

THE VICTORY VISION

PARISH & SCHOOL NEWS



Our Faith. Our Family. Our Future.

Stewardship In Action

In the coming pages, we present our annual financial stewardship report, which includes a financial review of the past parish year and the current year budget. The parishioners on our finance commission work very hard to make sure we are spending your contributions wisely, as well as planning for future needs.

I am pleased to report, thanks to your generosity, we were able to meet all our expenses this past year, while at the same time shoring up our capital fund so that we have enough in reserve to cover anticipated future major expenses. It is good stewardship to set these funds aside in advance to avoid emergencies and so necessary repairs and replacements do not have to be deferred. Among other needs, we are currently setting aside funds for our aging heating and air conditioning system.

As you have also seen, we were able to complete the much anticipated renovation to our church, with a new center aisle, carpeting and vinyl flooring, and completely refinished pews. This beautiful project was completed on time and on budget, thanks to the generosity of you, our parishioners, in donating to the Archdiocese's *One Faith One Hope One Love* campaign, and the tireless work of our many parish volunteers.

"I am grateful for the greatest treasure we have at Victory: the faith and generosity of our people."

We are especially grateful for something that can't be measured on a financial balance sheet: the countless hours of volunteer time that you spend building up the sacramental and devotional life in our parish; your involvement with so many activities to build up a strong Christ-centered community directly benefits adults and children alike.

The school is an important part of our parish mission to keep our Catholic faith alive and vibrant. In order to keep it accessible to all of our parish families, we want to keep tuition as reasonable as possible. There is a very direct link between the total amount contributed in the Sunday collection and what we have to charge to parents of school families to avoid deficits. Thank you for your continued generosity in your Sunday contributions to make this goal possible.

As the parish prepares for her 175th anniversary celebration beginning this October, we continue to strive to enhance our worship of God and to improve our church and school facilities so that we can be proud of the place where we live out our faith and hand it down to the next generation. I am grateful for the greatest treasure we have at Victory: the faith and generosity of our people. Thanks again for your active participation and generosity to the parish.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Reutter
Fr. Reutter

2016
OCTOBER

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LESSONS FROM SISTERS

On Sunday, September 4th, the same day St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta was canonized, I had the privilege to attend a First and Final Vows profession for the order of Franciscans I spent the summer of 2015 working with. Not only that, but I was asked to MC (similar to when I help the servers here at Victory), a great privilege.

While I think I handled the responsibility well, there were inevitably a few hiccups. I was beside myself with frustration when both Sister Stephanie and Sister Jess (the former who made final profession and the latter who made first vows) thanked me for my service, saying I had done a good job. I confessed that I had made a few mistakes, but they kindly reminded me this was only the second time they had done final profession. And I realized something: on the day these sisters were dedicating *their* lives to our Lord, I had managed to make it about me.

Don't misunderstand my point; I'm not trying to show how great a sinner I am (though that is true), or draw some sort of false humility, but I realized in

that moment how often I make myself the center of a situation instead of just experiencing it. I'm sure all of us, if we're honest, can find similar instances in our lives. Times when it was about and for someone else, but we bring the focus to ourselves, whether alone in our heads or drawing in others to think about us too.

We do this in our faith as well. I remember another seminarian who said priests should be able to sing well in accord with their given talents. I vehemently disagreed, not because I had good reason, but because I was not particularly fine at singing; to get better meant I had to put in extra work.

This is a common problem in our world. People don't often disagree with the teachings of Christ and His Church because they have a good reason, but because following Christ means we must change the way we live. Christ's teachings are signs of his love, his instruction on how we become truly blessed in this life and the next. To change our lives, to truly convert our hearts to Christ is one of the scariest and most difficult things to do.

I am always challenged in the gospels when Jesus commands his disciples to forgive others as they have been forgiven by Him. Think how easily we ask the Lord for forgiveness in confession, and how willingly He forgives in return. Yet, when someone hurts my feelings, I hang onto those grudges for a long time; again, not because the person who hurt my feelings did something absolutely terrible, but because they offended me.

Another trip to visit the Franciscans of the Eucharist in Chicago, and, once again, the sisters taught me a firm lesson, adding to the reasons why religious sisters ROCK, and why we need more young women to give their lives in loving service to Jesus Christ.

