

# The Victory Voice

## A note from Father Jake

Happy 60th Anniversary, OLV! We give thanks to God for all of the blessings that our community has received over the last 60 years of serving Northwest Davenport. My six years as Pastor has shown me how God is truly working through the parishioners and the many ministries we provide. Thank you for all you do for the parish and school!

We began a new fiscal year in July, so in this issue we also provide a summary of the parish's sacramental ministry, census, and financials for July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022. These numbers provide a small snapshot of what has happened in our parish over the last fiscal year.

The staff and volunteers of OLV had a busy year preparing families and individual parishioners for Baptisms, First Communions, and Confirmations. There were 125 individuals who received one or several of these Sacraments over

the last year, and our parish had many joyful celebrations around the Sacraments of Initiation. I want to personally thank all of the teachers, catechists, and volunteers that worked so hard to prepare children and adults for the reception of these Sacraments. Our parish is blessed by these amazing men and women who devote their time to serve in this important ministry of Sacramental preparation.

Our parish also had the privilege of celebrating with sixteen couples who celebrated their Sacrament of Matrimony here at OLV. The future of the church is bright with these couples' commitment to serving God and neighbor through their marriage.

In terms of total numbers of parishioners, we registered 60 new households over the last year. This influx of new parishioners has been a blessing as we also held 49 funerals during the year. To provide some context, our parish hosted less funerals over the last year than in the last three years. People are not celebrating funerals here at the parish at the same rate as they did prior to the pandemic. All realities mean that we are a parish composed of the young and not-so-young, and the number of parishioners who make-up our parish will always be in flux. If you know of any families who have not registered yet with the parish, please ask them if they want to join. I see new faces almost every week, and I do not always get the chance to greet them and inquire about whether they would like to register in our parish. The number of registered families definitely helps with planning the other activities in our parish.

I have one final note for this edition of the Victory Voice. Though we have celebrated our main 60th anniversary event, there are a few events remaining as we continue to celebrate our diamond anniversary. As I have shared above, we have a lot to celebrate, and these events give us the opportunity to thank God for the gifts that we have received. These events will also give us the opportunity to share our parish's vision of becoming the most welcoming and vibrant parish in the diocese. This vision flows from our parish's history, but this vision also reflects how individual parishioners desire to serve God and neighbor. If you have any ideas on how we as a parish can do more to address the needs of parishioners and others in our community, do not hesitate to let me know.

Please be assured of my continued prayers for all of you, and thank you for your continued prayers for our parish.

**Our Lady of Victory, pray for us!**



**Father Jake**

REV. JACOB M. GREINER  
Pastor



# Faith Formation

By Kaye Meyers

Thank you to everyone who helped to make Vacation Bible School 2022 a wonderful experience. We had 42 students, 10 high school and middle school helpers and several adults who encountered the Jerusalem Marketplace. Students experienced weaving, carpentry, pottery, spices, basket weaving, jewelry-making, musical instruments and a bakery. Those opportunities were wound within the messages of Jesus' experiences during Holy Week.

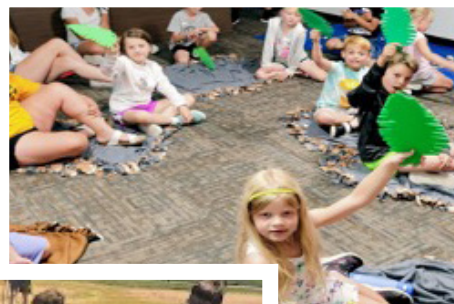
Students journeyed along with Jesus: entering Jerusalem as a king, teaching us to serve one another washing His apostles' feet, asking God if this cup could be passed, to His arrest, suffering and death on the cross. Then everyone rejoiced in the Resurrection at the empty tomb.

Students were able to recognize what Jesus did for us while here on earth. They realized it involved sacrifice and suffering; and most importantly, was done out of His love for us. And that He is still with us, always.

**"Jesus loves me, this I know!"**



*Alleluia!*





# Celebrate the birth of our Savior through music

By Sharon Ehlers

Christmas is the season to revisit and celebrate Christ's story: the prophecies which pointed to His coming, His birth, and His life. It is the incarnation story which is front and center: God coming to earth to live among us.

