A Message From Father Greiner

I have now completed my first year as Pastor of Our Lady of Victory. It truly has been a great year, and I want to share with the parish some of my personal highlights from this year.

The parish’s warm welcome has been greatly appreciated. When I started, I was worried about how I would be received here at the parish because of my age and lack of experience. However, I have never felt unwelcomed, and your constant support has been a source of strength during some difficult days. I have little doubt that Fr. Dan, the new Parochial Vicar, will have the same experience of being welcome into the OLV family.

It has been a joy receiving invitations to people’s homes and other events in their lives. Therefore, thank you for all the invitations to sporting events, fundraisers, parties, family events, and the many meals throughout the year. These events have helped me get to know parishioners, but more importantly, the lives of the parishioners have helped me understand how I can better serve the parish. I hope to get to more events in the coming year, so I am sorry that I have not been able to honor all of the invitations that I received from parishioners throughout the last year. However, it is my prayer that Fr. Dan and I will be able to be with parishioners more, outside of the walls of the parish and school in the coming year.

Our Lady of Victory and John F. Kennedy Catholic School have a wonderful staff, and it has been an honor to minister with such an experienced and competent staff. These women and men are the lifeblood of the parish, and without them, we would not be able to accomplish our mission and vision here at OLV. Therefore, I am definitely looking forward to working with the staff in the future, especially as we try to move forward with some more planning. As many of you saw in the newspaper, there is the possibility that Northwest Davenport will be seeing hundreds of new homes in the near future, so this is truly a prime opportunity for us to grow as a community. The staff and I will work hard to address the opportunities and challenges that come our way in the future.

I want to acknowledge that I pushed the parish hard during my first year with the additional fundraising and building projects. I truly believe that is where God was calling us to go, so this is why I pursued the fundraising and projects. Your response has been that of great stewards—you made the necessary sacrifices to help accomplish these important needs. Thank you! Your donations of time, talent, and treasure to meet these needs, while maintaining the other important ministries here at OLV, has been truly inspiring to me. The parish has given so much! As we continue to grow our mission and vision here at OLV, I have little doubt that you will continue to respond as you did over the last year.

I already know that my second year here at OLV will be filled with changes, but I have no doubt it will be another exciting year for the parish and school. Please be assured of my thoughts and prayers for the parish, and I appreciate your prayers for Fr. Dan and me. May God bless us abundantly now and in the future!

Our Lady of Victory, pray for us!
Record distribution making a difference for Our Lady of Victory Parish and John F. Kennedy Catholic School

By: Barb Milke

The Our Lady of Victory Foundation is pleased to announce our annual gift to the Parish for 2017 is a new record $26,000. This represents a $4,000 increase over last years’ gift and pushes total gifts back to the parish over the $250,000 mark! The $26,000 gift will be distributed proportionately to the specified areas based on designations when the gifts were received: JFK Staff, JFK Facilities, JFK Scholarship, OLV Facilities, General Parish Education, and OLV Unspecified Fund.

In addition we are pleased to announce the portion distributed to the OLV Unspecified Fund allows for over $10,000 to be used for the OLV Parish to support the cost of our new Parochial Vicar and over $10,000 to be used for the JFK School to support the costs associated with the new heating boiler.

All of this is made possible by the many parishioners helping us increase the OLV Foundation Endowment. Our hats off to you as we continue to grow and improve the Foundation of Our Lady of Victory and John F. Kennedy Catholic School.

If you have not been able to contribute to the Foundation in the past, there is always time to make a difference. You can start using the blue outlined Foundation envelope in your monthly packet, you can make a one-time gift through the envelope, or you can visit www.olvjfk.com and sign up for regular electronic giving on our Foundation Giving page by clicking the Online Giving button. Please visit our pages to learn about other opportunities using insurance or investments to provide a legacy gift.

![Image of Ron Gunnare and Roni Pianca presenting the 2016 Distribution check to Father Jake on behalf of the Our Lady of Victory Foundation.](image-url)

Christian Service Ministry….Thank you!

Thank you for your generous donations to Women’s Choice Center. Vickie Tyler, Executive Director, said, “a total of 1,648 diapers were delivered. These diapers are a true blessing to the families we serve at the Women’s Choice Center. God bless all who attend Our Lady of Victory.”

