



**Nurturing Your
Marriage
Evening
at
Our Lady of Victory**

**February 14th 2016
6-8 PM**

PASTA DINNER with Wine for Married Couples
During our Nurturing Marriage Evening

Three Married couples from the parish are preparing to share how God and their faith have helped them throughout their marriage. We have couples from multiple age groups to share their experiences of faith. Everyone is welcome to attend this evening at \$10 a couple. Come and meet other couples from the parish who strive to live the faith in their marriage. Call Religious Education Office at 347-2071 to sign up. Limited space Available!

**Whether married 5-20-40 years
you will all be able to relate!!**



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Our Lady of Victory Parish



Lent: A Call to Discipleship

Jarred Kohn

Father Reutter and I were discussing the other day, the phenomenon of people who attend the gym for a short period of time after New Year's. Many of us have good intentions of carrying out a New Year's resolution to get healthy. But after a period of days, weeks, or months many of us inevitably fall off the wagon.

I have also seen that Lent for us as Catholics can turn into a do over of our new year's resolution to get slim. We give up sweets, eating in between meals, and other food for Lent. I think giving up all these things can be a spiritually fruitful experience for some people. Lent should be a time of penance and preparation for entering into the mystery of the Passion, Death, and Resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. Not just an opportunity to get ready for beach season.



Some people have also suggested that I add something instead of take it away for Lent. That is add some sort of devotional practice to our lives. While I think this is a good idea, sometimes the emphasis on adding over subtracting feeds our busy mentality. A mentality that can fail to see the benefit of giving something up to detach ourselves from possessions, food, and bad habits.

What is my suggestion for what penance or practice you could do this Lent? First, you must be honest: sit down, pray, and evaluate your life. Lent should be a time in which you try to see what might be getting in the way of having a personal relationship with Christ and what we could do to get to know Him better.

If you are like me, you might have too much stuff. Perhaps throughout Lent you might consider going through your closet each week of Lent and getting rid of a set number of clothing items. Whether it is one piece a week or ten. This may help you detach yourself from your belongings and if you donate these items to St. Vincent de Paul you would be carrying out one of the corporal works of mercy--in this Year of Mercy--to clothe the naked.

I had a friend who once had a problem with cursing and using the Lord's name in vain. One Lent he sent aside a jar and every time he used the Lord's name in vain or cursed he had to put a dollar into the jar. Let's just say the jar was pretty full by the end of Lent. But it did help him to overcome his bad habit of cursing and he gave all his cuss money to charity.



If you find yourself ignorant of scripture especially the Gospels, perhaps you could set aside anywhere from 5-30 minutes a day to reading and meditating on the Gospels or another book of the Bible. While the first couple weeks of doing this may seem boring and tedious, if you are praying over the scriptures you will find yourself eventually brought into the mystery of salvation history and begin to reap spiritual fruit.

If you struggle with the idea of redemptive suffering (the Catholic teaching that all of our sufferings big and small can be offered up to God for the good of a person or cause.) Maybe you could find a small pebble and put in your shoe for a couple days a week. Offering up the small annoyance and pain for someone you love--or strongly dislike--or for the pro-life cause or another worthy cause.

Penance for Lent does not have to be private either, it can be communal as well. For example, at the seminary every Lent, the cafeteria will not put out desserts. So all of us with a sweet tooth must willingly give up sweets or make frequent runs to UDF across the street from the seminary.

Perhaps your family could come up with a communal Lenten practice whether it is as simple as agreeing to set aside a specific day each week to have a family meal (and inviting the seminarian intern one week.) Or you could maybe agree to pray the rosary as a family once a week to increase your family's devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, the patroness of our parish.

The above are just some practices you could consider taking on in Lent. Think and pray about what you could do this Lent to grow closer to Jesus and follow His will for your life. Do something that will actually draw you into the mystery of the Cross and Easter, not something to help give you the best beach body you have ever had. Be brave, pick up your cross and follow Christ this Lent, only by embracing our cross will we come to truly experience the great joy of Easter, The Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

At the beginning of February, Catholic schools across the nation celebrate Catholic Schools Week. It's a time to celebrate our students and the wonderful gift of Catholic education. All of our Victory families make sacrifices to send their children to Catholic schools. We are very grateful to be your children's teachers as we work in partnership with you to nurture your children's growth academically, spiritually, creatively, and compassionately. We are blessed each day by your children. We thank all Victory parishioners for their support of our parish school and the gift of a Catholic education for our Victory students. Without the support of all parish families we would not be able to provide the high quality, well-rounded, faith-filled education that has been the tradition at Victory. We are blessed by your prayers and the countless volunteer hours that you share with us.