There are also other stories within the bigger story: the stories of Zechariah, Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds, aged Simeon, and the Wise Men. Each of these people played significant roles in the context of the larger story of Christ's birth.

**A Noel Celebration**, in part, tells their stories as we see them reflect on their own place in the unfolding narrative of God's miraculous plan.

But Christmas is also about our story. It is a time for us to recall the impact of Christ's arrival into our world, our life. It is an opportunity for us to rejoice in the news that God has shattered our own night of darkness with good news:

"Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord." It is an opportunity to celebrate anew with music, scripture, meaningful traditions, and the story of "...the Word becoming flesh and dwelling among us..."

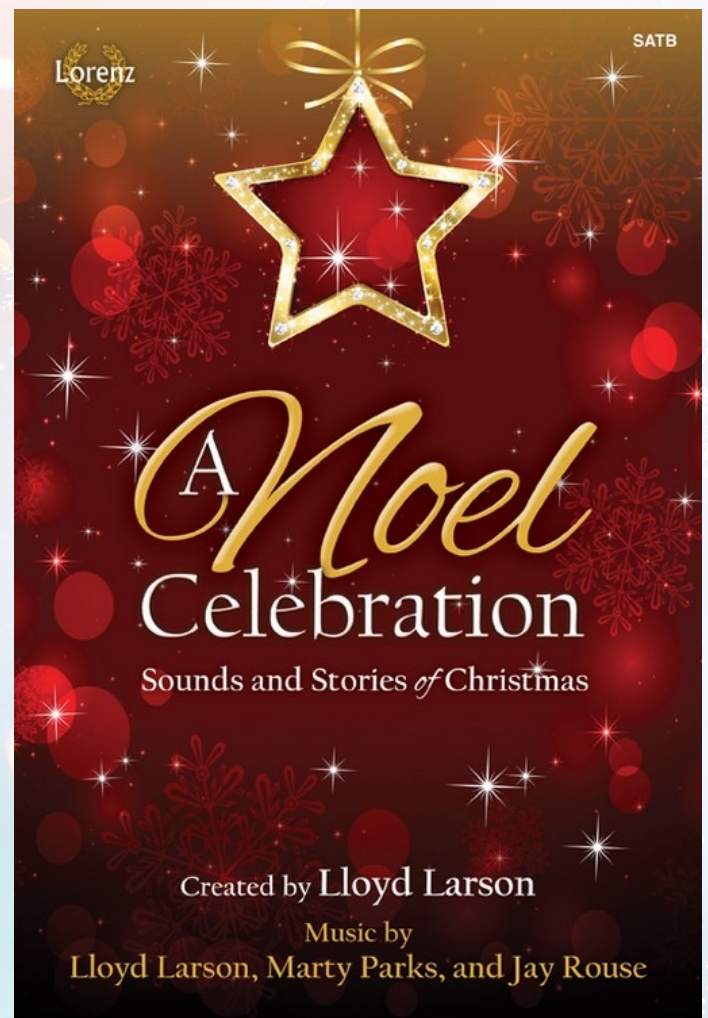
During the hustle and bustle of the season, the Adult Choir has the perfect way to reflect on the true meaning of the season. Join them as they present **A Noel Celebration**.

**Sunday, December 4, 2022**

**2:00 PM in the Church**

Reception to follow in the Gathering Space

The concert is FREE



“Today in the city of David a Savior has been born to you; He is Christ the Lord.”

# Here I Am Worship CEW 2023

After two Covid cancellations (2021 & Feb 2022), the CEW Planning Team is happy to announce the dates for the 2023 Women's and Men's CEWs (Christian Experience Weekends):

The theme, "Here I Am To Worship," chosen for the 30th annual set of weekend retreats at OLV, invites participants to join together with eagerness and jubilation in worship of Christ, our Savior, much like the followers shown in this year's logo who praised Jesus 2,000 years ago as He preached from a boat in the sea (Luke: Ch. 5).

**WOMEN'S CEW:**  
February 17 - 19, 2023

**MEN'S CEW:**  
March 3 - 5, 2023



For those not familiar with CEW, it can be explained as a spiritual retreat to reconnect with one's faith and one's God while discovering the joy and sacredness of growing with and worshipping among a community of believers. The weekend provides a unique opportunity to take a break from the demands of everyday life. It includes talks, small group discussions, private reflection time, prayer, Mass, and plenty of food and fellowship.

