

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.”

Second Sunday of Advent December 10, 2017

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: Michelle Kunze, 612-669-9717,
Paul David, 612-518-9119;

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

Chris Fischer, 240-9012; Judy Iverson, 949-0229;

Dan Maus, 443-2504; Jon Carlson, 210-8991;

Cynthia Hegarty, 612-251-4413;

Sue Schrempp, 443-2529

Parish Finance Council: Bob Bruers, 807-1803;

Margaret Hanson, 443-2648; Patrick McKinney, 470-6210;

Tim Amundsen, 443-2531; Ralph Hatch, 472-3532

Trustees: Margaret Hanson, 443-2648 ; Mike Werch, 484-0300

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, enowakstv@gmail.com

Director of Adult, Children and Youth Formation

Emily Klinker, 443-2661 x218, eklinker@stvictoria.org

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Sara Svenby, 443-2661 x219, ssvenby@stvictoria.org

Assistant Director for Youth Formation

Ann Esping, 443-2661 x202, aesping@stvictoria.org

Director of Shared Ministries

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Office Manager

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Ministry Support Services

Julie Schmiege, 443-2661 x201, jschmiege@stvictoria.org

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Eric Wahlund, 443-2661 x208, ewahlund@stvictoria.org

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



**Second Sunday of Advent
December 10, 2017**

The readings for December 17

Third Sunday of Advent

Reading I: Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11

Reading II: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28



In this Gospel, John the Baptist saw his role clearly. At the time John was writing his Gospel, followers of John the Baptist were claiming that he, not Jesus, was the Messiah. So here the Gospel writer emphasizes that John the Baptist saw himself as one to prepare the way for the Messiah. He is not the Messiah nor any of the others they suggest. He is just a “voice in desert” preparing the way for the Lord. His baptism is a simple water rite, unlike Jesus’ baptism in the Holy Spirit. John the Baptist proclaims the Good News of Jesus’ coming and prepares people’s hearts for that event.

Question of the Week

Are there “potholes” on your path to Jesus? What helps you to have faith?

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 Schmiege 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 jschmiege@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.)

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 **John Abel in the parish office.**

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 will be celebrated January 6 and 7.
- **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 be at least 16 years old.
- Parents are required to have attended a Jordan Night (Baptism Class) within the previous five years **before** a scheduled Baptism is celebrated. The next Jordan Night is scheduled on **Thursday, January 11.**
- For information or to schedule a Baptism, contact Mary Harvey at mharvey@stvictoria.org or 443-2661 x206.

Mass Intentions

Tuesday, **December 12** — Luis Santoyo
 Wednesday, **December 13** — Irene Schneider †
 Thursday, **December 14** — Jerome Williams (Anniv.) †
 Friday, **December 15** — Sharon Jacobs †
 Saturday, **December 16** — Chet Kraus †
 Sunday, **December 17** — 8:45 a.m. Willy Bongard †
 10:45 a.m. St. Victoria Parishioners

This Week in RCIA

“Hail Mary, Full of Grace – Mother of God and Our Mother.”

The Angel Gabriel declared to Mary that she was to be “hailed” and “full of grace”. She replied by foretelling that “all generations shall call me blessed.” We hear these ancient words over and over. Are they just platitudes or are they fundamental truths of Christianity? In RCIA this week, December 12, we will explore the truths about Mary and the role God established for her in His plan for our redemption.

Holy Hours for Vocations

All people in the Archdiocese are invited to participate in the Holy Hours for Vocations, a new program sponsored by the Archdiocese. The Holy Hours for Vocations are the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. Each month the Holy Hour will take place at a different parish in the Archdiocese. On December 12 the Church of St. Stephen in Minneapolis is the host church. Spend an hour each month praying for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, consecrated life and diaconate. For more information, visit www.1000vocations.org or call 651-962-6890.

