

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 and Feast of the Holy Family
December 24 and December 31, 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

Assistant Director for Children's Formation

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

Joni Jeurissen, 443-2661 x216, jjeurissen@stvictoria.org

Ministry Support Services

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

Maintenance Supervisor

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



Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 24, 2017
Feast of the Holy Family
December 31, 2017

The readings for December 31

Feast of the Holy Family

Reading I: Genesis 15:1-6, 21:1-3

Reading II: Psalm 105

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40



The Gospel reading begins with the simple scene of a devout Jewish family obeying the Law. The holy man Simeon then meets them and says that this child will fulfill the hopes of Israel. Not only that, he will be a “revealing light to the Gentiles.” One of Luke’s dominant themes is salvation for everyone. Gentiles as well as Jews. This simple and strong description of the Holy Family concludes with their return home to ordinary daily life in a small village.

Question of the Week

In what way(s) does your family express the love of God to each other? To others outside the family?

The readings for January 7

Feast of Epiphany

Reading I: Isaiah 60:1-6

Reading II: Ephesians 3:2-3a, 5-6

Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12



Epiphany means “manifestation,” a revelation of Jesus as truly God. Matthew and Luke show this child to be divine through stories of “signs and wonders” when Jesus was an infant. Matthew’s account of the visit of the three magi also shows the Church’s mission to the Gentiles. Matthew’s audience, largely Jewish Christians, was struggling to accept the presence of Gentile Christians in their community. Matthew shows in this Gospel passage that the salvation of Gentiles as well as Jews was indeed God’s plan.

Question of the Week

In what helps you stay focused on God’s presence in everyday situations where God is usually not mentioned?

Please Note: This bulletin includes information for the weekends of December 23 and 24 and December 30 and 31. The next bulletin will be for January 6 and 7.

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 26** — Joseph Smith †
 Wednesday, **December 27** — Dalles Notermann †
 Thursday, **December 28** — Caroline Hartman †
 Friday, **December 29** — August Vogel †
 Saturday, **December 30** — Stephanie Sawvel
 Sunday, **December 31** — 8:45 a.m. Lee Radermacher (Anniv.) †
 10:45 a.m. St. Victoria Parishioners
 Monday, **January 1** — 9 a.m. Hope for the New Year
 Tuesday, **January 2** — Mae Schmid †
 Wednesday, **January 3** — Art, Viola and Kathy Jeurissen †
 Thursday, **January 4** — Chris Burkhart †
 Friday, **January 5** — Tim Daly †
 Saturday, **January 6** — Bonita Meiller †
 Sunday, **January 7** — 8:45 a.m. Jose Luis Rascon Peraza †
 10:45 a.m. Parishioners of St. Victoria

In Memoriam

Alaina Doran Palyok

November 16, 1989 — December 4, 2017

Mary Ann LaValle

May 1, 1948 — December 15, 2017

This Week in RCIA

There are no RCIA gatherings December 26 or January 2.

Healing Hearts

Healing Hearts Focus Group will be held six Tuesday evenings at 6:30 p.m., starting January 9. If you have lost a spouse, child or significant other, you are encouraged to join with others for emotional and spiritual support in a safe, non-judgmental environment. Call Patty Schlader at 448-5427 for information.

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.)

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.

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.**

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



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



Thank You, Thank You and Thank You Once Again!

I honestly cannot thank you enough for your wonderful generosity for others who are less fortunate. Please see the Faith Formation column on page 4 for the details — but once again the children, youth and adults of St. Victoria went above and beyond to make sure that those in need of help would be remembered this holiday season.

And, then there was our Christmas Concert and Children's Christmas Pageant. The music was wonderful — thank you **Elizabeth Nowak** and **all the singers and musicians** who performed so beautifully. Special thanks to **Sara Svenby** for her hard work directing all her little charges in the pageant. Loved those dancing sheep

This annual event truly sets the tone for a special faith-filled and joyous holiday season at St. Victoria.