Religious sisters have always shown me that it's not about me...it's about Jesus and the love He has for each of us. In the final evaluation that is all that really matters. ●

By Jarred Kohn

Renovations Beyond the Center Aisle

With the nave of our Church going through renovations, our other upgrades almost went unnoticed! There are now plenty of handicapped accessible places throughout the Church and a foldable handicap ramp for wheel chairs to access the Choir and Baptistry areas. Two new sidewalk curbs have been installed: one by the Bell Tower and one near the side entrance of the Convocation Center for wheelchairs. We're would also like to have handicap doors placed at the Bell Tower entrance!

Besides all the handicap upgrades, a new microphone has been placed on the ambo for better sound throughout the Church, and the driveway near the Bell Tower has a speed bump to slow cars down. We're even looking to purchase cushions for the back pews. ● **By Mary Licata**

our lady of victory FRIDAYS AT THE FIELDS

Back for another Season!

If you haven't come before, now is your chance. Fridays at the Fields is a weekly gathering of friends, parishioners, and alumni centered around kickin' soccer, compliments of Victory's youngest athletes. It runs for eight consecutive weeks at the OLV fields, from 9/9 to 10/28.

The concession stand will be open for you to grab a drink or a quick bite. And depending on the night, you can grab pizza, hot dogs, tacos, Graeter's ice cream, or something off the grill. Feel free to bring your own coolers and chairs!

When the mini-action ends, the fun continues. Last season saw two boys vs girls games for our 7th & 8th graders and 5th & 6th graders. There were a few food challenges, a flashlight/glow stick night, a Halloween dress up night and more. At the end of the night, kids earn points from showing some pride in their parish by helping clean up. To that end, congratulations to our *Top Point Earners of 2015*: Liam Kenney, Abbie Bier, Drew Wilms, Reece Haynes, Caleb Broxterman and Ellie Hutzel!

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join the fun this year! The season runs every Friday through October 28th. We look forward to seeing you there! ●

By Tom Bier

SCHOOL NEWS

We are having a wonderful start to the school year! We welcomed parents for our PTO sponsored *Meet the Teacher Night*, where they were able to visit classrooms to meet their child's teachers and to learn about the upcoming school year.

We are thrilled to hold our *WALK for Victory* coming up on October 7th, the Friday closest to the celebration of Our Lady of Victory's Feast Day. Thank you to all Victory families and friends who support our students. Thank you to Becky Bill, who organizes and coordinates the *WALK for Victory*. Thank you to the parents, faculty, staff, and volunteers who work together to make this possible. We appreciate it greatly!

Each year our eighth graders participate in a class trip. This year, they headed to Dagaz Acres for a day of leadership, friendship, and fun. A great day was had by all!

One of the goals at Our Lady of Victory is to help our students put their faith into action; one of those opportunities is for our junior high students to join our Ambassador Board. Ambassador Board works with our assistant principal, Mrs. Hillebrand, to coordinate and plan service experiences for our school. This gives

students in all grade levels different opportunities for service throughout the year.

On September 16, we had our first *Caring and Sharing Spirit Day*! Students dress in their Victory spirit wear and bring in something for Our Lady of Victory's food pantry. Different

grade levels bring in different types of canned goods or supplies and a flyer about what each grade level should bring goes home in our weekly Voice of Victory Newsletter. Our Student Council sponsors *Caring and Sharing Spirit Day* and helps collect food donations from each homeroom.



Welcoming back the students in style with a VIP Entrance!
Photo Credit Amy Borgman

At Our Lady of Victory, we are proud to have active

teachers who spend time over the summer participating in professional development to bring back new knowledge to the classrooms. Mrs. Ashley, Mrs. Hofmann, and Mrs. Mecher took advantage of a summer retreat at the Cincinnati Nature Center with the goal to build literacy in the great outdoors. Thanks to all of our teachers for the hard work and effort that goes into each day!

Have a wonderful October!

Amy Borgman, Principal

OLV ANNUAL PET BLESSING

October 4th @ 6:30pm

"All you pets...
bless the Lord!"

A Hint of OLV History



In the early 1830's, the Roman Catholics of Delhi had to make a day's trip to attend Mass at Holy Trinity downtown. At that time, Delhi stretched from Seton Ave. in Price Hill all the way west through Sayler Park. This was quite a hardship for the mostly farmers of the township. On February 2, 1834, a small, determined group met at the house of Philip Owens and named themselves the Catholic Society of Delhi Township, Hamilton County, Ohio. Fr. John Martin

Henni, from Holy Trinity, would make trips to rural areas, including Delhi, to say Mass. For eight years, they met at homes of the parishioners in order to celebrate the Sacrifice of the Mass.