The Victory Voice · Davenport, IA
Faith Formation Family Meals

By: Jennifer Wemhoff

This coming school year Faith Formation will be having family meal nights occasionally throughout the year. When we began the process of planning our Faith Formation year, I was thinking about how busy our lives seem to be and how hard it is to just sit down for a meal as a family anymore. I know that there are times during the school year that my family is lucky if we sit down once a week all together for a meal. So, beginning this year we are going to have some family meal nights for our faith formation families. The meals will be designed so that you can spend time with your child and have some conversation plus get to know other families around the table. I am writing this as the school year winds down and am thinking about where the time has gone. My oldest son will be a senior in high school in the fall and my youngest son will be a sophomore. I know that many parents that have had a child leave the nest, so to speak, have often wondered how time passed so quickly. The family meal time will be time to slow down and enjoy one another as family.

Our first Faith Formation class of the year is scheduled for September 6 and this will also be our first family meal night. The rest of the family meal nights will be for certain grades as outlined in the schedule below. If you have children in multiple grades, this may give you the opportunity to have meals with your children individually. If you have children that are too young to be enrolled in Faith Formation, they are welcome to attend family meal nights as well. So come and enjoy some hospitality with others this year.

September 6:  All families  
October 25:  7th & 8th graders and their families 
January 24:  K-3 graders and their families  
April 11:  4th-6th graders and their families

Showing We Care!

Thank you for your generous support of the college care package ministry. Care packages were sent out to 50 OLV college students. The packages brightened the day for these students while they were preparing for finals. The students really appreciate your support and prayers. Thank you so much!!
2017 PICTORIAL DIRECTORY  
By: Jeanne Barnett

We will be scheduling pictures for the Pictorial Directory in the Gathering Space for the next few weekends.

You can also sign up online at: https://booknow-lifetouch.appointment-plus.com/y1b5xyrc/.

PHOTO SESSION DATES
Tuesday, July 25th thru Saturday, July 29th  
Tuesday, August 15th thru Saturday, August 19th  
Tuesday, September 5th thru Saturday, September 9th  
Hours are Tuesday- Friday 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.  
Saturday, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Pictures will be taken and viewed the same day. Plus, receive a free 8 x 10 and have the option to purchase additional portraits.
If you do not wish to have your photo taken, you can provide us with a photo of you and your family (there will be a $10 charge for this. Additionally, if it is a professional photo we will need a release signed by the photographer) and it will be published in our directory.

Youth Ministry  
By: Evan Brankin

We are disciples of Jesus Christ making faith matter and sharing God’s love to make more disciples.

Jesus Christ promised that we would have two things with us always. The first is Himself, as He asks His disciples to spread the Gospel (Mt. 28:20). The second are the poor. This is no accident. It is in the poor that we can encounter the person of Jesus Christ, living and breathing still in the world today, and after the Blessed Sacrament, they are the holiest things you will ever encounter in this world. When Christ describes the last judgment, He says that He will be asked, “Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison, and not minister to your needs?” The answer? “Amen, […] what you did not do for one of these least ones, you did not do for me” (Mt. 25:44-45).

A typical aspect of high school youth ministry is mission work - the mission of the Church being consistently understood as spreading the Gospel and serving the poor. Just as Jesus Christ and the poor cannot be separated, so the missionary work of the Church has always taken hand in hand this two-fold need to feed man spiritually and substantially. For teenagers on youth mission trips, this work often happens far from home as a group of teens travel with a few adults to an economically depressed region to serve the poor there.

Youth Ministry is often thought of as ongoing formation for teenagers, or ministry to teens in their struggles. This is only where youth ministry begins, not where it ends. If we want to help young people become mature disciples of Jesus Christ, and continue that discipleship their whole lives, then youth ministry has to involve families, neighbors, coaches, and ultimately the whole parish. It is through intergenerational, parish and family-led ministry that young disciples really acquire a faith that sticks with them forever. This means that all of us, as disciples of Jesus Christ, are called to help form and support our young disciples, which is engaging in precisely that mission of spreading the Gospel which we have been given.

In pursuit of this goal, and recognizing its inherent connection to serving the poor in the Church’s great mission, Our Lady of Victory will be partnering with the Davenport Catholic Worker House this summer - to offer not just our teens but our whole community the chance to join in this work. Will we have teens going on mission this summer? Yes, we will. And we want you to join us. This is an opportunity for the whole parish to come together in mission, to share our gifts no matter what they may be. Come encounter Jesus Christ with us and grow with God. Love your neighbor to help us build a better community here in Davenport. Join us in developing in the young Church that sticky faith needed to change the whole world, and share your faith.
Back to School Registration
By: Chad Steimle

Registration and Back to School Sunday for Preschool - 8th grade is Sunday, July 30th from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in the cafeteria.