Advent Reconciliation at Area Churches

- St. Mary's, Waverly, Monday, December 11, 7 p.m.
- St. Hubert, Chanhassen, Tuesday, December 12, 7 p.m.
- Our Lady of the Lake, Mound, Wednesday, December 13, 6:30 p.m.
- St. John's, Excelsior, Thursday, December 14, 6 p.m.
- St. Joseph, Waconia, Sunday, December 17, 4:30 p.m.
- Ascension, Norwood, Tuesday, December 19 at 5 to 6 p.m. and 6:15 to 8 p.m.
- St. Bernard, Cologne, Wednesday, December 20, 5 to 6 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m.
- St. Nicholas, Carver, Friday, December 22, 5 to 6 p.m. and 6:30 to 9 p.m. Mass 6 to 6:30 p.m.

Closings

If inclement weather should make it necessary to cancel an event at St. Victoria, including Faith Formation and Confirmation, the information will be sent via an all-parish email, be on the marquee in front of the church, appear as a “newsflash” on our website, www.stvictoria.net, and it will be announced on WCCO Radio and TV. If this occurs after regular business hours or during a weekend, office telephones most likely will not be answered. If you are scheduled to help with an event, donate food, etc., and there is bad weather (or for any other reason), please make sure you contact the coordinator of the event to make sure he or she is aware of any change in your plans. Thank you.

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



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



La Noche Azul

Looking back on last Monday evening, I have to say our annual La Noche Azul Dinner was simply magical. Perhaps it was the unexpected snowfall just when we sat down to the delicious dinner prepared and served by **Kim and Kevin Heenie** and their crew. Weren't the hors d'oeuvres a nice touch? Thanks to **John Abel**, Director of Shared Ministries, for his outstanding leadership and the help of his wife **Lauren** and this year's coordinators **Doug and Jan Wohlers**. The beautiful, seasonal decorations certainly added to the festive environment. Thanks to the decorating crew — **Amy Novogratz, Louise Lehner, Mary Kosel, Sam Fellinger and their helpers**.

Special thanks to **Gloria and Jeff Peterson** for planning and executing our first La Noche Azul Silent Auction. Thanks to their hard work, to all those who contributed items for auction and, of course, to all the high bidders, we are able to contribute \$5,400 to our Giving Tree Charities.

I hope you enjoyed **Joel Blunk** and his music. He has proven to be a great friend these past years and I was pleased that he was able to accept my invitation to help us celebrate La Noche Azul.

Finally, thank you to all who joined me. It was your spirit, the love and joy you shared, that truly made it such a special evening. I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did. I also hope everyone made it home safe and sound in spite of our surprising winter weather.

Our next special event is less than two weeks away. The annual Christmas Concert and Children's Pageant is at 5 p.m. on Sunday, December 17. Another event you don't want to miss!

Demontreville

Last spring we shared information about opportunities for spiritual growth for women in our parish. Now, I want to offer opportunities for the men in our parish. In the current issue of *The Voice* I wrote about my involvement with Men's Rite of Passage Retreats. (Talk to me if you want more information.) I also want to tell you about Demontreville Retreat Center near Lake Elmo, right here in Minnesota.

This Jesuit retreat center serves more than 3,000 men annually, including some from St. Victoria, providing an opportunity to know, love and serve God in this world. Based on the Spiritual Exercises taught by St. Ignatius of Loyola (1491-1556), this is a wonderful, faith-filled experience. Sessions are held several times each day based on those spiritual exercises and are followed by a free period to reflect on the present and apply them to your life. The retreat center is in a beautiful, natural setting conducive to personal reflection and with strict silence during the retreat (except after dinner each evening) it is an opportunity to truly listen for God to speak. Each retreat (there are 47 each year) includes about 65 participants with ten new men and 10 men from denominations other than Roman Catholic.

For many men this is an annual opportunity to "check-up" on their faith journey. I saw this personally growing up. My Dad went to Demontreville 44 years in a row and my brother Bill has gone 31-plus years. Ask me if you want more information or go to demontrevilleretreat.com.

Fr. Bob

Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration is every Thursday in the Historic Church beginning at 8:30 a.m. (after Daily Mass) and ending at 8 p.m. Chaplet of Divine Mercy follows.

