

The Victory Voice

A note from Father Jake

As we approach the celebration of the Sacred Triduum, please know of Fr. Andrew's and my prayers during these final days of Lent. We also have nine people entering the church at the Easter Vigil, so let all of us pray that these individuals may be blessed abundantly by our Lord as they receive the Sacraments of Initiation. Our parish will have much to celebrate this Easter, but let us not take these final days of Lent for granted. Our Lord is calling to us everyday to draw closer to Him.

March is quickly coming to an end, so this means that JFK is moving towards the end of the school year. As I have mentioned many times in my bulletin articles, this school year will be the final year before Scott County Catholic Schools (SCCS) comes into existence. This means that all of the parishes in Scott County will be moving towards a regionalized school system that will bring forth the following benefits:

- Improved efficiencies and resource sharing
- Enhanced program offerings
- Increased professional development opportunities
- Pastors who can focus more on the pastoral leadership for their school
- School administrators who can focus more on their school's educational needs and development of their staffs
- Common compensation and benefits
- Enhanced ability for managing enrollment through marketing, branding, recruitment and retention
- Larger funding opportunities
- Tuition that better matches the actual cost of education for a child with expanded tuition assistance to keep it affordable for all
- Reasonable and affordable parish subsidies due to increased revenue streams for the overall system from other sources

The passage of the Students First Act in Iowa will definitely help to accomplish these benefits much sooner than anticipated. However, there are still many questions that have to be answered by the Iowa Department of Education, so I should be able to share more about how Education Savings Accounts will help JFK students and the entire SCCS system in the near future. Regardless of this significant development, SCCS will bring forth many benefits for our parishes.

I have been heavily involved with the formation of SCCS, and it is good to see the many years of hard work now coming together. However, I also know that there will be plenty of challenges ahead, so I appreciate everyone's patience and support during the coming months. I will continue to do my best to communicate what is happening with SCCS, and as always, if you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to Andy Craig, the President of SCCS, or me. I am personally excited about the opportunities to come, and the growing pains will be worth it!

Again, please be assured of my prayers. I look forward to celebrating the upcoming Solemnities with all of you.

Our Lady of Victory, pray for us!

Father Jake

REV. JACOB M. GREINER
Pastor



Preparing for Easter

By Jean Simpson



Lent is a great time for the deep dive in reflecting on our life! If we are to be useful servants in acts of justice and charity, we must first reflect and connect. Be curious and caring about those we serve. 40 days to read in the morning and reflect on how we did at the end of the day. This is our silent time with God and it is powerful. Jesus promises us if we seek, we shall find: "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free" John 8:32. Jesus tells us how to pray, defines the foundation of our discipleship, practices and the attitudes of his "salt of the earth" followers.

1. How to pray?

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/matthew/6>

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

2. Who are my disciples?

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/john/13>

"I am giving you a new commandment, that you love one another; just as I have loved you, that you also love one another. By this all people will know that you are My disciples: if you have love for one another."

3. What is the greatest commandment?

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/matthew/22>

"Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And He said to him, "'YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, AND WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, AND WITH ALL YOUR MIND.' This is the great and foremost commandment. The second is like it, 'YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF.' Upon these two commandments hang the whole Law and the Prophets"

4. How do I practice my faith?

<https://bible.usccb.org/bible/matthew/5> Matt 5:3-12

BE-ATTITUDES

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.

Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you [falsely] because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

We need to be vigilant with our spirit. We strive for God's will and way which is noble, reverent, moderate, helpful, persistent, patient, kind and humble but then leave all perfection and outcomes to God. I've learned if I do the right thing, in the right way, at the right time, I may not get instant results or any credit but it is never wasted. Trusting God's Timing can be hard. Prayers and reflection to help us become more useful disciples and prepare us for the joy and miracles of Easter.