Congratulations to Isabel Schemmel our Spelling Bee winner! Congratulations to the following students for their participation in the Spelling Bee: Greg Carlton, Keira Bailey, Audrey DeGregorio, Ava Hoog, Julia Nix, Drew Magness, Jake Vollmer, Nathan Buchanan, Sidney Werle, Katie Wooddell, Jessica Van De Velde, Teddi Schiller, Meghan Davitt, Maggie Jones, Emma Fullenkamp, Carson Browne, Casey Sullivan, Mariah Mevers, Austina Fischili, Joellen Knepfle, Ella Vollmer, Anna Horgan, Caleb Warren, Sam Schwallie, Luke Gavin, Ben Shaiper, Sydney Gavin, Elizabeth Schroeder, Mitchell Meyer,

Savannah Doran, Nick Shappelle, Briana Wuebbing, Evan Vollmer, Ashley Galbraith, Ethan Listerman, Matthew Moser, Kai Becker, Carson Behrendt, Olivia Mohs, Gabrielle Kemper, Jill Laub, Sam Richmond, Cate Zentmeyer, Isabelle Warren, Delaney Dee, Payton Simonson, Jason Hericks, Luke Flowers, Jack Davis. We are proud of your hard work!



Congratulations to Maggie Jones our Geography Bee winner! Congratulations to the following students for their participation in the Geography Bee: Anna Schmitt, Ben Albers, Ethan Plagge, Isabel Schemmel, Audrey DeGregorio, Jack Davis, Drew Magness, Sam Richmond, Joseph Catania, Mitch Kelly, Savannah Doran, Matthew Telscher, Sydney Gavin, Matthew Smith, Max Brunner, Grace Broxterman, Ava Hoog, Elizabeth Schroeder, Jackson Kehling, Anthony Spinney, Greg Carlton, Jake Steinwert, Maggie Jones, Ashley Galbraith, Joe Royer, Robby Engelhardt, Meghan Davitt, Sabrina Schultz, Peter Braun, Casy Sullivan. We are proud of your hard work!



Our Ambassador Program is a service program that encourages students to put their faith into action. No matter what age our students are, they are learning that they can make a difference in the lives of others. The Ambassador

Program extends what our students are learning in their religion classes every day and invites them to put their faith into action. Mrs. Hillebrand, our assistant principal, coordinates all of our Ambassador activities along with a group of junior high students who make up our Ambassador Board. Thanks to the efforts of Mrs. Hillebrand, our OLV teachers, and our Ambassador Board, OLV students lovingly spread their good cheer with the parish and local community.

Registration for the 2016-2017 school will begin in February. We look forward to welcoming our new and returning OLV students for the 2016-2017 school year!

Happy New Year from Parish Council! Megan Hughes

It's hard to believe another year is upon us already! 2015 flew by so fast and now here we are beginning another new year. This year is, and will continue to be an exciting time to be a parishioner here at Our Lady of Victory. There are so many things happening and many more to look forward to. Father Reutter and the nine members of Parish Council elected by you and your representatives have been busy conducting normal parish business and planning for the future as well.

First off, we would like to thank each and every one of you who took the time to complete the parish survey conducted last November. This survey was designed to provide general sentiment and input on new Mass times and various projects for the church and school. We were very pleased at the response and input from all who took the time to complete the survey. Strong support was indicated for creating a Preschool, church pew replacement and realignment for a center aisle; new carpeting and sound system improvements; as well as the Legacy projects including a Marian grotto, outdoor classroom, playground and rosary walk. Many great comments were submitted regarding these projects.

As most of you are aware next year we will be celebrating the 175th anniversary of Our Lady of Victory Church. This upcoming monumental event triggered us to ask: 1) How can we celebrate the fantastic impact this parish has made on our families and our community; and 2) Can we look at ourselves and determine what changes we can make to give Our Lady of Victory a great start on our next 175 years. This process led to a list of potential projects/initiatives originated by Parish Council and our many Commissions and we are looking forward to the festivities and celebration to begin! As we proceed with the planning and implementation we will need your help! Please look for communication on many opportunities to take part in keeping Our Lady of Victory a great family for the next 175 years!

