

# The Victory Voice

## A note from Father Jake

I want to begin by thanking Fr. Patrick Hilgendorf for letting me write this final Victory Voice article. Many of you want to get to know your new Pastor, but I felt that I needed to address a couple of realities before I depart on June 30th for my new assignment.

There are many changes happening in our parish right now. Please know that the change of Pastor, the creation of Scott County Catholic Schools, and the changes in our Faith Formation program were all separate events that have merged together over the last three months. Each of these developments will have different effects upon OLV so, I greatly appreciate your prayers for all of these transitions. I also appreciate your patience with these transitions. Many of us do not like change. However, I am confident that God will bless the parish through all of these changes.

As I reflect upon my time here at OLV, I am truly grateful for the wonderful experiences that God has brought into my life through the opportunity to serve here. I feel very lucky and blessed. I also know that I came here to OLV as an inexperienced Pastor, and I know that I made plenty of mistakes throughout my tenure. If I have hurt anyone or did not meet their expectations, I ask for their forgiveness. I have grown as a priest because I have learned a lot along the way. Again, I am sorry for any mistakes or failures, but I head to Burlington with a lot more knowledge and experience.

Finally, there are so many individual people that I want to thank publicly, but the list is too long for this column. However, let me recognize three different groups here at OLV that I believe need special recognition. I want to begin by thanking the staff for all of their hard work. It has been a pleasure and honor to work with these amazing people who are dedicated to providing all of the ministry that happens here at OLV. I also want to thank all of the parishioners who have volunteered over the years in the

parish and school. We are blessed with a big staff, but without all of the volunteers, many things would go undone. Finally, I want to thank all of the parishioners for your amazing example of stewardship. OLV is able to do much because you truly give in proportion to the blessings that God has poured into your lives. The latest example is the Upon This Rock campaign, but there are too many to list. The witness of this parish has been amazing!

Please know of my continued prayers during this time of transition. If there is something I can do from Burlington to aid in these transitions, please do not hesitate to let me know. Please also know that I will be forever indebted to this parish dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of our Lord, and Our Lady of Victory!

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

**Father Jake**

REV. JACOB M. GREINER  
Pastor



# Mary A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother

By Jennifer Wemhoff

Have you ever wondered why Mary is so important to our faith as Catholics? We turn to her in prayer, in the Mass, in the Rosary, and in Marian devotions. We honor her with special feasts celebrating the significant events in her life. We place images of her in our churches and homes.

## Join us for Mary:

A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother, an extraordinary study that reveals Mary's unique role in God's Kingdom and in our lives. Filmed on location in the Holy Land, Mary: A Biblical Walk with the Blessed Mother will place you in the midst of the powerful drama of her earthly life, taking you through her joys and her sorrows. You will learn how she works in our lives today, drawing us ever closer to her divine Son. Mary will become a part of your daily life and help you to become more like Christ.

## Join Us!

For an 8-Week Journey with the Blessed Mother

- This 8-week study will meet on the following Thursdays in the Gathering Space Meeting Room from 6:30-8:00pm: Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28, Oct. 5, 12, 19 and 26. To register for the study or for more information contact Jennifer at [davolvaff@diodav.org](mailto:davolvaff@diodav.org) or 563-508-2346. Registrations are due by Monday August 21, 2023.

# St. Anne's Circle Bingo

## SAVE THE DATE

By Helen White

**BINGO** - Join us for an afternoon of Bingo, October 22nd in the Parish Center. **PRIZES 50/50 RAFFLE DOOR PRIZE RAFFLE.**

*More information to come, closer to the date.*



# Giving Back: The OLV Foundation

By Jenny VanGenderen

I feel blessed that I have been a member of Our Lady of Victory parish since I was born, and I am always looking for ways to give back to the parish that has given so much to me and my family. I am thankful for those who started the Our Lady of Victory Foundation years ago. They had a vision to ensure the financial needs of the parish for generations to come. The OLV Foundation is an approved tax-exempt 501(c)(3) corporation with its purpose being to receive and invest funds to be a source of financial support to our church and school. When the OLV Foundation began, I was a third grader at John F. Kennedy Catholic School. Currently, I send my children to JFK and serve on the OLV Foundation Board. I see giving to the OLV Foundation as a great way for my family to support the parish now and in the future. It is incredible to think of the impact the OLV Foundation has had on Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church and JFK since its inception in 1989. Through participants' generosity and sound fiscal management, the OLV Foundation portfolio value as of December 31, 2022 was \$1,274,020. In just the last five years the OLV Foundation has been able to give back to the parish from its "distribution of earnings" \$323,000. The earnings have been used to help with education needs, major facility improvements for the church and school, and many projects that will benefit the parish for years to come. I am thankful to all of those who have given their talents, time, and treasure to this great cause- creating tomorrow's parish today.