Reflection for Christmas Day

To the early Christians, Jesus was God's messenger. As the Gospel of John explains, he was God's Word who became flesh and made his dwelling among us. As one living among us he taught us God's way. Indeed he was a light shining in darkness, a herald of whom Christians would say, in the words of Isaiah, "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings glad tidings" (*Isaiah 52:7*). Still, some did not accept Him. Their hearts were hardened, unwilling to acknowledge that God could act through this humble unassuming person. For "he came to what was his own, but his own people did not accept him." (*John 1:11*). But "to those who did accept Him he gave power to become children of God." (*John 1:12*). In these words from the beginning of John's Gospel echoes one of the early Christians' most profound realizations: God's love for all people is so great that all are intended to be God's children, not servants or slaves, not distant participants in creation, but tied by the closest bonds — children of a loving God. Jesus announced the glad tidings of God's love for all, and Jesus taught that there are no obstacles for those who wish to be God's children. No power on earth, not even evil, sin, or death, can separate God's children from their loving Creator. Let us rejoice at the coming of God's messenger. Let us rejoice in the glad tidings he announced. Let us give thanks for the Light who came into our world and continues to shine in the darkness.

(Courtesy of J.S. Paluch)

I want to wish everyone a Blessed and Joyful Christmas and a New Year filled with happiness and peace.

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.

Christmas Masses

According to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB), when consecutive obligations (holy days and Sundays [or Saturday]) occur on Saturday/Sunday or Sunday/Monday, the expectation is that the faithful will attend Mass twice. This means that this year the expectation is that the faithful will attend Mass on the Fourth Sunday of Advent (December 23 and 24) at regular times on Saturday evening or Sunday morning **and** celebrate the Birth of Christ at **Mass on Christmas Eve, December 24, at 4, 6 or 10 p.m.** or **Christmas morning, December 25, at 9 a.m.** Masses will be at regular times on December 30 and 31 and at **9 a.m. on Monday, January 1, The Feast of the Solemnity of Mary.**

Please Note...

The parish office will be closed Monday, December 25, and Tuesday, December 26 and Monday, January 1.

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.

Men Building Bridges

Start the new year out right and make plans to attend the annual Men Building Bridges Father/Son /Brother Prayer Breakfast at 8 a.m., Saturday, January 13. Featured speaker this year is Matt Birk, a Minnesota native and former member of the Minnesota Vikings and Baltimore Ravens. Today, Matt and his wife Adrianna live in Mendota Heights with their eight children and they continue to direct HIKE (Hope, Inspiration, Knowledge, Education), a foundation they established to provide educational opportunities for at-risk youth. Tickets are \$10 and they will go on sale December 30.

Technology

We all know it's great when today's technology works, but when it doesn't it can be a pain! With that said, we have been having some heating and cooling issues and some difficulties with the sound system. Just so you know, we are working to address them. There are multiple heating and cooling systems, with the older spaces (Historic Church, Elstan Hall and the Youth Room) controlled by thermostats. The Worship Space and the Commons are programmed and controlled by computer and many things affect comfort levels, including the outside weather and the number of people attending Mass or an event. Great care is taken to make certain the environment is comfortable for everyone, but sometimes it just isn't quite right. And, as we all know, when one person is too warm, another person nearby may find it too cold.

We also are aware that the sound system has not been working properly in the Commons and the Historic Church. We are working with sound experts to remedy these limitations.

We ask for your patience. We also ask that you do not attempt to change settings where there are thermostats or to make any changes to the sound system unless you have trained to do so. Thank you!

