

# 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.”

November 27, 2011

The First Sunday of Advent

### 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 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:** Loretta Kocka, 443-2103;

Mary Moore, 443-2443

**Unplanned Pregnancy - for help call:** Kathy, 443-3083

**Catholic United Financial:** Darlene Williams, 403-6959

**RCIA Coordinator:** Cindy Rasmussen, 443-2434

**Parish Pastoral Council:** Roger Osweiler, Chair, 443-1921;

Rachel Anderson, 448-9499; Steve Letsche, 847-0676;

Gretchen McNamara, 443-2356; Tony DeNucci, 443-3389;

John Helgerson, 474-0797; Jane Wenning, 763-218-2083;

John Bulat, 612-327-5365; Andrew Cone, 443-4048

**Parish Finance Council:** Bob Bruers, 401-3287;

Gary Geurts, 443-5010; Margaret Hanson, 443-2648;

Dave Hentges, 443-0046; Tom Vogt, 443-4736;

Tim Amundsen, 443-2531

**Trustees:** Margaret Hanson, 443-2648; Gary Geurts, 443-5010

### Parish Team

#### Pastor

Fr. Robert White, 443-2661, [bwhite@stvictoria.org](mailto:bwhite@stvictoria.org)

#### Deacon and Administrator

Ray Ortman, 443-2661, [rortman@stvictoria.org](mailto:rortman@stvictoria.org)

#### Director of Music and Liturgy

Jamie Moore, 443-2661, [jmoore@stvictoria.org](mailto:jmoore@stvictoria.org)

#### Director of Shared Ministries

Patty Schlader, 443-2661, [pschlader@stvictoria.org](mailto:pschlader@stvictoria.org)

#### Administrative Support

Joni Jeurissen, 443-2661, [jjeurissen@stvictoria.org](mailto:jjeurissen@stvictoria.org)

#### Director of Faith formation Grades K-8

Amy Kusber, 443-2661, [akusber@stvictoria.org](mailto:akusber@stvictoria.org)

#### Assistant Director of Faith Formation Grades K-8

Joni Wohl, 443-2661, [jwohl@stvictoria.org](mailto:jwohl@stvictoria.org)

#### Youth Minister

Nick Tofteland, 443-2661, [ntofteland@stvictoria.org](mailto:ntofteland@stvictoria.org)

#### Ministry Support Services

Julie Schmieg, 443-2661, [jshmieg@stvictoria.org](mailto:jshmieg@stvictoria.org)

#### Receptionist

Mary Catino, 443-2661, [mcatino@stvictoria.org](mailto:mcatino@stvictoria.org)

#### Maintenance Supervisor

John Wall, 443-2661, [jwall@stvictoria.org](mailto:jwall@stvictoria.org)

#### Communications Supervisor/Bulletin Editor

Mary Harvey, 443-2661, [mharvey@stvictoria.org](mailto: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](http://www.stvictoria.net)



**The First Sunday of Advent  
November 27, 2011**

**Food for thought . . .**

**The readings for December 4, 2011**

Second Sunday of Advent

*Reading I:* Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11

*Reading II:* 2 Peter 3:8-14

*Gospel:* Mark 1:1-8



Advent is a season of fresh beginnings. The writer of *Second Isaiah* gives people a message of hope and comfort. The exiles will return to Jerusalem on a straight and level road. Isaiah proclaims the good news that God is always faithful, a God of both power and tenderness. Mark begins the account of the Good News (the meaning of the word *gospel*). Jesus, God's son sent to heal us and lead us home, is himself the Good News. Mark begins by telling us about John the Baptist, the herald of the good news of Jesus' coming. Today, we are called to be heralds of this same Good News. We announce to a hurting world that Jesus Christ has experienced the worst we face and has come through it. Which leads us to the question of the week:

**Question of the Week**

How are you preparing for Christ's coming?

*Wedding Banns*

**Bethany Raser and Tim Ponath**

**Ministry of Spiritual Direction**

Spiritual Direction can encourage you to explore a closer relationship with God. For more information and/or an appointment, call Deb LeMay at 448-7135 or Craig Hamilton at 612-237-3463. Scholarships are available — call the parish office.

