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.
### Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

#### Weekly Mass Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Mass Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>June 29</td>
<td>Litak, Stec, Bieniesz &amp; Jedyniak Families</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>Father’s Day Intentions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>Father’s Day Intentions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>July 2</td>
<td>Sophie &amp; John Tomko, Philip &amp; Richard Tomko, Kyle Locker offered by the Tomko Family</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>July 3</td>
<td>Stephen Vavrick (Anniv.) offered by wife Adrienne &amp; children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday</td>
<td>July 4</td>
<td>Cecelia Kman Woloch offered by Kathy &amp; Dennis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>July 5</td>
<td>Living and deceased members of our parish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### In Memoriam

**Sanctuary Light**  
Anthony Bitsko offered by family

**Altar Candles**  
Frank Salva offered by family

**Bread & Wine**  
Frank Salva offered by family

**Steeple Lights**  
Frank Salva offered by family

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**YELLOW PHASE**

Daily Mass is being celebrated 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.

**THE CHURCH WILL BE OPEN FOR PRIVATE PRAYER**
MONDAY – FRIDAY ONLY
8:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

**COMING SOON**

Live Streaming the Mass

As soon as we are able to get the technical and mechanical details taken care of we will begin to live stream Masses.

More information to follow.

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**SUPPORT Local ADVERTISERS**

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**4th of July**

**HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**HOME OF THE BRAVE**
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:**

**MINISTERS OF HOSPITALITY:** 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 M of H

Please check the Mass(es) you are available for:

I am able to volunteer as a M of H  

Saturday 4:00 PM

Sunday 8:00 AM

I am able to volunteer as a Sanitizer

Sunday 10:30 AM
CEMETERY REGULATIONS:
Please remember the following:

THE ONLY ITEMS ALLOWED ON GRAVES ARE:
- United States Flag in holder
- Military Marker
- Approved Vigil Candle/Light
- Live Flowers (See below for flower bed dimensions)
- Artificial flowers in pots (See below)
- Flower arrangement on top of the headstone
- Mulch

REGULATIONS:
- FLOWER BEDS may not extend more than one foot (12”) from the front of the monument and may not extend past the sides of the monument. Flower beds must be maintained in a reasonable manner. Flowerbeds that become overgrown or unsightly will be cut by the cemetery personnel.
- NO BORDERS ARE ALLOWED. No stones, bricks, wood, marble chips, gravel, metal, plastic, or fencing of any kind are allowed around monuments. Cemetery personnel will remove them.
- NO KNICK KNACKS, STATUES, BOTTLES, MUGS, VASES, ETC. ARE ALLOWED.
- Flower beds may contain mulch.
- ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS cannot be stuck directly in the ground. They cause a hazard when grass cutting and weed trimming and will be removed. ALL ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS MUST BE IN POTS AND AT LEAST 6” OF POT MUST BE ABOVE GROUND. When artificial flowers get caught in the wire from the weed whacker/mower they become very dangerous projectiles and can cause serious injury.
- FOUNDATIONS Parish office approval for all headstones, markers or other work is required.
- TREES AND SHRUBS ARE NOT ALLOWED. Existing overgrown or unattended trees and shrubs will be removed at the caretaker’s discretion.
- VIGIL LIGHTS must be in an enclosed container and must be placed close to the monument. No exposed glass candles.
- FLAGS AND MILITARY MARKERS are to be placed close to the monument to avoid being damaged by mowers and trimming equipment.
- TRASH is to be placed in the dumpster next to the shed in the “New” cemetery. Trash in the “Old” cemetery is to be placed in the cans at the entrance.
- TRASH MUST NOT BE DUMPED IN THE WOODS OR RAVINE!
- ANY AND ALL OBJECTS THAT PRESENT AN OBSTACLE TO THE CUTTING OF GRASS OR THAT MAY BREAK OR CAUSE INJURY OR BECOME UNSIGHTLY WILL BE REMOVED.
- PLEASE DO NOT DRIVE ON GRASS!
- DOGS ARE NOT ALLOWED IN THE CEMETERIES!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

MAUSOLEUM REGULATIONS:
- Contact the parish office for flower vases, photos and veterans markers. No unapproved items may be placed on crypts.
- Nothing may be placed in the mulch around the mausoleum with the exception of American flags in Bronze military holders.
- Dogs are NOT allowed in the cemeteries.