Faith Formation

Important Upcoming Dates

Adult Formation, Faith Formation, and Youth Ministry

1/3	Volunteer Retreat
1/6	First Reconciliation Retreat
1/7	Children's Liturgy
1/10	Faith Formation and Confirmation
1/14	Children's Liturgy
1/17	Faith Formation, no Confirmation
1/21	Children Liturgy
1/21	Mission Trip Meeting, 5:30 p.m.
1/24	Faith Formation and Confirmation
1/24	First Communion Parent Meeting

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. **Please note: There is no RCIA on December 26 or January 2.**

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

Giving Tree Thank You

Each Christmas season is a beautiful reminder of how generous this parish family is. Thank you to all of you who brought in donations for the Giving Tree. We ended up giving 79 baskets of food and personal care items to Trinity Mission. We also will be sending them a check once we have finished adding up all the monetary donations that came in. The CAP Agency received 250 toys and \$450 in gift cards, and our timing was perfect as their gift room was getting low! A big thank you also goes out to all who helped sort, double-check, and pack up all the donations: **Wendy Jo Knowles and Rachel Anderson and their families, the Sonnek family, Joni Jeurissen, Emily Klinker, and John and Rachel Elsen.** Also, thank you to **Julie Schmiege and Ann Esping** for helping to load up the truck.

Youth Ministry

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? Join our High School, teen-lead Bible study that meets on Sunday nights from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Try out any week or come for all. The upcoming dates are 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.

Holiday wishes and blessings to all our children and youth and our volunteers and to their families and loved ones. We are blessed to have you in our lives. We wish you a joyful, faith-filled Christmas and a wonderful 2018. We look forward to seeing you in January.

Blessings Emily Klinker, Sara Svenby and Ann Esping



Stewardship Report

Stewardship Report for **December 16 and 17, Week 25** of our fiscal year:

Envelope Offering:	\$ 18,009
Electronic Offering:	7,712
Total Membership Offering:	25,720

Second Collection for Debt Control: \$4,851

Stewardship Report for **December 23 and 24, Christmas, December 30 and 31 and January 1** will be included in the **January 7 Bulletin.**

Thank you for using your envelopes.

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 Monday and Tuesday, December 25 and 26.

Ministry Schedule

December 30 and 31

Sacristans

5 p.m. Tom and Lisa Katalinich
 8:45 a.m. Diane Theis
 10:45 a.m. Diane Forsythe, Lisa McColman

Lector

5 p.m. Dena Bretz
 8:45 a.m. Janie Jasin
 10:45 a.m. Adrienne Brausen

Eucharistic Ministers

5 p.m. Tim Amundsen, Greg Butler, Joyce Heiland, Todd Hesse, Kristen Kowalski, Randy and Sandra Krautbauer, Jerry Schmieg, Doris Schmieg, Carol Spalding, Karl and Patty Tauscher
 8:45 a.m. Mary Bishop, Joanna Bongard, Renee Boraas, Mary Catino, Rita Daly, Darla Diethelm, Marge Diethelm, Joan Klinger, Paul and Kelly Kohls, Mike Kokesh, Barbara Schultz
 10:45 a.m. George Barker, Joe Hamilton, Gina Holman, Deb LeMay, Jeff Lenzmeier, Cherie McGraw, Lindsey Norton, Rose Rooney, Jill Sonnek, Erv and Linda Spevacek, Luci Tellers

Greeter/Usher

5 p.m. Gary and Anne Delaney, Cal Haasken, Pat Henning, Steven and Nancy Schmieg
 8:45 a.m. Robert Diethelm, Mike Jeurissen, Mark Lund, Chris and Cheryl Mach, Scott Monson
 10:45 Sam Deweese, Mark and Mary Kelly, Sandy Perkins, Don and Sue Roper

Servers

5 p.m. Laura Contreras, Arin Hausmann, Grant Hayes
 8:45 a.m. Megan Jeurissen, Ethan Weinandt
 10:45 a.m. Mitchell, Sadie and Joey Holman

Sound

5 p.m. Tim Woodfield
 8:45 a.m. Elena Bergren
 10:45 a.m. Joseph Klinker

Music

5 p.m. Cantor — Caroline Swanson —
 Acc. Sharon Schindler
 8:45 a.m. Cantor Mary Pat Nydahl —
 Acc. Sharon Schindler
 10:45 a.m. Cantor Elizabeth Nowak —
 Acc. Sharon Schindler

There is no Children's Liturgy of the Word of this weekend.