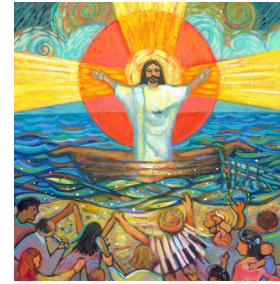
Christian Experience Weekend (CEW)

By Tracy Ripslinger

CEW RALLIES AFTER 2 YEAR SHUTDOWN

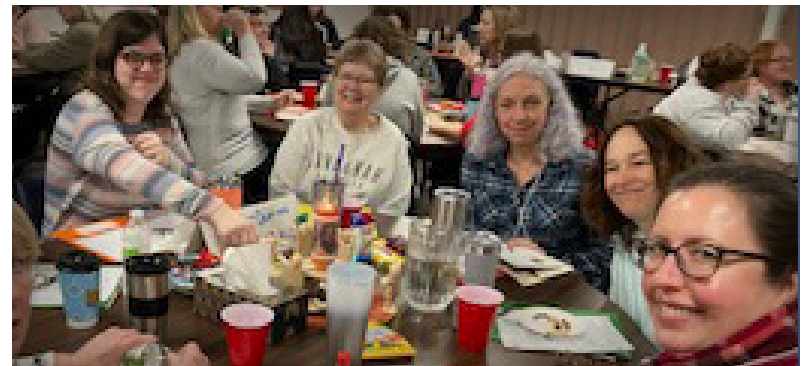
Annual Christian Experience Weekends (CEWs) have been going strong at OLV for 30+ years, but with 2 years of cancellations due to the pandemic, many wondered if CEWs could be revived. Through 2020, 2021, and 2022, the leadership groups for the Women's and the Men's CEWs, along with their teams, continued to forge on with their planning. Finally, dates were set for the 2023 "Here I Am To Worship" CEWs....February 17 - 19 for Women and March 3 - 5 for Men.

Right before the deadline to submit for this Victory Voice publication, the Women's CEW had just taken place. The results were phenomenal. The Women's CEW was attended in near-record numbers. Under the Spiritual Direction of Father Jake and Trish Gallagher, seventy-two women participated in the weekend-long retreat which was held at the OLV Parish Center & JFK School. The participants were diverse in their ages. Younger women in their 20's and 30's represented about 25% of the participants. 45% of the women were in the "middle-aged" category, and women age 60+ made up the final 30% of the 72 women in attendance. This combination of "young and old" made for a fabulous blending of perspectives and conversation. There were six mother-daughter groups in attendance; one of those combinations included a mother who had three of her children participate. There was even a "Grandmother-Two Daughter-Granddaughter" combo participating. The large majority of the women were from our OLV parish, but there were women of other faiths who also came, as well as women who travelled in from Colorado, Georgia, Missouri, and Illinois.



The Women's Weekend featured wonderful presentations on a variety of topics including spirituality, study, grace, and much more. There were masses, prayer services, time for reflection and prayer, small group discussions, opportunities to show creativity and imagination, and exquisite meals. And behind the scenes, to ensure a wonderful weekend for all, was a crew vast in number volunteering their time, labor, and prayer for the benefit of all on the weekend.

In the end, the 2023 Women's CEW provided the "spiritual refuel" that so many were in search of. The women on the weekend were able to separate themselves from their daily duties, worries, and hectic schedules. In doing so, they could focus on Christ and their relationship with Him, and in the process, experience a profound joy in worshipping and growing among a community of believers.



Ignite Sundays

By Jennifer Wemhoff & Kaye Meyers

Did you watch a cradle/manger transform into a cross during our Advent gathering? Which of the saints have had visions of Heaven and Hell? Will we wear clothes in heaven? These are just a few things we discovered during recent IGNITE Sundays.

By the time you read this article there will only be a couple more Season Two IGNITE Sundays. It's never too late to experience an IGNITE Sunday. Each gathering stands alone and we welcome you at any time.

Will there be a Season 3? Stay tuned to future publications to find out!



Schedule Of IGNITE Sundays

4:30-5:20 Mass (Church)

5:25-6:05 Meal (Parish Center)

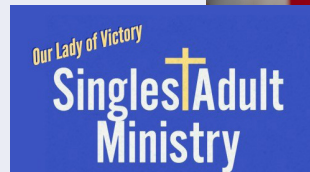
6:10-7:15 Group gatherings

(Child care, Campfire for students in grade: Kindergarten-8th grade, High School, Young Adults, and Adult groups)

Remember each week stands alone, so join us at any time. You are invited to attend all or part of the events. Make sure to check the website and bulletin for more information prior to each IGNITE.

OLV Singles

By Jim Yackley



One year ago, the OLV Singles Group formed to share friendship, good conversation and combat loneliness. The group is open to singles, widows, widowers and divorced Catholics 21 years and older. It is not a dating group, but a way for singles to meet singles. We currently have a wonderful young lady that is in her 90's. We have played cards, gone out for lunch, played mini golf during the summer, gone to Circa 21, and most recently started having movie nights. Members also attend other church functions such as dinners, trivia night and bingo. This summer members are planning on learning to play Pickleball, take a day trip, going golfing, playing putt-putt golf at palmer hills, and anything else people can think of.