We thank you for all of your help and support and wish you and your families a very happy, healthy and blessed 2016.

175th Anniversary Volunteer Opportunities

Genevieve Kenney

John Roebel, Jennifer Reinkemeyer and Genevieve Kenney would like to invite all parishioners to participate in the preparations for Our Lady of Victory's 175th anniversary in 2017. We had our first informational meeting in January and would like to begin recruiting volunteers. This is an amazing time to be an OLV parishioner and everyone is encouraged to participate! A wide variety of events are being planned so there is definitely something for everyone. Please email olv175anniversary@gmail.com or contact Genevieve Kenney at 941-9909 if you would like to find out more. OLV needs, welcomes, and appreciates our parishioner support in making this historical anniversary a great celebratory year!



Virtus bulletin



Becky Weber

As a reminder, in order to protect our children from harm, the Archdiocese of Cincinnati requires that all volunteers in all parishes who have contact with children must follow the guidelines of the national Virtus child protection program, including viewing of their monthly child protection bulletins.

Beginning in January of 2016, if you are behind **2 or more bulletins** you will receive a letter from the parish office to remind you to get caught up on your bulletins. You will have 30 days to read and complete the backlog of bulletins.

Unfortunately, if you are unable to catch up with your bulletins in this timeframe, Archdiocesan Policy requires us to inactivate your Virtus account and you will no longer be able to work with the children of our parish until you take the appropriate measures to rectify the situation.

If you are not receiving email notices from VIRTUS each month advising that new bulletins are available, please set your own reminder for the 15th day of each month to log into your Virtus account. Just go to virtusonline.org, once logged in, the screen will display your "Training" tab in the upper left hand corner. On the far right of the screen, you will see a box labeled "Training Report." Click on "Click here to see your complete report." The next screen will show you the report including all bulletins you are behind. Please clear all unread bulletins to avoid the suspension of your account.

If you would like to volunteer and have not yet attended a Virtus session please go to www.virtusonline.org and register for a session that is most convenient for you to attend. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Becky Weber at 347-2071 or baweber@olv.org.

OLV Food Pantry Shows Christ's Love

Genevieve Kenney

Once again the Peace and Justice Food Pantry handed out food boxes this Christmas. It was not only our own generous parishioners who stocked the pantry, but food was also donated from Matthew 25 Ministries, Children's House, Delhi Citizen's Police Association, Girl Scouts, OLV school students, Kroger and many more.

I was humbled and privileged to be present at the undertaking. The days leading up to distribution are busy ones. Volunteers move like parts of a well-oiled machine. Organized by the Peace and Justice Commission, each dedicated volunteer knows his or her role. Once a process is completed, they patiently await the next task. Our Lady of Victory parishioners sorted, packed, and stacked over 160 food boxes requested by area families in need. Some are set aside for our own parishioners experiencing tough times while many others are picked up by our neighbors who could use a little help during the holidays. The boxes were filled with Christmas dinner staples like potatoes, fruits, vegetables, stuffing and gravy, as well as a Kroger gift card for a ham or turkey. A few desserts and snacks are piled on for an extra treat. The boxes were impressive, but still less than quarter of a week's worth of groceries for most of us. It was humbling to imagine the situation these families must be in.



Teresa Humphrey, Tom Winkler, Karin Marlman



Food donations that do not make it into the boxes are gathered in a parish office conference room. This "shopping room" also includes donations of kitchen items, feminine products, home decor, baby items, jewelry, books and toys. Almost 120 food box recipients had the opportunity to choose a few of these donations before their boxes were carried to their cars by young men from our parish and volunteers from the Delhi Fire Department. I was fortunate to be a personal shopper, helping guests as they made their choices. I noticed the most in-demand items were diapers and wipes, feminine products, and gently used toys. Some of the women had children with them who picked out dolls and action figures, gifts they might not have gotten otherwise. I was brought to tears as a woman I was helping saw the kids bike I donated. She was speechless when she realized she was able to give it as a gift to her granddaughter. It was not by chance that I witnessed such appreciation of an item I brought in. It hit me right then- this is how Christmas should be! Instead of worrying what I can buy my own fortunate children I should focus my family on what we can give to those who are not as fortunate. Many of us are blessed with so much. What better way to show our thanks for our many blessings than to give back to God's children in need.