Important Dates

- **December 17** — Annual Christmas Concert and Children's Pageant, 5 p.m.
- **December 22** — Individual Confessions, 6 p.m.
- **December 23** — Individual Confessions, after 5 p.m. Mass
- **December 24** — Christmas Eve Masses at 4, 6 and 10 p.m.
- **December 25** — Christmas Morning Mass at 9 a.m.
- **January 13** — Men Building Bridges Prayer Breakfast, 8 a.m.

Sharing and Caring Hands

Volunteers from St. Victoria will help serve a meal at Sharing and Caring Hands **Monday, December 18**. 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.

Simpson Housing

St. Victoria volunteers will prepare and serve dinner at Simpson House in Minneapolis on Sunday, January 7. Simpson Housing provides meals and overnight shelter for homeless men and women daily throughout the year. For more information or to volunteer, contact Kerry Stukenborg at kerrystukenborg@gmail.com.

Elsewhere...

- **West Suburban Grief Coalition** meeting at Oak Knoll Lutheran Church in Minnetonka, Thursdays, 4:30 to 6 p.m. Speaker Dec. 14 is Lizz Levang, Grief Therapist, "Holiday Grief." Call 546-5433 for information.
- **December Cursillo Western Ultreya** is Sunday, Dec. 10, 7 p.m., at St. Hubert Catholic Community (Room 116) in Chanhassen. Speaker is Deacon Francis Tangney. Rosary at 6:30 p.m. in the family room.
- **Discernment and Self-Honesty: Wisdom from the Benedictines**. St. John's School of Theology and Seminary Theology Day, Dec. 14. 6:30 to 9 p.m., at St. Frances Cabrini in Minneapolis. Details and registration at www.collegevilleMN.com/theologyday, 320-363-3560 or theologyday@csbsju.edu.
- **Man, Woman and the Order of Creation**, December 11, OEC Auditorium, U. of St. Thomas, 7:30 to 9 p.m. Explore the Catholic vision of the human person in its scientific, theological and social context. Free, open to the public. More info available at stthomas.edu/spssod/about/events.
- **Catholic Single Adults Club** annual Christmas Dinner/Dance, Saturday, Jan. 6, Gulden's Restaurant in Maplewood. Social hour and dinner at 5:30 p.m., dance at 7:30 p.m. Dinner and dance is \$25 (reserve by Dec. 27), dance only is \$10. Call Greg at 651-636-3508 or Carl at 651-603-1412 for dinner reservations. Must be 21 or older.
- **Women's Retreat**, "Full of Grace — Mary, The Model of Love" at St. Therese in Deephaven, Friday, Jan. 26, 5:45 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, Jan. 27, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Featured speakers are Sister John Paul and Sister Elizabeth, Franciscan Sisters of the Renewal from Bronx, New York. \$50 before Jan. 2; \$60 thereafter. Call 934-7021 for information or to register.

Faith Formation

Important Upcoming Dates

Adult Formation, Faith Formation, and Youth Ministry

12/10	Children's Liturgy
12/10	Face and Hands
12/13	Faith Formation and Confirmation
12/13	Final day for Giving Tree
12/17	Children's Liturgy
12/17	Children's Christmas Pageant and Christmas Concert
12/20	Faith Formation and Confirmation

No Faith Formation or Confirmation on December 27 or January 3. No Children's Liturgy on Sunday, December 24 or 31.

Adult Formation

RCIA

You are invited to attend any RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) session that sounds interesting. You will find the topic for each upcoming week on page two of the bulletin, on our website and Facebook page. Feel free to join us any Tuesday (or every Tuesday).

Volunteer Retreat

Faith Formation Volunteer Retreat is Wednesday, January 3, at 6:30 p.m. All our volunteers — catechists, small group leaders, hall monitors, childcare, RCIA leaders, VBS volunteers and Children's Liturgy volunteers — are invited. Our Faith Formation volunteers give so much to the adults, children and youth that this night is an opportunity for the Faith Formation Team to give back to them spiritually. (Note: All Faith Formation and Confirmation classes are cancelled so no one has to miss this great opportunity.)