Our mission is to plan for events involving community service, faith building, and social/fellowship. OLV Singles invites interested Catholic singles to come check out our outings. Please feel free to come on your own or bring a friend! Watch the bulletin for our upcoming events.

Upcoming Event

PURIFIED



A LIFE-CHANGING EVENT FOR FAMILIES (AGES 13+)

The innocence of the family is under attack like never before. **Come and discover how to protect and heal yours.**



JASON EVERT

is a bestselling author of more than fifteen books, and has brought the message of chastity to more than two million people on six continents.

He and his wife Crystalina run the ministry Chastity Project and its website, chastity.com.

MONDAY, September 11, 2023 | 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

OUR LADY OF VICTORY
CATHOLIC CHURCH
4105 N. Division St.
Davenport, IA 52806



**CHASTITY
PROJECT**

Register: Chastity.com/Purified

Tickets \$20

Info: davolvaff@diodav.org

EVENING INCLUDES:

Chastity presentation for teens & parents

Sacrament of Reconciliation | Eucharistic Adoration | Free materials for every family!

To know. To love. To serve.

By Abbey Heinrichs

As Catholics, it is our mission to know God, to love God, and to serve Him. This is our focus in the youth room this semester. Over the first several months of the school year, we spent time getting to know each other, a little more about ourselves, and diving deeper into our questions about God and our faith. But we are called to more. We are called to not only know Him, but through prayer, through scripture, through the sacraments, we are to love Him. And once we know and love God, what else is there to do but serve Him?

Each youth night, we have been taking out our bibles and reading scripture. We pray with it, meditate on it, and discuss with each other the way God is speaking to us through it. Following prayer, we close by all joining together and singing "Lord, I Need You" by Matt Maher. Closing in this way helps us remember that in it all we need Him. Every hour. Every day, we need Him. It is so hopeful to see this young generation come together to play games and have fun, but then also open the Word of God and allow Him to work in their lives.

Here are some highlights of what we've had going on and some exciting things coming up:



Christmas Caroling: In December, we hopped on a bus and went around the community to homes of teachers, the retired priests and nuns, and a nursing home to spread some Christmas cheer.

SEEK: A small group of high school guys went to the SEEK Conference in St. Louis. They heard some of the best Catholic speakers including Fr. Mike Schmitz, Sr. Miriam James, and more. The conference had daily Mass, adoration, talks and breakouts, concerts, and more.

Mass After Dark: We've continued to fill the couch for a candlelit Mass in the youth room once a month. It's become a night many high schoolers look forward to each month.

AHS Bible Studies: There is now both a guy's and a girl's weekly bible study before school at Assumption High School. Several students set their alarms extra early to come have breakfast and pray before going to class.

Sweetheart Dinner: We had 24 students come to help serve the Sweetheart Dinner this year. We continued with the to-go option but also brought the in-person event back for the first time in a few years. The food was delicious, the decorations were beautiful, and the service was amazing. Join us next year!

Keep an eye out for all of the high school events coming up this spring and summer including a spring retreat and NCYC!

As always, keep the high school youth in your prayers as they continue to know, love, and serve.

Happy Easter from Your Foundation

By Mike Lazio

Easter Sunday marks the day when Jesus rose from the dead, symbolizing the renewal of faith and providing hope for eternal life. Many people believe that Christmas is the most significant event in the Catholic Church. However, Easter is the greatest triumph in the Catholic Church because it is the culmination of the Holy week. Easter commemorates the beginning and foundation of Christianity. It demonstrates that Jesus conquered sin and death. As we celebrate the Easter Season, we pause once again to give thanks for our blessings and the people in our lives.

Jesus' resurrection remains the most significant wonder of our Christian faith. His word to all is that anything is possible. Who would have thought that a handful of OLV members in 1989 could create a Foundation, or that it would impact our parish's future as much as it has? The cornerstone of the Foundation's financial stability has been formed and continues into perpetuity. It is an example of what is possible when we work together towards a common goal.

The OLV Foundation would like to congratulate the Stewardship Committee for its excellent production of the "Leave Your Legacy of Faith" brochure that was recently mailed to all parishioners. Their pamphlet effectively outlines the numerous avenues each of us can choose to help build our Legacy. "We all leave a legacy, our children, family name, our traditions, and the many people whose lives we've touched with kindness and generosity."