**Baptism Information**

- The next **Jordan Night** (Baptism Class) at St. Victoria is Thursday, January 12, at 6 p.m., in Clare's Well. If you are expecting a child (birth or adoption) in the next few months, and have not attended a class within the last three years, please register for a class. **We do ask parents to fulfill this requirement prior to a Baptism — there is still time to sign up for this class.**
- We need to see a copy of your child's birth certificate prior to the Baptism.
- When planning your child's Baptism, please be aware that you may have only one man and one woman as sponsors and one must be a Confirmed Catholic. (Or, you may have just one sponsor.)
- **The next Baptisms are scheduled** on December 10 and 11. Baptisms are celebrated during all Masses and after the 5 p.m. Saturday and 10:45 a.m. Sunday Liturgies.
- **Contact** Mary Harvey in the parish office at 443-2661 x16 or mharvey@stvictoria.org to schedule a Baptism, register for Jordan Night and/or for information.



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

**Mass Intentions**

Tuesday, **November 29** — Arnold Visser †

Wednesday, **November 30** — Milly Wartman †

Thursday, **December 1** — Robert Vogel †

Friday, **December 2** — Howie Gans †

Saturday, **December 3** — Eugene Diethelm (Anniv.) †

Sunday, **December 4** — 8:45 a.m. Dave and Lucille Williams †  
10:45 a.m. St. Victoria Parish Family

**LaNoche Azul**

**"Soon and Very Soon"**

Our 10th annual **LaNoche Azul Holiday Gathering** presented by the St. Victoria Focus Groups is Tuesday, December 6, with a social and dinner (catered by Island View Golf Club) in the Franciscan Commons at 6:30 p.m. Enjoy the Adult Bell Choir before dinner and, after dinner, enjoy entertainment in the Worship Space with **Janie Jasin and Chez Raginiak** who will welcome you to smile, to laugh and enjoy the moments, miracles and music. (Please Note: We chose the Worship Space to better enjoy the entertainment, thanks to our outstanding sound system.)

The Suggested cost is \$20 per person. The deadline for reservations is Sunday, December 4. (Please place RSVP and a check in the collection basket or return to the parish office.) Questions? Contact Al and Sue Bill at 443-1977 or Patty Schlader at 443-2661.

**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 Balster at 443-3119** or **Wendy Rex Mielke at 679-4155**.

**"At Home With the Word"**

The 2012 "At Home With The Word" books are available in the Commons. These books are wonderful and can be used for quiet meditation or vigorous study to prepare for each Sunday's scripture readings that are proclaimed at our Liturgies. Feel free to take one home, and if you like, use the envelope provided for a donation.

**Welcome to St. Victoria**

If you are visiting St. Victoria this Thanksgiving weekend, 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 x11. **(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 Franciscan Commons. Thank you.)

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



### In Thanksgiving

I hope your Thanksgiving Day was one of quiet happiness and joy as you gathered with family and friends to give humble thanks to God for the many blessings in your life. While in my own family we grieve the loss of my sister Jean, at the same time we can rejoice that our mother is regaining her health. Lest we become arrogant in our abundance, let us remember those who are less fortunate — those who are not enjoying good health, those who are lonely and in despair, families in jeopardy of losing their homes and perhaps are going without food, those who are unemployed or under-employed and the many others who need our prayers and help. May this time be an occasion to recommit ourselves to working and living with a consciousness of those who are suffering for whatever reason.

Here at St. Victoria, we have a host of opportunities to help others. Our children and youth are busy collecting gifts for Operation Christmas Child — and welcome your help. Our youth have a whole day in December devoted to “service projects” that are sure to bring joy and smiles to the faces of those they encounter.

Our volunteers will serve at Sharing and Caring Hands and parishioners will visit the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Waconia to share the Rosary and for a Wednesday afternoon Mass (and that all-important socializing). We continue to collect supplies for our Love INC Gap Ministry, Clean Sweep (there's a collection bin by the parish office entrance).

All 150 tags on our Giving Tree were claimed as soon as they were offered. And, I'm sure many of you will find other opportunities to purchase gifts, make donations and participate in volunteer activities all intended to bring joy to others.

And, thinking about holiday joy, I just need to look at the schedule of events planned just here at St. Victoria — our annual LaNoche Azul Dinner, our Christmas/Advent Concert and our Children's Christmas Pageant.

### Liturgy of the Hours

As I do each Advent and Lent, I invite you to join me on Wednesday mornings to pray the Liturgy of the Hours right after our 8 a.m. Mass. We spend approximately ten minutes in this prayer with monastic origins, joining people around the world. Another way to give thanks!