Faith Formation

Christmas Pageant

It's time to start preparing for the annual Christmas pageant. The theme for this year's concert/pageant combo is "Christmas Favorites." This year we are looking for a few kids that would be willing to take on some minor speaking roles. For those interested in speaking roles, we can get started on learning lines right away. All kids age 4 and up are invited to participate in the pageant. Please contact Sara if your child is interested in being in the pageant. There are no small parts — only small actors!

6th Grade Family Advent Series

Last year we started something new and it went so well we are now making it an annual event for our 6th Grade families. During the month of December, we will be focusing our attention on Advent with the 6th Graders **and** their parents! So instead of dropping off your son or daughter, you are invited and encouraged to come and stay for the evening. We will have time to grow deeper in our faith together with the students and have a separate time just for the parents to continue the discussion. Last year, I had the opportunity to be with the adults each week and loved each night. I can't wait to meet with all of you this year! ~Emily

Youth Ministry

High School Mission Trip

We're pleased to announce that all spots for our Mission Trip to the Blue Ridge Mountains in North Carolina next summer are full. Watch for ways to help the youth with fundraising opportunities.

Electronics Gathering Dust?

If you made a spectacular purchase and have a Blue Ray Player or a flat screen HD TV 40 inches or larger that you no longer plan to use, the Confirmation team would be happy to take any items off your hands. Just give Ann a call.

Senior High Lifeline Event

How about kicking off the new year with a fun evening alongside 500-plus Catholic youth in our area? Join us for the January 6 Lifeline event in which we'll celebrate our faith with vibrant music, a dynamic speaker, Mass and Adoration. All are invited to join us as we caravan from St. Victoria at 4 p.m., stop for fast food, and attend the Archdiocesan Lifeline at the Net Center in St. Paul. We expect we will return by 10:30 p.m. The speaker that evening is Fr. Emmanuel Mansford, a Franciscan Friar who is a native from England and now lives among and serves the poor in Harlem. He'll be speaking about prayer in a session titled, "Obey your Thirst." Many wonder if we need to pray or how to pray. The truth is that our hearts deeply thirst for God, and prayer is a means to satisfy our longing. Fr. Mansford will help us learn how to pray in a way that connects us with God. Sign up on the St. Victoria website.

High School Bible Study

Interested in getting together for fun, snacks and talking about the Gospel of Mark? A High School, teen-lead Bible study is beginning on Sunday nights from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Try out any week or come for all. The upcoming dates are December 17, January 7 and 21 and February 4 and 18. Interested? Show up! Want more details, contact Ann and she'll add you to the GroupMe so you know the details.

Face and Hands Event

All are welcome to join us for our Face and Hands Event **today, Sunday, December 10 at 6 p.m.** The evening will feature singer, songwriter and inspirational speaker Luke Spehar. According to Matthew Kelly, founder of DynamicCatholic.com, "We all need to be inspired from time to time, especially in our spiritual journeys. Luke Spehar is using music in a powerful way to inspire the people of our times." The event will not only include an inspirational message from Luke, but also time for fun, hospitality and Mass. Hope to see you this evening.

Blessings Emily Klinker, Sara Svenby and Ann Esping

Stay Connected

Instagram is [st.victoriaparishfamily](#)
Twitter is [@Saint_Victoria](#)
Facebook is [St. Victoria Parish Family](#)
Parish Website is [www.stvictoria.net](#)

Stewardship Report

Stewardship Report for **December 2 and 3, Week 23** of our fiscal year:

Envelope Offering: \$ 28,027
Electronic Offering: 13,268
Total Membership Offering: 41,295

Thank you for using your envelopes.

Retirement Fund for Religious

This weekend, December 9 and 10, there is a second collection for retired religious. Elderly Catholic sisters, brothers and religious order priests served for years in Catholic schools, hospitals and parishes, often for little to no pay. Now there is a shortage in retirement savings. Your gift to the Retirement Fund for Religious provides funding for medications, nursing care and more. Please give to those who have given a lifetime. (In addition to the second collection this weekend, there are envelopes in the kiosk.)