If you would like to learn more about the OLV Foundation, or how you can get involved, please visit the Foundation Facts page on the OLV website, [olvjfk.com/olv/olv-foundation/foundation-facts/](http://olvjfk.com/olv/olv-foundation/foundation-facts/), the OLV Foundation Facebook Page, or reach out to one of our board members.

The OLV Foundation Board is pleased to serve on your behalf, and hopes that with your prayers and support, the OLV Foundation will be able to sustain our parish family for generations to come.



**Our Lady of Victory**  
*Foundation*  
Creating Tomorrow's Parish Today

## The OLV Foundation Board

**Officers:** Mike Matthys, Roni Pianca, Kathy Peterson, and Joe Creen.

**Members:** Rev. Jacob Greiner (ex-officio), Mike Lazio, Bernie Mack, Denis Prior, Mike Strajack, and Jenny VanGenderen.



# A Lifetime of Stewardship

By Judy Johnson

Frances (Fran) Charlotte McKenzie was born in 1929 in Davenport, to Charles and Freda McKenzie. All her education was within the Catholic school system, graduating from Immaculate Conception Academy in 1947. She married the love of her life, Donald Farus, in 1948 and they were blessed with a daughter, Donna Marie, who they both cherished.



But these facts don't tell us all we know about Fran. There is so much more about her lifetime of good stewardship and what it reveals about her. As a youth Fran used her energy and dancing skills to work as a hospital Candy Striper and entertain veterans via Red Cross. This early community involvement carried over to adult life and she was a pivotal person for many civic groups and boards—including Scott County Humane Society, Festival of Trees, Camp Courageous, Truman School and Easter Seals. Donna's movement disorder inspired Donald and Fran to be strong advocates for individuals with special needs. They were pioneers for the first handicapped school on Fairmont Street, which later became Handicapped Development Center, and helped build Truman School. Fran owned and managed a dog kennel. She was enthusiastic about animal well-being, plus a renowned dog trainer and judge.

When they moved to Northwest Davenport in 2000, Fran became very involved at Our Lady of Victory Church. She was active in the Ladies' Council, planting and tending outdoor flowers, and buying children's books for the little library in the back of church. While serving as a parish nurse, Cheryl Wagner became acquainted with her while Fran was adjusting to vision loss. Cheryl spent quite a bit of time helping with daily tasks and driving her to daily Mass. Cheryl remembers Fran as "a champion of the underdog and someone with a VERY generous heart. She noticed things that she felt were needed to make a better experience for others and took action to correct them."

Through her will, Fran generously assisted the people, organizations and causes that she worked so tirelessly to support. First, was lifetime care for Donna, and at her daughter's passing in 2022 the balance of Fran's estate was bequeathed to nonprofit organizations supporting the arts, animals, human services, and more. OLV was blessed with a six-figure, unrestricted gift. Through her legacy of good stewardship and careful estate planning, Fran gave witness to the importance of family, faith, and devotion to making life better for others. By means of her estate, Fran ensured that the causes and activities she supported will continue to flourish and be enhanced.

## Well done, good and faithful steward!



# OLV Youth Ministry

By Abbey Heinrichs

**"But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint."**

**– Isaiah 40:31**

If you are looking to grow in the virtue of hope this summer, or need a reminder of something to hope in, look no further than the youth of this parish. Our Lady of Victory youth ministry has been a gift to all of those involved, maybe most evidently to me. Getting to watch students grow in relationship with each other and with Jesus, learn more about themselves and their faith, and encourage so much joy to those around them, has been an image of hope that I think we can all learn from and lean into. The Holy Spirit is so present in the lives of these young people.

Our high schoolers have continued to meet Wednesday nights for fellowship and prayer. We spent the semester remembering the deep need we have for our Lord in everything we do. We have had more nights of Stump the Priest, where the students anonymously ask the questions that stir on their



hearts. We have continued celebrating Mass After Dark. We have grown in friendship and built a true community.

The middle schoolers also started coming together to grow in faith and fellowship. The youth room was full of laughter, far too much sugar, and so much hope for the future of the church.

If you are looking to grow in the virtue of hope As we continue into the summer, please remember to pray for and support our youth ministries. If you feel the Lord calling you to have a deeper role in the lives of these young people, join us! Contact me at [davolvym@diodav.org](mailto:davolvym@diodav.org).

Finally, I want to say thank you to our seniors. Thank you for making my first year on staff an unforgettable one. Thank you for the joy, for challenging me and my faith more and more, and thank you for providing me a beautiful image of hope. You will be so missed!

**Lord, we need you. Every hour, we need you.  
God Bless!**

## It's S'more fun when we're together!

By Kaye Meyers

All are invited to join us for the 3rd annual S'mores and campfire social on the ball field of JFK on Friday, 7/14/23 from 6:30-8:30pm. Drop in with your friends or family or come meet some new people and just enjoy each other and our beautiful campus. We invite all Vacation Bible School families to join us as well as we celebrate the end of a Stellar week! Fixings for S'mores and beverages will be provided. Please bring your own lawn chair or blanket.