*Fr. Bob*

**FINAL THOUGHT . . .** Reflect upon your present blessings, of which every man has many; not on your past misfortunes, of which all men have some.” *Charles Dickens*

**Our 12-Hour Eucharistic Adoration is held in the Historic Church, beginning at 8:30 a.m. (after 8 a.m. Mass) every Thursday and ends at 8 p.m.** By spending time with Jesus in the Eucharist, one is able to establish a truly personal relationship with Him. **Chaplet of the Divine Mercy follows.**

### Gatherings this week . . .

**Catholic United Financial**, Monday, November 28, 7 p.m., in Elstan Hall.

**Parish Pastoral Council**, Thursday, December 1, 6 p.m., in Clare's Well.

*All are welcome to attend St. Victoria Gatherings*

**Masses on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception** on Thursday, December 8, will be at 8 a.m. and 7 p.m. with both celebrated in the Historic Church.

### Christmas Concert

Please join us for our 15th annual St. Victoria Advent/Christmas Concert on Sunday December 18, at 5 p.m. This year's program entitled “God Is With Us” will feature our wonderful Adult Choir, fantastic Praise and Worship Band and our beautiful Adult Handbell Choir! We've been rehearsing for this event since our first rehearsal at the beginning of September.



This program will, as always, put you and your family in the spirit of Christmas as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in song. From contemporary music to traditional, there'll be something for everyone!

And, as we always do, there will be a free-will offering for the CAP Agency. We will also have a cake and coffee reception afterwards. Please come for what has become a beautiful holiday tradition for the St. Victoria Parish Family.

### Calling All Dancers

We are looking for dancers ages 8 to 18 to participate in Liturgical Dance at our Advent/Christmas Concert again this year. The concert is on Sunday, December 18, at 5 p.m. If you would like to dance, please contact Jamie in the parish office ASAP. Rehearsals will start very soon!

## Elsewhere...

- **Pancake and French Toast Breakfast** sponsored by the Victoria Lions on Sunday, Dec. 4, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Victoria City Hall.
- **10th Annual Apologetics Conference** sponsored by the Holy Name Society, Saturday, Jan. 7, 1 p.m., at All Saints Church in Lakeville, featuring Dr. Peter Kreeft, PhD., professor of philosophy at Boston University and King's College, New York. The cost is \$15; 18 and under, \$10. Register at [apologetics@nomensanctum.org](mailto:apologetics@nomensanctum.org).
- **Natural Family Planning Class**, Saturday, December 3, U of M Medical Center-Fairview, Mpls. To register or for information call 651-232-3088 or visit [www.tcnfp.org](http://www.tcnfp.org).
- **Open Window Theatre**, a project of Epiphany Studio Productions, is presenting “The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge,” a joyous comedy and sequel to Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol, Scrooge is back to his old ways. December 2 through December 30. Visit [www.openwindowtheatre.org](http://www.openwindowtheatre.org) for the performance schedule or call 651-955-9123.



## Year of the Family

### **K-8 Faith Formation Classes will be meeting this Wednesday, November 30 at regular session times!**

- At the November 30th class, Grades K-8 will be kicking off **Advent** with prayer around the Advent Wreath in the Worship Space. We will finish all our Operation Christmas Child (OCC) boxes and all children in Grades 2 through 8 will be watching a video on the **new Mass changes**. Just another busy night in Faith Formation!
- December 7 – regular class
- December 14 – regular class
- December 21 – **K-8 Christmas Pageant Event!** Starts at 6:30 p.m. in the Worship Space. All families should mark their calendars and plan to attend this festive, faith-filled holiday event! All children ages 4 through Grade 8 are invited to participate in this special family night. More details coming soon.

### **New this year for our 8th Grade through High School Students: Volunteering at the Operation Christmas Child Distribution Center in Mendota Heights!**

We have the opportunity to deliver our filled OCC boxes to the distribution center and help with the process to get them on their way to children who are waiting for the *joy of a simple gift!* During our time at the distribution center we will help prepare more than 500,000 boxes for shipment around the world. We will be joining more than 6,000 other volunteers. We need youth who are in 8th Grade and older to **join us** for this wonderful service opportunity!

**When:** Thursday, December 1, meet at St. Victoria at 4 p.m. and return by 9 p.m. We will be taking a bus!

**Who:** Youth in Grade 8 and older and adults.

**Cost: None. Remember your bag dinner for the bus.**

**Registration Deadline:** November 28. Permission slips must be turned in by this date to be counted! **Please don't delay — we need you to get registered today!**

Questions? Please contact Amy Kusber, Joni Wohl or Nick Tofteland.