Our Lady of Victory
Foundation
Creating Tomorrow's Parish Today

“
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our children, family
name, our traditions, and
the many people whose
lives we've touched with
kindness and generosity.**
”

An excerpt from the pamphlet states, "Giving through an estate plan is a powerful way to leave a legacy and support Our Lady of Victory Church." Our parish's mission is to foster a community that lives and shares the preaching, teaching and healing of Christ. All gifts to the Foundation directly promote this cause. Have you planted the seeds for your legacy? We welcome you to join the many other donors who have and continue to contribute to the OLV Foundation.

The Foundation's success is contingent upon and only possible because of the generosity of all donors. Regardless of the size of your gift, all charitable offerings are welcome! Your efforts are most worthwhile as we look forward to an Easter Season of growth and new life. We thank all who have supported your Foundation and continue to demonstrate their commitment to it!

Jesus' resurrection at Easter not only renews our faith but also gives us peace, restores our souls, mends our brokenness, and helps us to conquer our struggles, especially when we are overwhelmed. Let us be glad and rejoice at Easter!

Please contact any Foundation Board member or Father Jake if you have any questions about participating in your Foundation's long-term goals. May God's blessings continue to descend upon you and your families at this Easter Season. May it be so.

Guardian Angel Preschool

By Ethan Connors



From the moment of birth, children begin to learn about the world. These early learning experiences affect their future cognitive, social, physical and emotional development. Although children are actively learning whenever they are at home, attending story hour at the library, or participating in kid-centered community events, a structured preschool learning opportunity can be beneficial for any young child.

JFK has preschool classes for three year olds, four year olds, and five year olds.

Three-year-olds have three options for preschool at JFK: Monday-Wednesday-Friday, Tuesday-Thursday, or Monday through Friday, mornings only, between the hours of 7:25-9:55am. While in attendance, these youngest students become acclimated to preschool activities with an emphasis on socialization, problem-solving, and following directions. Table activities introduce students to holding pencils and using scissors, for example, and students use the outdoor play area as well. Children must turn three by their first day of attendance or by September 15th of the year they begin 3-year-old preschool, and they must be able to use the bathroom independently. There is a tuition charge for preschool.

JFK's four-year-old preschool classes meet for approximately three hours five days a week in the morning or the afternoon. Capped at 20 students with a ten-to-one or less student-to-adult ratio, group instruction emphasizes emerging literacy and math skills. Large motor skill activities take place in a fenced, outdoor play area. Children



must turn four years of age on or by September 15th of the year they begin the 4-year-old program at Guardian Angel. While most of the 4 year old program is FREE, JFK's preschool program is longer than required by the Iowa Department of Education, so there is an extended time fee paid at the time of registration. Five year old students can register for a second year of preschool at a tuition rate.

Families needing childcare can take advantage of the Early Childhood Learning Center's (ECLC) option of wrap-around care. Childcare begins at 7:00 am and ends at 5:30 pm. There are full-time and part-time options. A hot lunch is provided, and a period of napping is scheduled for all the 3 year olds, with an option for 4-year-olds to nap as well. The ECLC and its staff are licensed by the Iowa Department of Human Services.

Three, four, and five year old preschool and daycare registration has begun and waiting lists will begin soon for some classes. Spots can go fast, so don't delay registration. For more information, call the JFK school office at 563-391-3030.



Come join us for a "Roaring" good time!

The OLV/JFK Roaring 20's Gala

Save the Date

\$35 per person
dinner-beer & wine
are hosted



SCAN CODE TO
PURCHASE TICKETS



April 15,
2023
5:30-11 pm

Hickory Creek
Convention
Center

OLV Health Ministry

By Char McGovern



Where do you turn to if you have medical questions, are in the hospital or thinking about moving into senior living which can include assisted living, memory unit or complete nursing care? On the information page in the bulletin (last page) are the numbers of your health ministry team, Parish nurse and health advocates. You can also call the rectory and the staff will reach out to us. We also help with GriefShare - 13 week grief support group, Nourish-our monthly caregiver support group, meeting 3rd Thursday of every month at 1pm, we are part of the Wellness committee and we assist with blood pressure clinic on the first weekend of the month in the nurses room.