In 1842, Adam Emge donated 1/2 acre of land on Rapid Run (near present day Stonebridge) and the needed logs to finally build their church. The church was also used as a school; the people understood the importance of educating their children in the Catholic tradition. The first building of the church makes Our Lady of Victory the oldest parish in Hamilton County outside of the city. The parish was dedicated to St. Stephen for his perseverance in faith. Thrilled with their accomplishment, the parishioners still longed to make the church more accessible. The inconvenience of the log church's location in the woods caused the parishioners, spurred on by their recent success victory, to begin looking for a new home.

In 1852, Blaise Schwietzer and John Gierteisen donated land on Neeb Road. From March 18th to the 22nd, the parishioners migrated the wooden church, log by log, to its new home. The church was ready for Mass on March 23, 1852, but soon, they ran out of space. On July 10, 1853, they laid the cornerstone for the first brick church, keeping the log building to serve as a school. Fr. Engelbert Stehle asked the church be dedicated to Our Lady of Victory because he had been ordained at the Our Lady of Victory Cathedral in Paris, France. *Maria Zum Siege* (Mary of Victory) was dedicated on December 4, 1853. The parish continued under the name of St. Stephen's, even though the church was called *Maria Zum Siege*, then Our Lady of Victories, and finally Our Lady of Victory. As the parish continued to grow, another brick church was built in 1908. As that church fell into disrepair, and the parish grew still larger, our current church was built in 1979. During the transition between the 1908 and 1979 church, mass was held in the East Wing, now the main office in the school.

This year, we celebrate 175 years of Masses, Sacraments, education, serving the community, working together, playing together, and being united as one family under God.●

By Kathy Lynn

OLV 175TH ANNIVERSARY KICK-OFF

An OLV175th Celebration

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, February 25th, 2017**, and celebrate our 175th in style with our "German Mardis Gras" or *Das Karneval Gala!* Sure to be a wonderful evening; the Convocation Center will be transformed into a German party, with appetizers, dinner, drinks, a live band, and some great fundraising activities.

Tickets go on sale mid-October on the OLV Feast Day celebration. If you are interested in sponsoring or volunteering, please contact Eric and Peggy Braun: pegbraun@yahoo.com. We look forward to seeing you there! ● By Peggy Braun



OUR LADY OF VICTORY, PRAY FOR US!

In honor of our Parish Feast day of Our Lady of Victory, and in thanksgiving for the patience of our parishioners during the church renovations, on October 8th & 9th, we're having a celebration!

- Cake and cookies will be served after 4:30p.m. Mass on Saturday and after all Masses on Sunday.
- A presentation of photos from the history team will be displayed in the Main Hall.
- The German Anniversary Gala, *Das Karneval*, will be pre-selling tickets.
- A special activity in honor of Pope Francis' favorite Marian devotion, Mary Undoer of Knots, will take place outside.

The Feast day/kick-off weekend will conclude on Sunday evening with the Family Pizza & Movie night featuring *Mary of Nazareth* at 5:30p.m., followed by a family rosary. Please join our parish as we celebrate our Blessed Mother and 175 years of OLV history! ●



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OLV LEGACY PROJECT

What a time to be a parishioner! Our church nave reopened with a center aisle and plenty of 'wow.' Holy Smokes officially kicked off our 175th Anniversary celebration with a bang. The next school year will begin sooner than we think with Pre-school set to open. The Parish Picnic and *Fridays at the Fields* are bringing everyone together. And now, plans for a grotto, rosary walk, outdoor classroom, and playscape are quickly becoming a reality!

"OLV has been blessed with great tradition over the past 175 years. The Legacy Project is a wonderful way to continue that tradition for many years to come."

The OLV Legacy Project is an enthusiastic group of parishioners, including the last two and current Parish Council presidents, all of whom happen to be lifelong parishioners. Our aim is to leave a generational stamp on OLV, much like our prior generations did with the church building, the gym, Field 5, and the Convocation Center. Our mission is to re-purpose forgotten areas of our campus and

give an even greater sense of pride and devotion to Our Lady of Victory.