Please consider signing up for your life-changing CEW by filling out a registration form found on our parish website at: [olvjfk.com/olv/organizations/cew-christian-experience-weekend/](http://olvjfk.com/olv/organizations/cew-christian-experience-weekend/). Brochures with registration forms can also be found at the kiosk in the church's gathering space or in the parish office. It is not too early to sign up!

**If you have any questions about the coming Christian Experience Weekends, please contact one of the Directors:**

**Women's Director:**

Tracy Ripslinger  
563-940-7092  
[tripslinger@gmail.com](mailto:tripslinger@gmail.com)

**Men's Director:**

Rick Thomas  
563-388-5275  
[olvcewmens@gmail.com](mailto:olvcewmens@gmail.com)



# That Man Is You!

Have you heard? A new men's program called That Man Is You! is meeting on Saturday mornings and all men are welcome. You can start anytime, we would love for you to join the group.

This program is unlike anything else that you've experienced. It tackles real issues facing real men of all ages. It looks at the leadership role that has been entrusted to men and addresses the temptations and struggles men face in a culture that attacks authentic manhood. Finally, it helps formulate a plan that allows men to overcome these obstacles.



The program is hosted Saturday mornings from 6:00 AM to 7:30 AM in the OLV Parish Center. We start with breakfast, coffee, and some entertainment at 6 AM. Then there's a presentation at 6:30 that combines the best scientific research with the teachings of the Catholic Church and the wisdom of the saints. It's followed at 7:00 with breakout groups that provide the opportunity to discuss what's been presented. Finally, we're on the road by 7:30, so we can enjoy the weekend or attend mass at 8:00 AM.

The best way to judge a program is by its success... men who've attended the program and have been Catholic their whole lives say this is the program they've been waiting for. They consider it a "home run", saying it is hard to imagine how the program content could get any better. Priests say that it transforms men and saves marriages. It's that powerful!

God Bless,  
OLV TMIY Core Team



## SCAN CODE TO REGISTER

To learn more visit [www.TMIY.org](http://www.TMIY.org) or email your contact information to [olvtmiy@outlook.com](mailto:olvtmiy@outlook.com). If interested, register by visiting the website and searching for Our Lady of Victory.

# The Financial Picture

## INCOME STATEMENT FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

### INCOME

#### Parish

Envelopes/Offertory	\$1,291,565
Building Fund/Facility Rentals	\$101,069
Fundraising/Fees/Misc	\$214,998
Transfer from Foundation	\$64,468
Total	\$1,672,100

#### School

Tuition and Fees	\$1,730,502
Transfer from Parish	\$675,351
Gala/Grants/Misc	\$161,552
Total	\$2,567,405

**GRAND TOTAL INCOME**

**\$4,239,505**

### EXPENSES

#### Parish

Operations/Buildings	\$657,398
Elementary School Transfer	\$675,351
Activities/Ministries	\$186,375
High School Assessment	\$119,888
Total	\$1,639,012

#### School

Salaries & Benefits	\$2,123,360
Instructional Expense	\$163,577
Administration	\$154,260
Plant Operations	\$126,208
Total	\$2,567,405

**GRAND TOTAL INCOME**

**\$4,206,417**

**NET SURPLUS**

**\$33,088**

## LIVING OUR MISSION

We build our community of faith through inspiring and prayerful worship, lifelong education for all, and loving service to one another and those in need.

We celebrate our faith with daily and weekend Masses, weddings, funerals, anointing of the sick, All Souls Day liturgy, and Masses in American Sign Language. Other experiences of prayer such as blessing for expectant parents, Holy Hour, stations

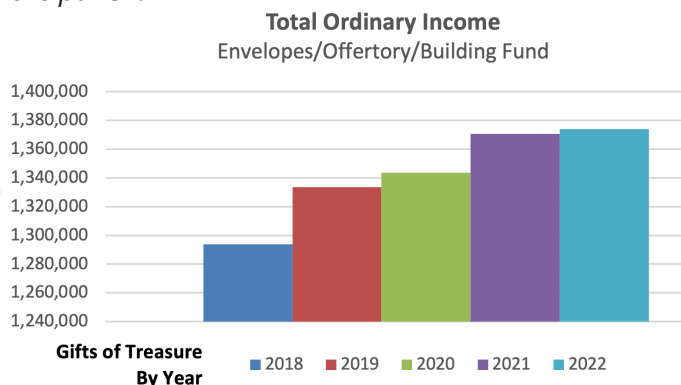
of the cross and the rosary inspire the soul and bring us closer to the Lord.