There are several pre-selected locations for memorial benches available. If you are interested in donating a bench contact the parish office.

Thank you for your cooperation! If you have any questions, please call the parish office.

BEQUESTS TO THE PARISH
Our parish is always grateful for your financial support. A bequest in your will, no matter the amount, will help the parish continue its mission of serving God’s people. Such a decision could be a worthy and personally satisfying deed. Your financial support will go a long way in helping to maintain the church and its ministries. Thank you!
GOD IS LOVE

I was recently at a Catholic conference and had a conversation with someone living in the thick of Hollywood culture. He was Catholic and spoke of how hard it was to live out his faith amid tremendous temptation and negativity toward religion. He spoke about how going to daily Mass helped to keep him centered and stay strong in his faith. He was a great witness to living out one’s faith in the face of disbelief.

One thing that he told me stood out above all the rest. He spoke of his engagement to his fiancé and how important it was to him that God was a major part of their relationship and their lives as individuals as well. He told me he said something to her like, “If you don’t love Jesus more than you love me, this is never going to work.” What an amazing and truly moving witness!

Songs and books are written about the intense longing one human being can have for another. We can describe another as meaning everything to us. We speak of wanting to offer our complete selves to our beloved. However, true love is about more than wanting to be with that person. It is about wanting that person to know a love even greater than theirs: the love of God. No love can last without God. My Hollywood friend knew this to be the case. He showed his true love for his wife-to-be by sharing more than himself — he shared the very One who created love.

—Tracy Earl Welliver, MTS

WHY DO CATHOLICS CALL PRIESTS FATHER?

One of the common objections evangelical Christians have to Catholics is our practice of calling priests by the title Father. They will often cite a passage in Matthew’s Gospel in which Jesus tells his followers: “Call no one on earth your father; you have but one Father in heaven” (23:19). It seems pretty straightforward, but when we put this verse in context, we see that Jesus is speaking out against religious leaders who had forgotten what their proper role was and who were bad examples through their own hypocrisy and elitist attitudes.

In other Gospels, we find Jesus himself using the title father for different characters, such as in the Parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man (Luke 16:19-31) and the Parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32). If we put the verse from Matthew into the full scope of Jesus’ teachings, he isn’t saying that we can’t use words like “father,” “rabbi,” or “master.” Rather, he is telling us that we should be mindful of the full meaning of those titles and not to misuse them.

To call a priest “Father” is more than a sign of respect for the office of the priesthood. It goes all the way back to the way St. Paul understood his own work as a missionary and evangelizer. Paul wrote, “I am writing you in this way not to shame you but to admonish you as my beloved children ... It was I who begot you in Christ Jesus through my preaching of the Gospel. I beg you, then, be imitators of me. This is why I have sent you Timothy, my beloved and faithful son in the Lord” (1 Corinthians 4:14-17).

Yes, we have God alone as our heavenly Father, but there are also those here with us who nurture and nourish our faith through their teaching and care. This is why the title of Father has been applied to the church’s pastors in different ways since the earliest days of the Church, including monks and nuns using the title “abbot” and “abbess” (from abba) for their spiritual leaders and Christians around the world recognizing the “Holy Father” or “pope” (from papa) as the head of the family that is the Church. The title Father is a reminder that priests have a special responsibility to care for, protect, feed, listen to, and nourish those who have been entrusted to them, all after the example of our Father in heaven who never ceases to give us what we truly need.

JUNE 28, 2020
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