- Submit a completed student information sheet
- Make a tuition payment
- Register for before and/or after school child care services
- Deposit funds in a lunch account
- Sign up for athletics
- Receive sacramental preparation information
- Check the class list and homeroom assignment
- Shop for used uniform clothing

A forms-only drop off time is also available on July 31st, 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. If you cannot make either date, please stop in the school office as soon as possible after July 31st.
SAVE THE DATE!!
OLV Parish Picnic
Saturday, September 16, 2017
5 PM – 9 PM
Retreat Opportunities
By: Lisa Willows

Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat
2664 145th Avenue - Wheatland, Iowa 52777

Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat, located on a 200-acre site along the Wapsipinicon River in rural Wheatland, Iowa, is operated by the Congregation of the Humility of Mary.

The center is open year-round and welcomes people of all faiths for directed or non-directed retreats. One can stay for a day, a week or longer.

· To register contact: 563-336-8414 or olpretreat@gmail.com
  · To learn more about Our Lady of the Prairie Retreat visit www.chmiowa.org
  · All programs include a delicious homemade meal prepared with local and organic ingredients.

Prairie Retreats August

Wed, August 9 | 9:30am - 3:30pm
Come to the Quiet
Pat Shea
Miriam the Prophet proclaims in Exodus 15, Sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously...Miriam’s prophetic voice calls us to imagine the world as it might be, a world liberated from injustice and oppression where all people live together in abundant compassion, singing to the Lord. Fee: $20

Thurs, August 10 | 9:30am - 3:30pm
Knit One, Pray Too!
Karen Brooke, Ann Green & Anne Johnson
Seasoned knitters and novices are invited to bring their latest projects for a tranquil day of needlework, sharing and praying while enjoying the seasonal serenity of The Prairie. Fee: $20

Mon, August 14 | 9:00am - 4:00pm
Eating Your Way through the Gospel of Luke
Fr. Bob Miller, Pastor of St. Dorothy Church, Chicago, with Mark Nimo
Using a deep study and exegesis of Luke’s writings, we will unpack the abundant gift that Jesus was/is for our world! Fee: $30

Sun, August 20 | 3:00pm - 6:00pm
Seventh Annual Spirit of the Prairie
(Proceeds benefit Our Lady of the Prairie Programs.)
A spirit-filled afternoon at The Prairie: Summer Buffet ~ Spirits ~ Music.
Locally produced food, wines and beer! Fee: $50

Sun, August 27 | 2:30pm - 4:30pm
Lectio Divina through Current Writers
Linda Clewell, Oblate of St. Benedict
Book for Lectio: Seasons in My Garden by Elizabeth Wagner
We are invited to a meditative garden with a blending of Scripture, the liturgical calendar and nature’s seasons. The Prairie is the perfect place to join others for this reflection of our journey to the Sacred. Fee: $15
Automated Giving

By: Judy Johnson

Do you use online services to pay bills? If yes, planning your giving to the parish can now be as easy as POINT—CLICK—SHARE! By directing your online payment service to make Our Lady of Victory a regular recipient, there’s yet another way to fulfill your good stewardship intentions. Your contributions come to the parish automatically, on the schedule you designate. No more mad rush to find your offering envelopes or a pen to write the check! A great way to keep OLV/JFK a priority when it comes to your charitable giving.

Marriage Encounter

By: Lisa Willows

Attention Married Couples: “God reveals Himself through the Love of a couple” Attend a Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekend. Upcoming Dates; October 27-29 @Cedar Falls. November 10-12 @Iowa City. For information and to register go to iowa-wwme.org or call 563-608-3305 or email: JLJwwme08@Gmail.com

Help us to support the Church’s Initiative on marriage! Couples who attend Worldwide Marriage Encounter weekends not only rediscover the joy, intimacy & romance in their relationships but also become more active in their parish. Together, we are making marriages, families and our Church stronger & healthier.

Other ways we can help promote stronger marriages:
Help couples find us by placing a link to iowa-wwme.org on your parish website.
We have brochures describing Worldwide Marriage Encounter Weekends that can be placed in information racks. Let us know if you would like some.
We also have evening and one-day enrichment’s available. We will come and present it for you.