Firmly committed to lifelong learning we offer various adult small group studies, while parishioners of every generation gather for IGNITE Sundays to pray, share a meal, and explore how to live out God's love in their personal and family lives. Our school, youth ministry and faith formation programs are beehives of activity where students examine Catholic beliefs and practices to become empowered for discipleship.

Although some expenses were slightly over budget a net gain of \$33,088 was realized thanks to the generosity of our donors and a refund from Annual Diocesan Appeal. Of this amount \$24,000 was added to parish savings.

State of the Parish	Actual	Actual	Actual	BUDGET
Fiscal Year Ending	6/30/20	6/30/21	6/30/22	6/30/23
Parish Total Income	\$1,906,385	\$1,577,751	\$1,672,100	\$1,604,329
Parish Total Expenses	\$1,452,448	\$1,373,503	\$1,639,012	\$1,538,369
<b>Operating Surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>\$453,937</b>	<b>\$204,248</b>	<b>\$33,088</b>	<b>\$65,960</b>
Applied to mortgage	\$349,259			\$60,000
Transferred to capital campaign		\$65,000		
Net Surplus (deficit)	\$104,678	\$139,248	\$33,088	\$5,960

Detailed financial statements are available at the parish office. Members of the staff or Finance Council are happy to answer questions about the condition of the parish.



We enable our members to grow as one family with quality activities like the parish picnic, Gala, Trunk or Treat, fellowship for seniors, thanksgiving dinner, and a s'mores campfire on the ball field.

Guided by the Pope's encyclical, *Laudato Si*, we answer the call to care for creation and the poor with personal commitments to use less water, plastic and energy, and donations of food, diapers and supplies to those who are struggling.





# OLV Foundation Harvest Day Dinner

Autumn is one occasion when we hopefully reap the benefits of our labor. Harvest time often rewards us for our diligence and steadfastness towards reaching our goals regardless if they are personal, financial or spiritual. Patience is an important ingredient in this formula. We prepare the soil, plant, tend to our seedlings and wait for summer and Mother Nature to assist us. So it is with life.

Many of us create New Year's resolutions to help guide us on our journey. Sometimes it's helpful to reflect upon how well we've done towards achieving those promises we make to ourselves. How many of us have kept our resolutions? How have you measured up on your personal goals? Are you dissatisfied because you have given up on yours? Do you get discouraged when you can't even remember what plans you created on January 1st?

There is no need to. The potential for failure seems to be everywhere. Yet one is not a failure if he/she hasn't progressed towards achieving one's goals. We are all human and God reminds us that we are not perfect. Much of Jesus' message was how acceptable we already are in our humanity and our brokenness. He also reminds us that we are already enough as we are. If one strives for perfection, it can result in stress, a constant state of worry about what could happen. Are you in that room?

The Foundation Board wants to reassure you that your life and investments are in an excellent condition, especially when one trusts in the Lord. There are so many factors that one cannot control so why worry about them. As Jesus said, "Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at



the birds of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns. Yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? Can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

Yes, it is wise to establish resolutions and strive to make them happen. Storms may occur that interrupt life's adventure. However, if you put your faith in God, He will provide. Don't worry about will I have enough money to meet my needs during retirement. Forget about inflation, the stock market, whatever worries you. If your life's Foundation is built on solid rock, you will manage to live peacefully, especially during your golden years. The OLV Foundation exemplifies this type of security despite whatever occurs in our economy.

The Stoic philosopher Seneca said, "We suffer more in imagination than in reality." His contention was that when we spend time worrying about a possible problem, we suffer more than if we were actually experiencing the problem.

