Mass & Rosary in Thanksgiving**  
for the Gift of Human Life  
Saturday, December 9



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