Jackie Birri, Margie Rellar and Kathy Hengstebeck

In addition to the weekly Tuesday food distribution, the Food Pantry's next food box hand out will be just before Easter. Please consider this challenge: add one or a few of the Food Pantry request items (listed in the bulletin) to your weekly shopping list and drop them in the tan barrels each Sunday on your way in to church. Or take a look around your home for something nice you can do without and donate it to the Food Pantry. Gently used, like-new items will be accepted in late March for their shopping room. Either of these small sacrifices enable you to show Christ's love to our neighbors in need.

OLV Parish Mission

“Mercy in the Gospel of Luke”

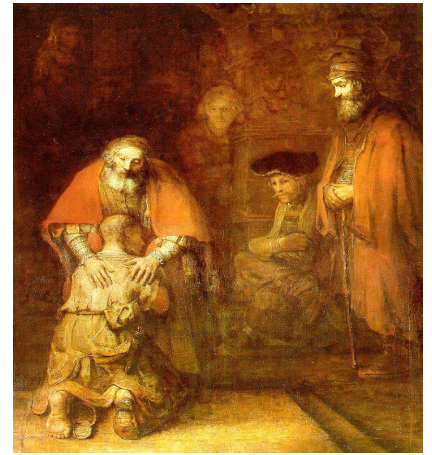
April 17th-21st

Mission Talk each night

7-8 PM in the Church

Confessions available

All Are Welcome!



All are invited to Our Lady of Victory's Parish Mission. A parish mission is when a visiting priest comes to the parish to preach over 4 nights about a specific topic. This is a great way to grow closer as a community and to grow closer to God. Fr. Cameron from the Fathers of Mercy will be here to preach our mission. The Fathers of Mercy's main apostolate is to preach parish missions around the country.

The Year of Mercy is a great year for a parish mission on mercy so we are very excited to learn about God's mercy for us at the mission. Fr. Cameron will be preaching off of a story in the Gospel of Luke each night. We will be hearing about mercy from four stories in Luke. Those stories are the Prodigal Son, the Good Samaritan, the washing of the feet with tears and the Crucifixion. These evenings will have adoration and confession from 6-7 each night and then the talk will start right at 7 PM. Following the talk will be benediction and then more confession time for anyone wishing to receive God's mercy. Come early to pray with our Lord Jesus in adoration or just come to hear the talks. On Thursday the 21st we will have a closing Mass at 7 PM with a social to follow in the Convocation Center.

Fr. Cameron will also be preaching at all the Masses on the 16th and 17th of April and will be visiting the school children to talk with them about mercy. Mark your calendar today so you don't miss this wonderful opportunity to hear of God's great love and receive his mercy. Parishioners and non-parishioners are invited to attend so invite your friends and family. We will be sending out invitations to the neighboring communities as well. Let us pray for a successful parish mission and for many to come and hear of God's love and mercy that week. More information will be coming out over the next month.

Finance Commission

Steve Kane

A new year is upon us. And while the decorations may be boxed up and packed away, the joy and hope of the Christmas season lives on in our hearts and families. The new year is a time to reflect on our many blessings and to set ourselves on the right course for the journey ahead.

As a parish, we have so many things to be thankful for. We are blessed to have teachers and staff who are dedicated to the education and safety of their students. We are blessed to have coaches and after-school activity leaders who empower our kids and are excited to see them grow and succeed. We are blessed to have a pastor who is as dedicated to members of his parish, as he is to his faith. We are blessed to have school, church, parish and athletic facilities that support the mental, spiritual and physical education of our children, and that serve to strengthen the parish community at large. And finally, we are blessed by the continued support of the parishioners.

In setting your course for the new year, we'd ask you to please keep the parish in mind. Your contributions - - be they of time, talent or treasure - - keeps this parish running and makes this community what it is. You could consider volunteering your time and talents - - with so many things going on at OLV (particularly around the parish's upcoming 175th Anniversary Celebration), there are many needs ranging in both time commitment and area. Stop by the parish office to warm up and learn about the available opportunities. Finally, if you are re-evaluating your financial contributions to the parish, we'd encourage you to consider using the recurring Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) option. It's the easiest routine you'll ever establish and helps ensure that the parish has a consistent level of funding for its operations. You can sign-up on the OLV parish website (under the "giving" tab), or if you prefer, the parish office can assist you.

Though another Christmas has come and gone, the joy and hope of the holiday lives on in the new year! Thank you for all that you do for this community!

In Loving Memory

Mark Brunner
Harry D'Angelo
Carolyn Duwell
Catherine Juengling
Paula Kelley
Dorothy Knight
Michael Kuley
Mary Meyer
Marsha Nicholas
Rose Pohlman
William Stetter

Memorial Mass Fund

Catherine Barrett
Eunice Bischoff
Fred Bischoff
Harry D'Angelo
Edwin Hamad
Peggy Heringer
Samuel Jim
William H Keith Jr.
Mike Kuley
Marsha Nicholas
Joe Raphael
Mary Ann Richardson
Bernard Stolz
Pauline Stolz
William Stetter
Rose Willmes
Edgar Willmes

OUR LADY OF VICTORY MEMORIAL ASSOCIATION

The Memorial Association is another way of remembering family members and friends who have died. One Mass a month for a year is offered for those enrolled. All donations provide seasonal church decorations and furnishings.

During the month of November our OLV Book of Remembrance is placed in the atrium of the church. The book is inscribed with the names of all those enrolled in the OLV Memorial Association since 1983.

TUITION ASSISTANCE FUND

The Tuition Assistance Fund has been established to help OLV parishioners afford a Catholic education for their families.

Tuition Assistance

Harry D'Angelo
Rose Pohlman
Joe Williams
Jackie Zimmer

Food Pantry

Harry D'Angelo
Kenneth Ganote
Paula Kelley

New Parishioners

Michelle Hughes
Catherine Johnson
Matthew & Brittany Rodgers
Mary Whitacre

Baptisms

Mia Grace Rankin - child of
Adam & Amanda Rankin

**MEN'S
RETREAT**

CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH

CHRIST RENEWS HIS PARISH is a weekend retreat of renewal for men to strengthen their spiritual life at home and within our parish.

FEBRUARY 20 - 21, 2016

The retreat will be held at Our Lady of Victory, in the Convocation Center, church, and chapel.

The Christ Renews His Parish weekend retreat is the perfect time to refocus, re-energize and reconfirm the purpose of our life in Christ from time to time. The retreat is an opportunity to meet other men in our parish who face similar daily experiences with faith, work, and family.



**Our Lady of
VICTORY**

To register for the retreat, simply email olvcrhpmen@gmail.com or if you have any questions, please call Kenn at 470-9216. For a more complete overview of CHRP, please visit our parish website www.olv.org under Ministries and Organizations/Christ Renews His Parish.

**Our Lady of Victory
810 Neeb Rd.
Cincinnati, OH 45233**

Our Lady of Victory Parish is a part of the Roman Catholic Church, which we believe is the institutional continuation of the church founded by our Lord Jesus Christ when he sent out his apostles after his resurrection with these instructions: "Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son,



and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to carry out all that I have commanded of you, and know that I am with you always, until the end of the world." By the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist, members of the church are promised eternal life and are equipped to serve God and their neighbor, according to the gifts and talents which each of them have received. In this way, we worship God in Spirit and Truth and welcome his Kingdom into our hearts and into the world.

Masses: Saturday 4:30 p.m.

Sunday 8:00, 9:30, 11:15 a.m.

Daily Mass: 8:30 a.m.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Mondays: 7:30 p.m.

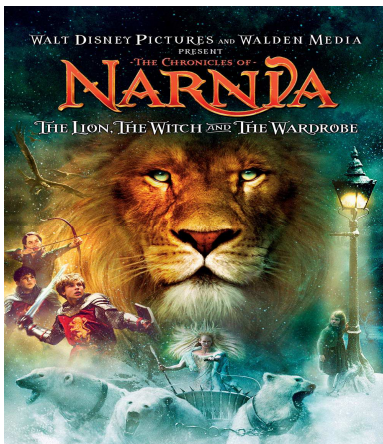
Saturdays: 3:30 p.m.

513-922-4460

www.olv.org

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**Victory Family Movie Night!
Saturday, February 13th at 5:45 PM**



All are invited to attend our next Family Movie Night!
Free pizza and drinks! Bring a snack to share with all
those who attend.

RSVP for pizza to Jennifer Reinkemeyer or Jonathan
Schaefer

By Friday, February 12th -12 PM- 922-4460
jschaefer@olv.org or jreinkemeyer@olv.org

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513-922-4460 Fax: 513-922-5476

Deadline is 9 a.m. the 10th of each month,
except Dec. and June.
Articles and information can be emailed to
baweber@olv.org

Becky Weber, Editor

If you would like more information about
what is happening at Our Lady of Victory,
please visit our website www.olv.org