**Join Us!**

**Friday, July 14  
6:30-8:30 pm**



# OLV Health Ministry

By Char McGovern

Educational and physical programs, instituted and led by health ministry team with support from Wellness ministry such as:

- TaiChi-currently collaborating with Zion Lutheran, up to 40 participants. Four sessions of Matter of Balance held at OLV. We held a prescription evaluation for seniors. These all are through Milestones Area Agency on Aging.
- Stop the Bleed and CPR, which includes AED usage.
- Life Inventory/End of Life programs-at least once a year.
- Surviving the Holidays-grief support during the holidays.
- Aging 101-information for aging parents or couples with information from the area provided by LivWell.
- Assist with yearly book sale and Adults with Disabilities.

- Members participate in Trunk or Treat and help with College Care packages
- Members of the Health Ministry Team attend the funerals of OLV parishioners that we have cared for or assisted.
- Prepare lists of lonely or single parishioners that the Circle of Friends will send a card to and deliver casseroles as needed when visiting homebound or post hospital parishioners.
- We provide health information each week in the bulletin under Health Ministry Corner.

If you are scheduling a surgery and know that you will be staying overnight or are admitted through the Emergency Room and would like a visit from a member of the Health Ministry Team, please call the Parish Office at 563-391-4245 with your information.

## *Formerly known as the Parish Nurses*

Health Ministry Team members are specifically trained in the Parish Nurse program, even the Health Advocates. We treat mind, body and soul and CANNOT DO ANY HANDS ON MEDICAL TREATMENTS, even the Parish Nurse. We care for your spiritual, mental and physical health.

Members are available to pray with you, answer your questions and listen to your concerns, make nursing home, hospital or home visits and take communion to the homebound. Additionally, through our partnership with Trinity Unity Point, we have access to a wealth of resources and information that can be invaluable when you or a loved one is struggling with an illness or injury. All contacts are confidential.

## **We plan, lead and/or assist various health/aging programs throughout the parish such as:**

- Monthly blood pressure clinics-setup, clean up, followup with high results monthly, with support of Wellness ministry
- **GriefShare:** instituted by the Parish Nurse team 2018 with 2 sessions offered yearly-one spring, one fall. This is a grief support group. Assisted by the health ministry team as needed, with support from Wellness ministry.
- **Nourish:** A care giver support group, instituted by the Parish Nurse team 2019 and led by a member of the health ministry team.



# GriefShare



By Char McGovern

The next session of GriefShare will be starting on September 5th from 1:00-2:45pm in the Gathering Space Meeting room and lasts 13 weeks.

If you are still mourning the loss of a loved one, please join us. Please call the rectory to register and watch the bulletins in August for more information. Our Wellness/Health Ministry teams are here to help you manage and get through your grief.



## 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.

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



CHASTITY  
PROJECT



Register: [Chastity.com/Purified](http://Chastity.com/Purified)  
Tickets \$20  
Info: [davolvaff@diodav.org](mailto:davolvaff@diodav.org)

## EVENING INCLUDES:

Chastity presentation for teens & parents  
Sacrament of Reconciliation, Eucharistic Adoration  
& Free materials for every family!

**Monday**

September 11th  
6:30-8:30 pm



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



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## Season 3 Theme Revealed



### IGNITE SUNDAYS

By Jennifer Wemhoff

Perhaps you have heard someone singing the praises of their experience at IGNITE Sundays. Now is your chance to tune in and find out if next year's topics strike a chord with you. We know that **Everyone's Waiting** to find out the topics for Season 3 of IGNITE Sundays. **I Can Only Imagine** what they might be? **I Can't Fight This Feeling** that you will have the **Time of Your Life** and IGNITE Sundays will **Start a Fire** in you this season.

We are Happy to announce that **From This Moment On** it is **Time to Reveal** the Season 3 topics ...



August 20, 2023 // The Reformation **Take on Me**

September 17, 2023 // The Great Treasure Hunt (Arc of the Covenant & The Holy Grail) **I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For**

October 15, 2023 // Mary/Marian Apparitions **Do You See What I See?**

November 19, 2023 // Saints/How one becomes a Saint **When the Saints Go Marching In**

December 10, 2023 // Advent **Don't Stop Believin**

February 25, 2024 // Indulgences **Love Can Build a Bridge**

March 24, 2024 // 7 Last Words of Christ **Were You There?**

April 21, 2024 // Shroud of Turin **There Was Jesus**

**\*\*Make note of the song titles in bold, as you never know when it will turn into a meal activity at a future IGNITE Sunday!\*\***