Trust in your faith and you will be rich indeed. Fertilize your intentions with prayer. Now is the time to relax and join your co-parishioners as we celebrate the fruits of your labor in the Harvest Day Dinner! Our annual celebration returns October 23rd after a two year hiatus due to Covid. Please call the parish office, if you haven't already, to reserve your place at our table as we gather together in this joyous occasion.

**All are welcome!**





## Ribbon Tree

OLV is again partnering with Friendly House to help make a memorable Christmas for children in their system.

This will be a drive-up, drop-off event to be held on Sunday November 13th from 12pm to 2pm. We will be accepting unwrapped toys, books, clothing, cash or gift cards. Gift cards will be available to purchase through Victory Vouchers if desired. There are a large number of children in their program and they range from infant to 18 years of age. Your generosity will be greatly appreciated.

Don't forget, mark your calendar for November 13th. Thanks again. St. Gabriel's Circle

## New and Gently Used Holiday Sale

### By Maureen Mosse

OLV's holiday sale featuring new and gently used Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas items will be held on **November 19th 8am to 6pm and November 20th, 6:00am to 1:00pm**. Donations for the sale can be dropped off in the bins at the front entrance of the church starting November 9th.

Volunteers are needed to help unpack and display items. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Maureen Mosse at **563-386-8658**.

Proceeds from this event will benefit Our Lady of Victory.

# 2022 Christmas Carousel Bazaar

By Jeanne Barnett

The OLV Ladies Council would like to invite you to our annual CHRISTMAS CAROUSEL bazaar. This is a major fund-raising project for our Church. The Bazaar will be held:

**Saturday, November 5 from 8:00am to 4:00pm and Sunday, November 6 from 9:00am to 1:00pm**

The Bazaar offers many handmade, homemade items, including crafts, ceramics, toys, floral arrangements, American Girl Doll clothes and Barbie Doll clothes, Christmas items and many, many more items. There is a Fall Room and a Jewelry Boutique for your shopping pleasure.

Take a chance on our Raffle, which features a grand prize of \$1,000.00 along with five other monetary prizes. YOU JUST MIGHT WIN! There is also a raffle of an American Girl Doll. (You can dress your doll in American Girl doll clothes made by St. Therese Circle)

We will serve donuts and homemade breakfast items on Saturday and Sunday morning if you are an early riser. After shopping, try a tasty lunch of homemade soups, a hot dog and a chicken salad croissant sandwich and a dessert. The Bake Shop offers a wide variety of delicious pies, cakes and cookies. The Candy Shop will satisfy your sweet tooth with their divinity, peanut butter balls and fudge.

**WE HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE THERE!**



# The Season of Creation



*The Burning Bush*  
Ex 3:1-12

*Listen to the  
Voice of creation*  
SEASON OF CREATION 2022

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Season of Creation is the annual Christian celebration to listen and respond together to the cry of Creation: the ecumenical family around the world unites to pray and protect our common home.

The Season "Celebration" begins on 1 September, the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, and ends on 4 October, the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of ecology beloved by many Christian denominations.

This year we will unite around the theme, "Listen to the Voice of Creation."

The Psalmist declares, "The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork. Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge...their voice is not heard; yet their voice goes out through all the Earth, and their words to the end of the world." (19: 1-4)

During the Season of Creation, our common prayer and action can help us listen for the voices of those who are silenced. In prayer we lament the individuals, communities, species, and ecosystems who are lost, and those whose livelihoods are threatened by habitat loss and climate change. In prayer we center the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor.

May this 2022 Season of Creation renew our ecumenical unity, renewing and uniting us by our bond of Peace in one Spirit, in our call to care for our common home. And may this season of prayer and action be a time to Listen to the Voice of Creation, so that our lives in words and deeds proclaim good news for all the Earth.

In God's grace,

Members of the Season of Creation Advisory Committee

**Thank you to all the OLV parishioners who have prayed, followed the blessed practices, and/or advocated for our planet and poor. In our silent prayers, may we hear the cry of the earth and the vulnerable. We find unity and harmony when we call on the Holy Spirit, as we listen with purity of heart and soul deeply and consciously.**

## Thanksgiving Holiday Dinner

By Maureen Mosse



The 5th annual Thanksgiving dinner will be served family style in the JFK Cafeteria on Thursday, **November 24th at 12:00pm.**

With many volunteers and food donations we are able to provide this dinner for parishioners and friends so that no one is home alone for the holiday. Deliveries to those that are homebound will also be provided this year. Please contact the Parish Office at **563-391-4245** to make your reservation. If you are in need of assistance entering the building for the meal please let us know that when you call to make your reservation.