### **Upcoming Parenting Opportunities:**

**Book Study** on the "Connected Families Parenting" Book by Jim and Lynn Jackson will meet **next on November 30** from 9 to 10:30 a.m. Micki Donovan and Sue Roper will facilitate.

**Consider it JOY** will meet next on December 14 during both the 5 and 6:30 p.m. Faith Formation Sessions in the Reconciliation Room. Facilitated by Lisa Payne. Contact her at [lisakpayne@comcast.net](mailto:lisakpayne@comcast.net).

### **Director of Faith Formation**

**Amy Kusber**

[akusber@stvictoria.org](mailto:akusber@stvictoria.org), 443-2661 x33

### **Assistant Director of Faith Formation**

**Joni Wohl**

[jwohl@stvictoria.org](mailto:jwohl@stvictoria.org), 443-2661 x12

[www.stvictoria.net](http://www.stvictoria.net)

**Operation Christmas Child** - Confirmation students and families: Please bring your Operation Christmas Child donations to the parish office as soon as possible. The last possible date for collection is November 30 as we will be using some of our in-class time to pack the boxes. We have committed to filling 50 boxes and, at this point, are nowhere near that number so we need your support! Also, if you are planning to go with us to the Operation Christmas Child sorting center to drop off and sort gifts on December 1, you need to turn your permission slips into me as soon as possible. Space is limited so get your forms in soon to secure your spot.

**Giving Tree** - Thank you to those who generously picked up a tag from the Giving Tree. All our tags were taken so that is 150 children and parents who will be receiving at least one gift for Christmas this year! Please remember to have your gift returned no later than noon on Sunday, December 4. You may place your returned gift under the tree in the Commons or in Elstan Hall on the table marked for Giving Tree gifts. Please make sure to attach your tag to the returned gift with your name and the family number on it. Thanks for joining us in our support of this wonderful benefit, you are a blessing! If you would like to help sort and bag the returned gifts, we will be doing so following 10:45 a.m. Mass on Sunday, December 4. Join us!

**Reminder** - Confirmation students should bring their \$10 donation for Trinity Mission to class on Wednesday, November 30, so that we can begin arranging our shopping trip to buy gifts.

**A Day of Service** - On Saturday, December 10, we will be baking and decorating cookies and then visiting an area nursing home to distribute our cookies, sing Christmas Carols and visit the residents. Then, we will go to Target to purchase gifts for the families we are sponsoring through Trinity Mission. Also, on the same day we will have volunteers staffing a gift wrapping station at St. Victoria all day for our seniors who need assistance wrapping their Christmas gifts. If you know a senior who would like to take advantage of this service, please let me know so that we can work out arrangements. It will be a wonderful day of service so please join us!

### **Youth Minister**

Nick Tofteland

[ntofteland@stvictoria.org](mailto:ntofteland@stvictoria.org), 443-2661 x32, 952-322-0434

[www.stvictoria.net](http://www.stvictoria.net)

### **Advent Retreat**

St. John's Abbey in Collegeville, MN, is hosting an Advent Retreat December 9 to 11. The topic is "The Church: An Incarnational and Sacramental Community." The retreat leader, Fr. Kevin Seasoltz, OSB, will talk on the sacrament of the everyday Christ as the primary sacrament of God and the Church as the sacrament of Christ expressing itself culturally in various sacramental rituals. The cost is \$180 for a single room and \$150 per person sharing a double room. To register for the retreat call Fr. Bob Pierson at 320-363-3929 or email [spiritalife@osb.org](mailto:spiritalife@osb.org).

## Stewardship Report

The Stewardship Report for **November 19 and 20, Week 21**, of our Fiscal Year will be included in next week's bulletin.

*Please use your envelopes for your contributions*

### Poinsettias for the Holidays



Would you like to donate a poinsettia to St. Victoria to beautify our worship spaces for Christmas? You can donate a flower in honor of or in memory of a loved one. The suggested donation for each plant is \$15. Please put your donation in the collection basket (checks made out to St. Victoria) at one of the

weekend liturgies, mail it in, or drop it off at the parish office to Jamie Moore's attention. Please be sure to include the names of the person (people) you are donating in honor of or in memory of, and the names of who the plant is from. Deadline for donations is December 13. There will be an insert that will go into one of our Christmas Season bulletins listing all of the donors and memorials.