Upcoming Program

Milestones programs coming soon

By Char McGovern



SCAN CODE
TO CONNECT

In collaboration with Zion Lutheran Church, Milestones Area Agency on Aging is providing **FREE**, evidence based programs for those over 60 years old, starting the week after Easter. Two programs will be at OLV-**Stepping On starts on Wednesday, April 12th from 1-3pm for 7 weeks**; this program is a community supported program to aid seniors in achieving better balance as they age. The second program hosted by OLV is **Better Choices, Better Health starting on Friday, April 14th from 12:30-3:00pm for 6wks**. BCBH is for anyone that has a chronic disease. Discussion will be about diet, exercise and choices that can help anyone with a chronic disease cope better with their disease. The third program is Beginning TaiChi to improve balance. This will be held at Zion Lutheran Church, 1216 W.8th St. Davenport, starting Monday, April 10th from 2-3pm. Anyone over the age of 60 is welcome at no charge. To register, go online to www.milestonesaaa.org or call Sonita at 563-723-5969, leaving your name, how many are coming and to which class(es) you would like to attend. You may meet some new friends from OLV and Zion Lutheran. Classes are limited in numbers so please sign up soon.

Driving the Parish Mission

By Judy Johnson

As we continue to “live and share the preaching, teaching, and healing of Christ,” Our Lady of Victory parish relies on the collective wisdom and talents of our members. Fortunately, we are blessed with a robust and spirit-filled Parish Pastoral Council that values our history and is passionate about our future. The Council will have three open positions in June, and we are looking for individuals willing to assist Fr. Jake in his leadership role to know and serve the parish.

The Pastoral Council is a place for constructive dialogue and collaboration. It meets monthly and consists of nine voting members who serve a 3-year term, plus various ex-officio members. Basic responsibilities include support for existing ministries, organizing the annual parish picnic and appreciation night, and planning for the future by recommending priorities and policies. Members should be able to attend a majority of the meetings, study a matter deeply, and draw sound conclusions.

Guided by prayer and the Holy Spirit, three new Council members and one alternate will be selected by drawing from a list of candidates, held at the Vigil Mass on Saturday, June 3. Any active parish member, 18 years of age or older, is eligible for nomination. The tenure of newly selected members begins in June. The alternate will be seated if a vacancy occurs before the next year's drawing. We are now seeking nominations for individuals willing to be on the list for selection in June.



Chuck Gerlach, Pastoral Council President

Chuck Gerlach, our current President, is finishing a second term. He has found the Council to be a wonderful opportunity to meet new people and develop stronger relationships. He says, “The time commitment is modest, but the personal rewards have been great. I’m proud of our parish and all that has been accomplished over the years. It has been a privilege to serve on this board.” Helping the parish to grow and flourish prompted Chuck to serve as a member of the Pastoral Council. Please consider this your invitation to keep it going—think about joining the Parish Pastoral Council to serve as a representative voice of our larger parish family.

If God is not personally calling you to a position on the Council, perhaps the Holy Spirit is prompting you to encourage someone you know. Every parish member is asked to think about the coming selection process, pray for potential candidates, and make nominations. Candidates don’t have to be saints or superstars. A genuine interest and willingness to work for the good of the whole parish is all that’s required. Anyone may nominate themselves or another person. (Please ask permission first.) Contact Judy Johnson, 563-210-5154, judyj1020@msn.com to discuss or make a nomination.



Our Lady of Victory Parish
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DAVENPORT, IA 52806

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→ FOR OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS AND MORE VISIT OLVJFK.COM

Holy Week At Our Lady of Victory

HOLY THURSDAY: April 6th at 7:00 pm

GOOD FRIDAY: April 7th 3:00 pm & 7:00 pm

EASTER VIGIL: April 8th at 8:30 pm

EASTER SUNDAY: April 9th 7:00 am,
9:00 am & 11:00 am

Please note that the following Masses will
be recorded and available on our parish
website www.olvjfk.com/olv:

HOLY THURSDAY: April 14th 7:00pm

GOOD FRIDAY: April 15th 7:00pm

EASTER SUNDAY: April 17th 9:00am

OFFERTORY

You may make your offertory gift to Our
Lady of Victory online at olvjfk.com/olv
or you can mail it to the parish office.



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THEMES FOR UPCOMING
IGNITE SUNDAYS GATHERINGS:

April 2: Experiencing Holy Week

April 16: Eucharistic Miracles