We, the parish community of The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary, in union with the guidance of the Holy Spirit and the leadership of our bishop and our pastor are called through Baptism to live the gospel of Jesus Christ. Through the sacramental life of the Church, especially the Eucharist, we are strengthened to live as a community committed to share the Word with all those in need with love and compassion, and to celebrate the fullness of life in Christ.
Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Weekly Mass Schedule

**Monday**
June 22
Father’s Day Intentions

**Tuesday**
June 23
Father’s Day Intentions

**Wednesday**
June 24
Margaret Brewinski offered by husband Joseph and daughter Margaret

**Thursday**
June 25
Father’s Day Intentions

**Friday**
June 26
Father’s Day Intentions

**Saturday**
June 27
Anthony Bitsko (Anniv.) offered by Family

**Sunday**
June 28
Living and deceased members of our parish

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**In Memoriam**

**Sanctuary Light**
Bernard Nelson, Edward J. Gliniecki, Sr., and Thomas Owens, Sr.
offered by grandchildren & great grandchildren

**Altar Candles**
David P. David
offered by wife, children & grandchildren

**Bread & Wine**
Joseph Thomas & William Rutkowski, Sr. & Jr.
offered by Joseph & Beverly Thomas

**Steeple Lights**
David P. David
offered by wife, children & grandchildren

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**Yellow Phase**

Daily Mass will be held
Monday through Friday
at 7:30 A.M.

**Guidelines:**
1. Reservation needed through the parish website (www.vbvm.org), not the office.
2. If vulnerable because of a medical condition or age, do not come to church.
3. Mask must be worn (remove only to receive communion, then must be replaced).
4. Designated seating only as indicated and directed.
5. Sanitize hands in church vestibule.
6. Immediately leave church after communion.

THE CHURCH WILL NOT BE OPEN ON SATURDAY OR SUNDAY until we begin to resume public Masses because of sanitization requirements.

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**The Church will be Open for Private Prayer**
MONDAY – FRIDAY ONLY
8:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

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**Happy Father’s Day!**

Gracious God and Father, our first father,
You are the One who has brought us to life in this world you created.
You created us and everything around us.
We turned away from you and only after disappointing you did we return your love.

Look with favor on our earthly fathers.
They helped create us in your image.
We have disappointed them, but have come to realize just how important they are to us.

Bless all our fathers, living and deceased, with comfort and health.
We bring all their needs to you and ask for strength so they may live worthy lives.

We ask all this in the name of your Son, our model of what it means to reverence our fathers.
In Christ’s name. Amen.
Dear Parishioners,
Sunday Masses will begin once we are able to welcome, seat and direct the number of those who register to attend one of our three weekend Masses. We will open one Mass at a time, beginning with whichever Mass is able to be handled according to the directives during the yellow phase of the pandemic.

**Two groups are needed for each Mass:**

**MUGgers:** these volunteers will combine the roles of Minister of hospitality, Usher and Greeter. They are needed to direct those who register to attend a particular Mass to a designated seat which complies with social distancing. They will remind you to sanitize your hands and wear a proper face covering. They will monitor the communion lines and direct the congregation to exit the church in an orderly way which maintains social distancing; they will insure that bulletins are available as you leave church and lock the doors so that the church can be properly sanitized at the end of each Mass.

**SANITIZERS:** a group of at least four volunteers who will wipe down all of the surfaces which have been touched immediately following the Mass. Particular attention should be given to the tops of the pews and sides, door handles and rails, and the restroom (upstairs only). Supplies will be provided: spray bottles with cleansing solution, cloths, and gloves. Anything left in the pews will need to be properly discarded. Any valuables such as rosaries, glasses, etc. should be wiped and placed in a plastic bag.

Please fill out the portion below and return by regular mail to Visitation of the BVM Church, 1090 Carmalt St., Dickson City, PA 18519 or email to vbvm@comcast.net. You may also provide your willingness to volunteer on our parish website www.vbvm.org.

In order to communicate with our parishioners in a more efficient manner, it is extremely important that we have an email address for you and/or a cell phone number for text messages. Such means of communication are both time and cost effective.

Please be sure to check the parish website, www.vbvm.org, regularly for information. The parish bulletin is also always posted there along with other important announcements from the bishop and diocese.

------------------------------------------------------------------Cut here and return bottom portion------------------------------------------------------------------

NAME:
ADDRESS:
Telephone:
Mobile Phone:
Email:

Please check if YES: I am able to volunteer as a MUGger [ ]
I am able to volunteer as a Sanitizer [ ]

Please check the Mass(es) you are available for:
Saturday 4:00 PM [ ]
Sunday 8:00 AM [ ]
Sunday 10:30 AM [ ]
GOSPEL MEDITATION
ENCOURAGE DEEPER UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE

There are many things of which we can be afraid: being rebuked, rejection, anger, being challenged, having to defend ourselves, standing alone, insecurity, failure, and even death. For some, identifying and overcoming their fears is a daunting task. Regardless of how much they may want to break the cycle of fear, they find that they remain close friends with old and dysfunctional behavioral habits and norms. Maybe what they really fear is change. There are many who gravitate to the familiar and comfortable, and find safety and security in doing so, even if they remain mired in mediocrity. Human beings have to learn that there is life beyond the “what has always been” and that happiness and depth are possible when old structures and systems have to be left behind.