**Reminder:** If you have unwanted, used clothing (or other items) and you don't want to wait until the annual spring rummage sale at S. Victoria, you may take donations to the Blessed Bee Store in Chaska at 2450 Chaska Boulevard. They are currently in need of warm clothing (jackets, mittens, hats, etc.) that is clean and gently used. (Please do not leave donations in the church as they will not be delivered to Blessed Bee, but will be discarded. Thank you for your cooperation.)

### Men Building Bridges

Mark your calendars so you don't miss this annual event for the men of our parish. Fathers and sons (plus grandfathers, uncles, friends) are invited for breakfast and an inspiring presentation by former Viking Football Player Neal Guggemos on Saturday, January 14. Watch for more details!

### Volunteer Opportunity

There are always opportunities to sign up to help at the front desk in the parish office. The easiest way to do so is to go to our website, [www.stvictoria.net](http://www.stvictoria.net), click on Stewardship & Ministries and then on Time and Talent-Volunteers. Scroll down to "Sign Up to Volunteer at the Front Desk." Just click on it and the dates and times are posted for the dates a volunteer is needed. If you have any questions, please call Mary Catino in the church office at 443-2661 or email her at [mcatino@stvictoria.org](mailto:mcatino@stvictoria.org). Thank you.

Wear your name tag after Mass next weekend and stop by the Victoria Subway for a complimentary cup of coffee or freshly baked cookie.



## Ministry Schedule

### December 3 and 4

#### Sacristans

5 p.m. Joyce Bureau, Jacque Krause  
8:45 a.m. Laura Synstegaard, Diane Theis  
10:45 a.m. Julie Catalino, Julie Willits

#### Lector

5 p.m. Rod Vacek  
8:45 a.m. Joyce Diethelm  
10:45 a.m. Cynthia McKee

#### Eucharistic Ministers

5 p.m. Donna Forrer, Joyce Heiland, Todd Hesse, John Hintzen, Morrie and Alice Leuthner, Barb Meinert, Mary Moore, Dennis and Judy Oas, Katharine Paulsen  
8:45 a.m. Michael Lanners, Sharon Lauwagie, Shelli McGuire, Wendy Mielke, Pat Moore, Jim and Debbie Moss, Nancy Rezac, Dave Roan, Dick and Patty Schlader, Barbara Schultz  
10:45 a.m. George Hidding, Gina Holman, Joan Klinger, Louise Lehner, Deb LeMay, Jeff Lenzmeier, Linda Lindeman, Cherie McGraw, Debra McMillan, Ken Pavett, Brian Pulvermacher, Rob Raiolo

#### Greeter/Ushers

5 p.m. Steven Schmieg, Robert Schmieg, Phillip and Marjorie Smith, Joseph Forrer, Gary Sohns  
8:45 a.m. Ruth Kroening, Lyle Oddan, Daryl Schmieg, Chris and Judy Sones, Shawn Sutherland  
10:45 a.m. Ivan Contreras, Larry and Jill Fossen, Thomas Hay, Jim and Janaan Hubbard

#### Servers

5 p.m. Benjamin Crowley, Patrick Fischenich, Maggie Katalinich  
8:45 a.m. Drew Cone, Conner Dammann, Maddie Hester  
10:45 a.m. Ben Brandt, Laura and Valentina Contreras

#### Sound

5 p.m. Colleen Dunlap  
8:45 a.m. Ben Mach  
10:45 a.m. Jamie Moore

#### Team Isaiah

5 p.m. Patty Stangret, Joe and Susan Stockdale, Susan Stubson, Tom and Lisa Katalinich, Tom and Dianne Leahy, Mark and Brigid Lund, Patrick and Stella McKinney  
8:45 a.m. Dawn Ewanika, Steve Frederickson, Doug and Susan Hines, Tim, Peggy, Breanna and Timothy Kaufhold, Melissa Krcil, Carisa Kuntz, Steve and Becky Letsche  
10:45 a.m. Sam Fellinger, TJ and Kamra Michel, Kellie Pexa, Rick and Mary Richter, Dick and Kathy Sether, Gary and Jan Vierling, Steve and Joni Wohl

#### Music

5 p.m. Adult Choir — Acc. Sue Orsen  
8:45 a.m. Adult Handbell Choir — Acc. Sharon Schindler  
10:45 a.m. Little Ringers — Acc. Sharon Schindler

#### Children's Liturgy of the Word

8:45 a.m. Gina Light, Molly Diethelm, Erin Roan, Gracie Lund  
10:45 a.m. Brianna Forbrook, Rachel Rice, Brooke Weinzierl, Sydney Roper