Sharing and Caring Hands

Volunteers from St. Victoria will help serve a meal at Sharing and Caring Hands **Monday, January 15**. St. Victoria serves this ministry the third Monday of every month. If you would like to volunteer, or for more information, contact Coordinator Dennis Brown, 443-4690.

Help for Launch Clients

Launch Ministry in Chaska provides help for young adults, 18 to 29 who are experiencing problems in this difficult world (often homelessness). Currently they are in need of \$10 gift cards for local grocery stores and gas stations to give clients who need some immediate help. (St. Victoria's Launch Ministry provides a wide range of help to Launch.) Gift cards can be put in the collection basket at Masses or dropped off at the parish office. Please put cards in an envelope with Launch donation on the front. Thank you.

Ministry Schedule

January 6 and 7

Sacristans

5 p.m. John and Melody Hintzen
 8:45 a.m. Laura Synstegaard, Tim Woodfield
 10:45 a.m. Tim Breslin, Rose Rooney

Lector

5 p.m. Walt Roberts
 8:45 a.m. Paul Kohls
 10:45 a.m. Lisa McColman

Eucharistic Ministers

5 p.m. Mike and Hailey Amundsen, Tim Amundsen, Kristen Kowalski, Randy and Sandra Krautbauer, Barb Meinert, Katharine Paulsen, Doris Schmieg, Jerry Schmieg, Bobby and Mary Beth Wulf
 8:45 a.m. Mary Bishop, Renee Boraas, Adrienne Carrica, Dan and Marguerite Dummer, Roger Jackels, Mike Kokesh, Jim and Debbie Moss, Dave and Ellen Roan, Luci Tellers
 10:45 a.m. Rachel Anderson, Marty Dentinger, Gina Holman, Kerry Leopold, Cherie McGraw, Lindsey Norton, Rob and Brianne Raiolo, Erv and Linda Spevacek, Carol Trantow

Greeter/Usher

5 p.m. Gary and Anne Delaney, Roger Osweiler, Robert Schmieg, LeRoy and Margaret Worm
 8:45 a.m. Doug and Susan Hines, Kevin and Mary Hoffman, Chris and Cheryl Mach
 10:45 Regan and Jaden Anderson, Mark and Mary Kelly, Steve and Jill Sonnek

Servers

5 p.m. Laura Contreras, Grant Hayes, Ethan Weinandt
 8:45 a.m. Arin Hausmann, Lydia Jackels, Nick Nicklaus
 10:45 a.m. Mitchell, Sadie and Joey Holman

Sound

5 p.m. Phillip Smith
 8:45 a.m. Scott Johnson
 10:45 a.m. Maureen McConnell

Team Isaiah

5 p.m. Jim Becker, Tom and Marty Cashman, Elizabeth Contreras, Monica Grengs, Paula Osweiler, Cindy Worm
 8:45 a.m. Jim, Wendi and Jakob Alessio, Connie and Megan Jeurissen, Melissa Krcil, Scott Monson, Pat Moore, Debbie Nolan, Ralph and Nancy Rezac, John Sweeny
 10:45 a.m. David, LuAnn and Anthony Burandt, Pat and Kellie McClellan, Eric and Christina Nelson, Brian and Michele Pulvermacher, Rick and Mary Richter, Sydney Weinandt

Music

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

Children's Liturgy of the Word at 8:45 and 10:45 a.m. Masses.

Grief Counseling

West Suburban Grief Coalition, Oak Knoll Lutheran Church, Minnetonka, 4:30 to 6 p.m., video "Beyond Death's Door" on December 28 and speaker Jim Bauldus, "Journey Following Wife's Death" on Thursday, January 4.
Southwest Grief Coalition, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Eden Prairie, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., Monday, January 8, "Oasis & Deserts: Walking with God on the Road You Never Wanted to Travel" with Angela Fairbanks Jacobson, Pastor.