Can you leave the near and dear, the comfortable and familiar, the safe and secure, and discover new opportunities? The sheer thought of doing so can bring on feelings of apprehension, intense anger, resentment, defensiveness, reluctance, resistance, and even apathy. If we have to be responsible for making the change, cowardice can creep in. And if someone else is to blame for making the change, any number of possible negative reactions are possible. In the end, only one thing is required and that is God. If I can rely on and deepen my relationship with God, especially in the Eucharist along with a community of believers, then little else is of great concern. We have to figure out what is really important. It is not always what we think.

The Gospel calls us to stretch ourselves and try new things, not to remain stuck and stagnant in familiar ways. We are asked to live life more deliberately, radically, and intentionally. We are asked to leave the familiar behind and learn to live with changing, and often limiting, human structures. We cannot get too caught up in the physical, ideological, or structural systems we are used to. The Holy Spirit always leads and guides us. If we trust this, we will find ourselves doing things we never thought we could do. Always seek the path to joy and love. They keep us from falling victim to our fears and from seeking the nostalgic crutches we think we need to achieve a sense of well-being and happiness.

“Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father’s knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.” - Mt 10:29-31


SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS
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**WILL YOU SAY YES?**

You find yourself in the difficult situation of being accused of blasphemy and confronting possible execution. Your crime is believing in Jesus Christ. The question is then asked of you, “Are you a Christian, a follower of the one named Jesus Christ?” Your answer may very well dictate what happens to you next. What is your answer?

It is probably easier to answer this question when the scenario is make-believe. All of us want to believe that we would say yes to the question of belief in Jesus, but strange things happen when humans panic in the face of extreme stress. As we reflect on what we would say, there are those all over the world who are being asked that very same question. It is a question that was asked of many in the first centuries of the Church. Those who respond “yes” are considered martyrs and saints.

We might not usually think of all this in terms of good stewardship living. However, our faith is also a gift we have received from God to cultivate, grow, and share with others. The more interesting question than the one posed above is, “Would an accuser even think of asking you such a question?” Would you have cultivated, grown, and shared your faith enough that anyone would even consider you worthy of asking the question? They might assume you don’t know Jesus Christ at all. I don’t like conflict and do not seek out conflict, but I would rather someone ask the first question posed than assume there is no reason to confront me in the first place.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

**WHY DO CATHOLICS GIVE THE SIGN OF PEACE TO ONE ANOTHER AT MASS?**

The sign of peace is a part of the Mass that takes place immediately after we offer the Lord’s Prayer. Inspired by Jesus’ words to his first followers, we stand together in a spirit of communion to pray as Jesus taught us: “Our Father who art in heaven...” In this prayer, we call for the coming of God’s kingdom in all its fullness and ask that God provides for our needs — “Give us, this day, our daily bread” — to forgive our sins and to bring us to the joy of heaven.

It is almost natural, then, that the rite of peace would follow. As the celebrant prays that Christ’s peace will fill our hearts, our communities, the Church, and the whole world, we extend to those around us a sign of peace (usually a hug or a handshake) as a symbol of the communion that we experience now and will experience forever in the fullness of the reign of God.

We are also reminded of Jesus’ teachings that if we are at prayer and remember that a brother or sister is holding something against us, then we are to go and seek reconciliation with them before we continue our prayer (see Matthew 5:23). And so, the sign of peace also reminds us of the need to truly be in communion — united in love and peace — with God and one another before we approach the altar to receive the Eucharist.

So, the next time you’re at Mass and the time comes for the sign of peace, remember that this is a moment to celebrate the gift of Christ’s peace that each of us has received from God and to pass that peace along to those around us. We need this moment to practice, because this is also the same peace of Christ that we are instructed to carry out into the world at the end of Mass when the priest or deacon says to us, “Go, in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.”

To learn more, see the “Catechism of the Catholic Church” (no. 857-862 and 880-882).

![Image](https://example.com/image.png)

*When you pass through waters, I will be with you.*

**ISAIAH 43:2**

**JUNE 21, 2020**
PRAY

Compassionate and Loving Father,
In the face of confusion and concern impart to us the calm of Your presence.
In You allow us to find hope and healing.
Be with those who serve the sick and give them Your caring hands.
Be with those who lead and give them Your spirit of wisdom.
Be with those who have fallen ill and give them Your comforting heart.
Wrap Your arms around our world and hold us in Your love.
Allow us at this time of trial to then serve as instruments of that love to all we meet.
We ask this in Your Name.
Amen

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2020 | 12TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME