

ST. VICTORIA PARISH FAMILY



Our Mission

“St. Victoria is a Catholic family
inviting all to celebrate the Eucharist in the spirit of
fellowship and love. We worship together,
seek formation of youth, provide opportunities for spiritual
growth and community involvement while reaching out to all as
the face and hands of Jesus Christ.”

Fourth Sunday of Advent December 18, 2016

Liturgical Schedule

Saturday: 5 p.m.

Sunday: 8:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.

Daily: Tuesday through Friday 8 a.m.

Communion Service: Monday - Friday 6:30 a.m.

Eucharistic Adoration: Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Reconciliation: Saturday 6 p.m. or by appointment

Rosary: Tuesday - Friday 7:40 a.m.

St. Anthony Novena: Tuesday after Mass

Marriage: call nine months in advance, 443-2661

Baptisms: 443-2661

Prayer Line: Dianne Leahy, dleahy1969@gmail.com

Mary Moore, 443-2443

Catholic United Financial: Darlene Williams, 403-6959

RCIA Coordinator: Deacon Ray Ortman, 443-2661

Parish Pastoral Council: Kari Lenzmeier, 442-9289;

Mary Siegfried, 448-3031; Paul David, 612-518-9119;

Kathy Hester, 442-1506; John Hintzen, 393-5014;

Michelle Kunze, 612-669-9717; Chris Fischer, 240-9012;

Judy Iverson, 949-0229; Dan Maus, 443-2504

Parish Finance Council: Bob Bruers, 807-1803;

Margaret Hanson, 443-2648; Jim Curran, 679-4407

Patrick McKinney, 470-6210; Tim Amundsen, 443-2531;

Ralph Hatch, 472-3532; Andrew Cone, 443-4048.

Trustees: Margaret Hanson, 443-2648 and

Jim Curran, 679-4407

Parish Team

Pastor

Fr. Robert White, 443-2661 x205, bwhite@stvictoria.org

Deacon and Administrator

Ray Ortman, 443-2661 x203, rortman@stvictoria.org

Director of Music and Liturgy

Elizabeth Nowak, 443-2661 x207, enowak@stvictoria.org

Director of Adult, Children and Youth Formation

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Receptionist

Mary Catino, 443-2661 x200, mcatino@stvictoria.org

Communications Supervisor/Bulletin Editor

Mary Harvey, 443-2661 x206, mharvey@stvictoria.org

Parish Office

Hours: 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Weekdays

8228 Victoria Drive, Victoria, MN 55386

Phone 952-443-2661 Fax 952-443-3866

www.stvictoria.net



Fourth Sunday of Advent December 18, 2016

The readings for December 25

Christmas Readings

Reading I: Isaiah 9:1-6

Reading II: Titus 2:11-14

Gospel: Luke 2:1-14



Luke records the birth of the child with tender simplicity and stresses the theme of poverty all through his Gospel. The people have reason to be joyful because in David's city a Savior is born; he is the Messiah and Lord. These three — Savior, Messiah, Lord — are Luke's favorite titles for Jesus. The song of the angels, "Glory to God in the Highest," is the response. God has sent the Prince of Peace with the fullness of *shalom* (peace and blessings) to all. All are the objects of God's gracious love.

Question of the Week

How do you share the true joy of Christmas with others?

Welcome to St. Victoria

If you are a visitor at St. Victoria, welcome. If you would like information on becoming a registered parishioner at St. Victoria, please feel free to contact Julie Schmieg in the parish office. She will be happy to line up an appointment for you at one of our upcoming "Bien Venidos" registration dates for new parishioners. (Bien Venidos means good welcome.) You may reach Julie at jschmieg@stvictoria.org or 443-2661 x201. **(Please Note:** If you are a guest at St. Victoria and would like to make a contribution, you will find "Welcome Envelopes" in the kiosk in the Commons.)

Ministry of Spiritual Direction

Explore a closer relationship with God. Call Deb LeMay at 297-4255 or Craig Hamilton at 612-237-3463 for information and/or an appointment. Scholarships are available. Call the parish office for details.

Baptism Information

- Baptisms are celebrated on designated weekends during all three Masses and after the 5 p.m. Saturday and 10:45 a.m. Sunday Masses. The next scheduled Baptisms are the weekends of **January 14 and 15** and **February 18 and 19**. **Please note:** Baptisms are not celebrated during Lent (March 1 to April 15.)
- You may have two sponsors (Godparents), one man and one woman, or just one sponsor.** At least one sponsor must be a Confirmed, practicing Catholic and they must be at least 16 years old.
- Parents are required to have attended a Jordan Night within the previous five years **before** a scheduled Baptism is celebrated. The next Jordan Night (Baptism class) is **Thursday, February 23**.

Contact Mary Harvey at mharvey@stvictoria.org or 443-2661 x206 for information and/or to schedule a Baptism.



...to be the face and hands of Jesus Christ

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, **December 20** — Ray Jendro †

Wednesday, **December 21** — Rose Marie Pfaff †

Thursday, **December 22** — Myron Mechtel †

Friday, **December 23** — Ken and Deb Diethelm †

Saturday, **December 24** — 4 p.m. Children Worldwide

6 p.m. Visitors to St. Victoria

10 p.m. Parishioners of St. Victoria

Sunday, **December 25** — 9 a.m. Peace on Earth

Christmas Flower Donations

It's that time of year again! Time to think about beautifying our space for the Christmas Season with flowers and plants. As we do each year, we are accepting donations for flowers in memory of, or in honor of, loved ones. All donations/memorials are due by Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25.

Simply turn in your donation along with a note saying who it is from and the names of those to be remembered. Mark the envelope "Christmas Flowers: Attention Elizabeth."

You can mail the envelope to the church, drop it in the collection basket at Mass, or stop by and drop it off at the parish office. Checks should be made out to St. Victoria. A list of all memorials will be provided in an insert in a bulletin during the Christmas Season. Merry Christmas!



Communion at Home

If you, or someone you know, is unable to come to Mass on a weekday or weekend (surgery, accident, illness, etc.), parishioners who are a part of the **St. Victoria Pastoral Care Team** will be happy to bring Communion to your home. It can be a one-time only occasion or on-going for as long as you like. To arrange for Communion at home, please call **Mary Foster at 368-9405**.

Mass for Those Who Are Homebound

If you, or a family or friend, is unable to get to church because of age, illness, or other struggles, this Christmas morning and every Sunday, Heart of the Nation will televise Catholic Mass at 9:30 a.m. on WUCW (CW) channel 23. Included are prayer intentions from viewers, uplifting homilies and a Prayer for Spiritual Communion during distribution of the Holy Eucharist. Closed-captioning is available and you also can watch Mass online by going to www.heartofthenation.org.

Pallium Mass

You are invited to a Pallium Mass today, Sunday, December 18, at 2:30 p.m. at the Cathedral of St. Paul. At this special Mass, the Apostolic Nuncio will confer the pallium on Archbishop Hebda. The pallium is an ecclesiastical vestment, three fingers wide and woven of lamb's wool, that was blessed at St. Peter's Basilica by Pope Francis on the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul on June 29. Originally worn by the Pope, today it is worn by Bishops to symbolize jurisdiction as delegated by the Holy See.

(If you are unable to attend the Pallium Mass, it will be broadcast live on Local Cable Channel 6 and live-streamed at www.archspm.org/PalliumMass.)

**Thank you for sharing your time, talent
and treasure with St. Victoria**

From the Pastor's Desk...



Advent

Advent is a time of waiting and a time for prayer. Each week we light a candle on the Advent wreath with prayers for hope, joy, love and peace.

Prayer for the First Week of Advent

From light comes life.

Deep in expectant earth, a seed stretches.

Through the fire-start of imagination, an idea takes root.

In a passionate flash, love glows from infant intensity.

Safe in the womb, a child senses its season turning and stirs.

*It is Advent, something coming, vulnerable in
its unstoppable desire.*

*God, unquenchable light, may they grow — the seed,
the love, the idea, the child.*

Prayer for the Second Week of Advent

*In the settle and stir of a burnt-orange sunrise, in the lilting
laughter around a table full of friends, in the flash of clarity
that turns on the light of insight and leads us towards
wisdom, we find the peace that passes all understanding.*

Prayer for the Third Week of Advent

*As we hope for your arrival, as we pray for peace in your
living, as we wait and watch and wonder how you might
reveal yourself to us, God give us joy in your Advent.*

Prayer for the Fourth Week of Advent

*Let the light shine. Let your spirit soar. Throw open your
mind. Hand over your heart to love.*

*It shines in the darkness. It sings in the shadows. It will not
cower and cannot be contained.*

It was the hope of the saints, the call of the prophets.

*It was the fire in the belly of the Baptist and
the courage of Mother Mary.*

**Now, we begin this week of waiting for the glorious
announcement that our Lord and Savior has been born.
I look forward to celebrating this precious moment with
each of you at one of our Christmas Masses.**

Singing With the Pope

And, speaking of celebrating, **Randy and Anna Shay** have a special reason to celebrate this Christmas Eve.

The University of St. Thomas Liturgical Choir has been invited to sing for the Christmas Midnight Mass at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome on December 25, with Pope Francis presiding. Their son, **Sam**, a sophomore at St. Thomas, is a member of that choir.

The Sistine Chapel Choir is the principal choir for all papal liturgies, and the Liturgical Choir will sing next to the Sistine Chapel Choir as the *coro guida*, the choir guiding the congregational singing at the Mass. The Liturgical Choir was selected to participate in the Midnight Mass after submitting recordings to the Vatican. The Midnight Mass will take place during the choir's 10-day pilgrimage to Rome, Vatican City, Florence and Assisi. (Check your TV schedule to see if the Midnight Mass is being televised.)

Fr. Bob

There is Eucharistic Adoration every Thursday in the Historic Church beginning at 8:30 a.m. (after Daily Mass) and ending at 8 p.m. Seek the Lord and know the Lord is lovingly seeking you. **Chaplet of Divine Mercy follows.**

Happenings at St. Victoria...

Holiday Schedule

- **Today, Sunday, December 18**, 5 p.m., Christmas Concert and Children's Christmas Pageant
- **Thursday, December 22**, 6 p.m., Individual Confessions
- **Saturday, December 24**, Christmas Eve Masses at 4 p.m., 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. with caroling at 9:30 p.m.
- **Sunday, December 25**, Christmas Day Mass at 9 a.m.
- **Saturday, December 31**, New Year's Eve Mass 5 p.m. (Regular weekend Mass)
- **Sunday, January 1**, Feast of the Holy Family Masses at 8:45 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. (Regular weekend Masses)
- **Saturday, January 14**, 8 a.m., Men Building Bridges Prayer Breakfast

Sharing and Caring Hands

Volunteers from St. Victoria will help serve a meal at Sharing and Caring Hands **tomorrow, Monday, December 19**. St. Victoria serves this ministry the third Monday of every month. If you would like to volunteer, or for more information, contact Coordinator Peter Taunton at 567-5990.

Save the Date

It's not too early to mark your calendar for our annual Men Building Bridges Prayer Breakfast on Saturday, January 14. It is always an inspiring start to the New Year.

Elsewhere...

- **Living and Growing Through Loss**, sponsored by Southwest Grief Coalition, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie. 5:30 gathering with light supper, 6 p.m. speaker, 6:30 adult small groups, 6 p.m. children's group. No cost; church affiliation not required. Topic Dec. 19 is "Moving Forward in Hope" with Paul Nelson, Senior Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran.
- **Annual Christmas Dinner Dance** sponsored by Catholic Single Adults Club of the Twin Cities, Saturday, January 7, at Gulden's Restaurant in Maplewood. Dinner at 5:30 p.m., dance at 8 p.m. Cost for dinner and dance is \$25; dance only is \$10. Dinner reservations due by Monday, Dec. 26. Call Carl at 651-603-1412 or Greg at 651-636-3508. (Membership open to single Catholics, 21 or older. Call 651-368-5003 for more information.)
- **Worldwide Marriage Encounter** at Kings House in Buffalo is Feb. 10 to 12. For information go to twincitieswwme.org.
- **First Annual Women's Retreat** at St. Therese of Deephaven, "God is Love: Prayer, Forgiving and Healing" with Fr. Jim Livingston. Friday Jan. 13 at 5:45 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 14, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Cost is \$50. For information and registration go to www.sttherese.org.
- **Year-End Retreat**, "Both Now and Forever: Reflections on the Mystery of Time Itself" led by Br. David Paul Lange, OSB, at St. John's Abbey Guesthouse, Friday, Dec. 30, 5:30 p.m. to Sunday, Jan. 1, at 1 p.m. \$195 for single room; \$340 for a double. Info and registration at www.abbeyguesthouse.org or 320-363-3929.

Faith Formation

Important Upcoming Dates

- **December 17 and 18 — Every Envelope Counts Scholarship**
- **December 18** — Pageant and Christmas Concert
- **December 21** — No Faith Formation or Confirmation
- **December 25** — No Children's Liturgy of the Word
- **December 28** — No Faith Formation or Confirmation
- **January 1** — No Children's Liturgy of the Word
- **January 4** — Faith Formation and Confirmation resumes
- **January 8** — Children's Liturgy of the Word

Youth Ministry

Advent Bible Study

Thank you to the parents who joined in our study. And, look for more opportunities coming soon.

Mission Trip 2017

Fundraisers

We are so excited for our Mission Trip to the Crow Reservation in Montana this summer. In order to help our St. Victoria youth raise money to cover travel expenses, we had our inaugural fundraisers last weekend. Thank you so much for your amazing support for these fundraisers — Every Envelope Counts and our Gift Wrapping Service. Your generosity with the gift wrapping and envelopes is overwhelming as you helped us raise \$1,240 so far for our trip expenses.

The students and parents had so much fun wrapping presents for you and they look forward bringing you this service again next year.

Every Envelope Counts Sponsorship

We have decided to have our "Every Envelope Counts" Sponsorship again this weekend, December 17 and 18, after all Masses. Every envelope and every dollar counts. Feel free to drop off your envelopes after Mass at the table in the Commons. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts. Merry Christmas to you from our mission trip students!

Confirmation to Lifeline

The Confirmation students will be going to a Lifeline Event at the Net Center on January 7 from 4 to 10:30 p.m. to enjoy awesome music, Mass, Adoration and hear Fr. Mansford speak on "Living Radically." Fr. Mansford, a native of England who lives in Harlem serving the poor and preaches the Gospel across the US, will speak about the freedom that the Holy Spirit desires to give us so that we can live radically for God. Please register for this great event on the parish website.

Mark your Calendar

We are excited to welcome back Nic Davidson, an amazing youth speaker, for our January 11 sessions of EDGE and Confirmation. Nic will break open the Gospel of Life with our teens. Parents are welcome and encouraged to join us.

Faith Formation

Christmas Pageant

I hope you are planning on joining us today (December 18) in the Worship Space at 5 p.m. for our Christmas Concert and
Continued

and Christmas Pageant. This year we have combined the concert and pageant into one and it will no doubt be the perfect way to celebrate the season. Join us for this beautiful night reflecting on the season through music and watching the children of our parish bring the Nativity to life.

Chillfest 2017

It's time once again for the very popular middle school lock-in! Chillfest 2017 will take place the night of Friday, January 27. We will begin at St. Victoria with Mass, then head over to the Chaska Community Center for lots of fun. In the wee hours of the morning we will return to St. Victoria to watch a movie before heading home to rest. Registration and information is available on the parish website. Contact Sara in the parish office if you have any questions.

Blessings —

**Emily Klinker, Sara Svenby,
Ann Esping, Tanya Hisey**
(See our contact information on the front page.)

Take Note . . .

There are **reserved pews in the Worship Space**. The entire front and back rows of the first section on the parking lot side of the church are reserved for people with disabilities and/or limited mobility.

There are **assisted hearing devices** available in the Worship Space that allow individuals to hear through their own personal hearing devices. If this is something you would find helpful, ask the volunteer at the sound board for assistance.

There are two **wheelchairs and a walker** by the coat rack for use by parishioners needing assistance.

In an emergency, after calling 911, there is a **defibrillator** in the Historic Church Sacristy. Directions for its use are included in the case.

Upcoming Events

Prayer Vigil for Hope, Healing and Mercy on Saturday, January 21, 7 to 11 p.m., at St. Mary's Chapel at the St. Paul Seminary. For over 40 years legalized abortion has left many men and women empty, confused and longing to be whole again. This vigil is open to all and is a special invitation to those who have been hurt by abortion to pray for hope and healing. Archbishop Hebda will celebrate Mass at 7 p.m. Find details at archspm.org/events or contact Sonya Flomo at 651-291-4515.

Calling All Grandparents. Start the New Year with an opportunity for growth in faith and fellowship. An eight-week ETWN Video series for Catholic Grandparents will be offered at the Church of St. Joseph in Rosemount on Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., January 11 to March 8. The cost is \$10; scholarships are available. Contact St. Joseph Parish at 651-423-4402.

Called and Gifted Workshops to explore the ancient teaching of the Church on the gifts or charisms of the Holy Spirit in our life and the life of a parish. The two-day workshop is planned February 24 and 25 at the Church of St. Paul in Ham Lake. For more information, contact Jona Winkelman at jona@churchofsaintpaul.com or 763-757-6910.

Stewardship Report

Stewardship Report for **December 10 and 11, Week 24**, of our fiscal year:

Envelope Offering:	\$ 7,306
Electronic Offering:	4,537
Total Membership Offering:	11,843

Second Collection for Retired Religious: \$1,521
Immaculate Conception Mass: \$721

Please use your envelopes for your contributions.

Holiday Giving

Each holiday season, St. Victoria anticipates and relies on a seasonal increase in contributions. It is through the donations of every individual and family in the parish that we are able to carry on our work now and throughout the year. If you need a convenient way to make recurring contributions or plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, we encourage you to check out our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up around the holidays, you may find electronic giving a most welcome way to make your contributions.

If you plan to be away for an extended period this winter, you also might think about the convenience of electronic giving.

In all cases you might find regular electronic giving convenient. And, it makes budgeting easier for St. Victoria. You can find more information on our website, www.stvictoria.net, in the kiosk in the Franciscan Commons or call Joni Jeurissen in the parish office.

Year-End Reminder

All donations to St. Victoria that you want included in your 2016 contributions for tax purposes must be postmarked no later than Saturday, December 31, or received in the parish office by the end of the business day, Friday, December 30. The IRS does not allow exceptions.

Email Problems

We continue to experience periodic problems with email, most recently messages that were sent to the staff by way of our website. In addition, some of the emails we send are not arriving at their destination. If you are expecting an email and don't receive one from a staff member or if you are anticipating an answer from a staff member that does not arrive, please call the parish office and speak to the appropriate staff member. Also, be sure we have your correct email address and that St. Victoria has not been added to your Spam mail.