# Caring for the Caregiver

By Char McGovern



**"I'm so overwhelmed, getting more and more involved in caring for my parents."**

**"There's so many decisions to make, I could really use some help."**

If these thoughts have ever crossed your mind, you are not alone. Virtually every one of us will care for a loved one at some time in our life. Though rewarding, it's not always easy. Nourish for Caregivers is for anyone juggling the challenges of everyday life, health, career and caring for an aging parent, spouse or grandparent, in town or at a distance. Nourish provides caregivers a faith perspective, as well as practical and emotional supports, useful tools, and shared experience.

OLV's caregiver support group, was excited to have Eleanor Kiel as a guest presenter at our last meeting. Eleanor is the Director of Music at St. John Vianney Catholic Church in Bettendorf. She talked about the value of music to promote wellness, enhance memory, manage stress and, how it can help someone to express their feelings when sometimes words do not work or cannot soothe by themselves. Music and voice are spiritual and deeply connected tools that can be extremely meaningful to someone that is in pain, or family that is in need of healing. It can be an outlet of expression, normalization of the hospital environment, and coping skills for procedures, tests, and other various treatments.

Nourish meets on the third Thursday of every month in the Gathering Space Meeting Room in the church from 1:00pm to 2:30pm. Discover the blessings that come from caring for another. **Be nourished.**



**The OLV Health Ministry team** is excited to welcome two familiar faces to our team; Bonnie Beyhl, OTR/L as health advocate and John Wagner, RN, BSN, MA, MPTH. Bonnie was the first Health Advocate at OLV. After taking a few years off to be with her small grandchildren, she is now returning to this ministry. "I am happy to be back, really missed this ministry" Bonnie said. John Wagner is a Deacon here at the parish. He recently retired and is now part of our team as a Parish Nurse. "I am happy to join a team that has a nice variety of experiences in Health Ministry and Parish Nursing," John said. We are excited to have both Bonnie and John on our team!





Our Lady of Victory Parish  
4105 N. DIVISION ST.  
DAVENPORT, IA 52806

FIRST CLASS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
XXXXXX



<Sample A. Sample>  
<1234 Any Street>  
<Suite 1234>  
<Anytown, US 12345-6789>



➔ FOR OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS AND MORE VISIT [OLVJFK.COM](http://OLVJFK.COM)

## Schedule of IGNITE Sundays

**4:30-5:20 Mass (Church)**  
**5:25-6:05 Meal (Parish Center)**  
**6:10-7:15 Group gatherings**

Child care, Kindergarten-2nd grade,  
3rd-5th grade, 6th-8th grade, High School,  
Young Adults, and Adult groups

You are invited to attend all or part of any  
of these future events. Check the website  
and bulletin for more information.

### THEMES FOR UPCOMING GATHERINGS:

**Oct. 2: Exploring the Rosary**  
**Oct. 16: Popular Culture & Our Faith**  
**Nov. 13: Faith and Reason**  
**Dec. 11: Advent**



Follow us on Facebook,  
Instagram, YouTube & Twitter

We are excited to announce that IGNITE Sundays have returned to Our Lady of Victory. We invite you to come experience what IGNITE Sundays are all about and would love to have you invite other friends and family to join you as we build our community. Each component of IGNITE Sunday stands alone so you can join us for one, two, or all three parts of the evening, please see the schedule to the left for each IGNITE Sunday.

The Free Little Food Pantry was constructed by a wonderful group of volunteers during last season's IGNITE Sundays. We have been blessed with the generous support of our parishioners that donate to keep the Free Little Food Pantry stocked. While there is no cost to attend any part of IGNITE Sundays we would like to encourage people to bring 1 nonperishable food item to help keep the pantry stocked.

Just a few suggestions if you are looking for what items to donate: cereal, canned meats, peanut butter, pasta, canned pasta sauce, canned fruit, granola bars, and shelf stable meals.