Second Collection Reminder

Next weekend (December 16 and 17) there is a second collection earmarked for mortgage debt reduction. This special collection occurs the third weekend of each month. You may use the special envelope (pink) in your envelope packet, arrange for electronic deposit or contribute cash or a check when the collection basket is passed after Communion.

Important Year-End Information

All donations to St. Victoria that you want included in your 2017 contributions for tax purposes must be received in the parish office no later than the end of the business day (4 p.m.) Friday, December 29 or postmarked no later than Saturday, December 30. You may also drop a contribution in the collection basket at Masses on December 30 or 31. All checks must be dated no later than December 31. The IRS does not allow exceptions. (Please note: The parish office will be closed Friday, December 22, Monday, December 25, and Tuesday, December 26.)

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 to learn more about spiritual direction, an ancient process of accompanying people in their spiritual journey toward freedom and peace. Scholarships are available. Call the parish office for details.

Remember . . .

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** near the coat rack for use at the church. There is a **defibrillator** in the sacristy with directions included. Before using the device, call 911.

Ministry Schedule

December 16 and 17

Sacristans

5 p.m. Tom and Lisa Katalinich
8:45 a.m. Laura Synstegaard, Tim Woodfield
10:45 a.m. Tom and Becky Tinucci

Lector

5 p.m. John Abel
8:45 a.m. Tom Welch
10:45 a.m. Carol Trantow

Eucharistic Ministers

5 p.m. Mike and Hailey Amundsen, Joyce Heiland, Kristen Kowalski, Tom and Dianne Leahy, Kerry Leopold, Barb Meinert, Dennis Oas, Doris Schmieg, Bobby and Mary Beth Wulf
8:45 a.m. Mary Bishop, Dan and Marguerite Dummer, Roger Jackels, Paul and Kelly Kohls, Michael Lanners, Jim and Debbie Moss, Nancy Rezac, Dave and Ellen Roan
10:45 a.m. Rachel Anderson, George Barker, Ann Esping, Sam Fellingner, Marcus Hoffman, Gina Holman, Tim Kearney, Cherie McGraw, Rob and Brianne Raiolo, Annette Smyser, Luci Tellers

Greeter/Usher

5 p.m. Elizabeth Contreras, Roger Osweiler, Robert Schmieg, Steven and Nancy Schmieg, Jerry Schmieg
8:45 a.m. Jon and Nancy Carlson, Doug and Susan Hines, Scott Micek, Ryan Wenning
10:45 Regan and Jaden Anderson, Greg Pavett, Erv and Linda Spevacek, Rose Williams

Servers

5 p.m. Laura Contreras, Megan Jeurissen, Grant Hayes
8:45 a.m. Arin Hausmann, Lydia Jackels, Ethan Weinandt
10:45 a.m. Evie Heiland, Joe and Nathan Tinucci

Sound

5 p.m. Phillip Smith
8:45 a.m. Cecilia Bergren
10:45 a.m. Mitchell Holman

Music

5 p.m. Cantor Mary Pat Nydahl —
Acc. Sharon Schindler
8:45 a.m. Cantor Lisa Payne — Acc. Ameer Gallagher
10:45 a.m. Agape Singers — Acc. Ameer Gallagher

Children's Liturgy of the Word

8:45 a.m. Gena and Emma Braaten
10:45 a.m. Regan Anderson

No Sledding, Please

Please note that sledding is no longer allowed on the hill at the back of the cemetery. As the cemetery expands, there are now gravesites at the back of the cemetery and this area will continue to grow. In honor of our departed loved ones, it is inappropriate to allow sledding there. Thank you.

Time to Claim Your Dishes

Thank you to everyone who kindly donated salads and desserts for our many recent funerals. Your bowls and pans can be picked up after Mass in the cabinet in Elstan Hall.