Christmas Shopping Made Easy

Stop by the parish office for last-minute Christmas shopping.

- CDs featuring St. Victoria talent, *Words of Life* and *All is Calm, All is Bright* are available for a suggested donation of \$15 each.
- Prints of the Historic Church, *Cherished Memories*, by parishioner Jim Hansel, small and large sizes for \$35 and \$50 respectively.
- Copies of the parish cookbook *What's Cookin'* for \$10 showcasing all our wonderful St. Victoria cooks.

Ministry Schedule

December 24 and 25

Sacristans

4 p.m.	Joyce Burau
6 p.m.	Tim Breslin, Julie Catalino
10 p.m.	Mark and Linnea Lynum
9 a.m.	Mary Ann LaValle, Sue Halvorson

Lector

4 p.m.	Leslie Becker
6 p.m.	Gina Holman
10 p.m.	Janie Jasin
9 a.m.	Tom Welch

Eucharistic Ministers

4 p.m.	David and Jessica Bruns, Marcus Hoffman, Mike Kokesh, Sharon Lauwagie, Louise Lehner, Jeff Lenzmeier, Kerry Leopold, Kathryn Paradise, Nancy Rezac, Elaine Scholl, Anna Shay, Carol Spalding, Karl and Patty Tauscher, Diane Theis
6 p.m.	Jim Alessio, Greg Butler, Rita Daly, Marge Diethelm, Cindy Eide, Bob Elfering, Ann Esping, Patty Frier, Cinda Jensen, Michelle Kunze, Michael Lanners, Tom and Dianne Leahy, Mary Moore
10 p.m.	George Barker, Mary Catino, Greg Erickson, Anne Fowler, Connor Glynn, Joyce Heiland, Todd Hesse, Roger Jackels, Joan Klinger, Amelia McGraw, Debra McMillan, Pat Moore, Ken Pavett, Luci Tellers
9 a.m.	Mary Bishop, Mike Doshan, Sam Fellinger, Joe Hamilton, Ruth Kroening, Deb LeMay, Lindsey Norton, Sue Schrempp, Mary Ann LaValle, Cassie Smith, Annette Smyser, Kari Struthers

Greeter/Usher

4 p.m.	Eric Hanson, Sharon Lauwagie, Kerry Leopold, Greg Pavett, Chastity Perkins, Matt White
6 p.m.	Elizabeth Contreras, Mark Lund, Scott Monson, Sandy Perkins, Daryl Schmieg, Ryan Wenning, Connor and Jeff Fowler, Cal Haasken, Joseph Happ, Mike Jeurissen, Lyle Oddan
10 p.m.	Pat Henning, Dave Kirsch, Gary Sohns, Rick Stucki, Dave and Rose Williams
9 a.m.	

Servers

4 p.m.	Jacob Lenzmeier, Grace and Madeline White
6 p.m.	Krew Barber, Mitchell Holman, Sydney Weinandt
10 p.m.	Grace Fowler, Lydia Jackels, Nick Payne
9 a.m.	Quinn Jenkins, Sarah Johnson, Mason Kalvoda

Sound

4 p.m.	Joseph Klinker
6 p.m.	Steve McNamara
10 p.m.	William Olson
9 a.m.	Phillip Smith

Music

4 p.m.	Little Ringers and Cantor Elizabeth Nowak — Acc. Sharon Schindler
6 p.m.	Cantor Caroline Swanson — Acc. Sharon Schindler
10 p.m.	Agape Singers — Acc. Amee Gallagher
9 a.m.	Cantor Elizabeth Nowak — Acc. Amee Gallagher

There is no Children's Literary of the Word Christmas Eve or Christmas Day

Stay Connected

Instagram is [st.victoriaparishfamily](https://www.instagram.com/st.victoriaparishfamily)
Twitter is [@Saint_Victoria](https://twitter.com/Saint_Victoria)
Facebook is St. Victoria Parish Family