We have met with several reputable, local contractors to successfully obtain estimates for every project. Incredibly, funds have already started coming in, even without pursuing! If you would like to learn more about these projects or make a donation, please feel free to con-

tact Andy Spinney at 513.623.4060, or any of the following Legacy Project members: Tom Bier, Paul Hutzel, Chris Broxterman, Chris Kenney, Jenny Spieser, or Mark Schneider. ●

By Tom Bier



Our Faith. Our Family. Our Future.



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OUR LADY OF VICTORY GENERAL FUND
CURRENT YEAR REVENUES & EXPENSES COMPARED TO BUDGET
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

2016 Favorable

	2016 BUDGET			2016 ACTUAL			2017 BUDGET		
	Parish	School	Total	Parish	School	Total	Parish	School	Total
REVENUES:									
Sunday & holiday contributions	\$ 840,000	\$ -	\$ 840,000	\$ 807,132	\$ -	\$ 807,132	\$ (32,868)	\$ 810,000	\$ -
Parish festival	48,000	-	48,000	60,000	-	60,000	12,000	54,000	-
Interest	10,000	8,350	18,350	11,407	10,445	21,852	3,502	12,000	10,500
Bequests & Donations	10,500	7,000	17,500	38,125	10,000	48,125	30,625	-	10,000
Stipends and other revenues	34,200	-	34,200	40,214	3,469	43,683	9,483	40,500	1,000
Tuition (Note 2)	-	1,508,800	1,508,800	-	1,525,872	1,525,872	17,072	-	1,525,000
School registration fee	-	43,600	43,600	-	43,100	43,100	(500)	-	40,000
State reimbursement	-	158,000	158,000	-	176,788	176,788	18,788	-	160,000
After School Program	-	62,000	62,000	-	61,993	61,993	(7)	-	62,000
Total revenues	942,700	1,787,750	2,730,450	956,878	1,831,667	2,788,545	58,095	916,500	1,808,500
									2,725,000
EXPENSES:									
General & Administrative	265,810	1,518,826	1,784,636	275,240	1,444,516	1,719,756	64,880	280,100	1,504,100
Ministry & Liturgy	125,013	-	125,013	132,627	-	132,627	(7,614)	131,100	-
Religious Programs	116,642	5,600	122,242	108,202	3,977	112,179	10,063	126,300	3,600
Facilities	167,139	298,623	465,762	184,914	251,755	436,669	29,093	151,200	268,600
After School Program	-	35,356	35,356	-	40,504	40,504	(5,148)	0	40,700
Library and Programs	-	75,991	75,991	-	72,959	72,959	3,032	0	75,500
Archdiocesan assessment	92,000	2,800	94,800	91,372	2,837	94,209	591	92,000	2,800
Transfer to Capital Fund (Note 3)	26,650	-	26,650	164,523	15,119	179,642	(152,992)	49,000	-
Total expenses	793,254	1,937,196	2,730,450	956,878	1,831,667	2,788,545	(58,095)	829,700	1,895,300
									2,725,000
EXPENSES & TRANSFERS (EXPENSES OVER REVENUES)	\$ 149,446	\$ (149,446)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 86,800	\$ (86,800)
									\$ -

NOTE 1. Our Lady of Victory operates on an accrual basis of accounting with a fiscal year which begins July 1 and ends on June 30.

NOTE 2. School enrollment for the 2015-2016 school year was 435 students.

Budgeted enrollment for 2016-2017 is 416 with a 3.0% tuition increase.

NOTE 3. Capital reserve transfer of \$179,642 increased interest bearing notes held with Archdiocese to \$213,892.

These funds will be used for major repairs and replacements.

OTHER RESTRICTED FUNDS
CASH RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2016 & 2015

2016

	Capital Expenditure Fund	Legacy Special Projects	Tuition Assistance Fund	School Fund	Total
CASH RECEIPTS (NOTE 1)					
Parishioner contributions		2,904	31,419		34,323
Anonymous contribution					-
Special ESAP contribution			21,000		21,000
Interest	4,079		7,371	3,783	15,233
Transfer fr. General Parish Fund	179,642				179,642
Bequest		32,125			32,125
One Faith, One Hope, One Love	54,737				54,737
TOTAL CASH RECEIPTS	238,458	35,029	59,790	3,783	337,060

CASH DISBURSEMENTS:

Church renovation (Note 2)	106,347		70,000		106,347
Tuition Assistance (Note 3)					70,000
Spent on designated items		29		10,000	10,029
Technology improvements				5,020	5,020
TOTAL CASH DISBURSEMENTS	106,347	29	70,000	15,020	191,396

Excess of cash receipts over
disbursements
(disbursements over receipts)

	132,111	35,000	(10,210)	(11,237)	145,664
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Beginning of year

END OF YEAR

	203,549	15,615	417,619	183,854	820,637
	335,660	50,615	407,409	172,617	966,301

2015

	Capital Expenditure Fund	Legacy Special Projects	Tuition Assistance Fund	School Fund	Total
	600	15,803	35,697		52,100
				20,000	20,000
	3,603		21,000		21,000
	50,680		7,660	4,394	15,657
					50,680
					-
					-
	54,883	15,803	64,357	24,394	159,437

		188	78,000	20,000	78,000
				7,860	20,188
					7,860
	0	188	78,000	27,860	106,048

	54,883	15,615	(13,643)	(3,466)	53,389
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	148,666	0	431,262	187,320	767,248
	203,549	15,615	417,619	183,854	820,637

NOTE 1. These contributions are restricted and must be used for specific donor purposes.

NOTE 2. The balance of church renovation expense will be reported in the next fiscal year when the project is completed.

NOTE 3. Monies from Tuition Assistance Fund supplement monies from the General Fund to cover tuition assistance grants.
 In 2015-2016 \$70,000 came from the Tuition Assistance Fund and \$10,602 came from the General Fund. This totals \$80,602.

The tuition assistance program helped 42 families and 62 children.

In 2014-2015 \$78,000 came from the Tuition Assistance Fund.

The General Fund portion was \$13,577 of the \$91,577 awarded.

This assisted 44 families benefiting 75 children.

OUR LADY OF VICTORY PARISH STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

Christmas in July

Raised \$4,027 for the Mother of Christ School Program.

West-End Communities

In 2015, 345 gifts were donated on behalf of OLV. The majority of the ornaments on the tree were names of children from the West-End. These children attend various centers including *YMCA Christ Child Day Care*, *Youthland Day Care*, and *ParkTown*.

Baby Bottle Campaign

Collected for Pregnancy Center West from both the parish (\$2,404) and the school, (\$1,334), making a grand total of \$3,738.

Donations to Food Pantry

Our Food Pantry supplies year round food assistance to those in need. At Christmas and Thanksgiving, we provided food baskets to nearly 300 less-fortunate families in our neighborhood. At Easter, approximately 75 families received food baskets. In addition to food received from the Care Barrels, the school, and the religious education children, cash donations totaled over \$13,152 to the Food Pantry for the twelve months ended 6/30/16.

Christmas Giving Tree:

St. Vincent de Paul Society

St. VDP's mission is to answer Christ's call by providing names of families residing in Delhi in need of assistance for the Christmas season. In 2015-2016, St. VDP received \$10,989 from parishioners through the St. VDP's collections and boxes in Church. Thirty families (73 individuals) received gifts from OLV's giving tree.

Community Land Co-op

The Community Land Co-op's mission is to empower families with low and medium incomes to own homes in the West End and neighboring communities. The monetary donations collected assist individuals in paying their utility bills, cover costs of minor repairs, etc. In 2015-2016, \$910 was donated on behalf of OLV.

Archdiocesan Designated Collections

The Archdiocese of Cincinnati requests all parishes to collect funds for specific designated purposes throughout the year. The appeals include Religious Retirement, Catholic Relief Services, Mission Sunday, Campaign for Human Development, Catholic Inner-City Education Fund, and other designated collections. Through your generosity, over \$8,274 was contributed for these very worthwhile purposes.

Parish Festival

The following is the distribution of the Parish Festival net profit for the last two years.

	May 2015 Festival	May 2016 Festival
Parish Athletic Programs	\$36,000	\$21,700
Parish General Fund	<u>54,000</u>	<u>60,000</u>
Net profit	\$90,000	\$81,700

OLV 2015-2016 Finance Commission Members:

Fr. James Reutter, Pastor Tom Butler, Chairperson

Katie Davis, Dave Haller, Bryan Kelley, Tim Kelly, John Kemper, Tricia Vonderahe, Steve Kane & Jim Telscher.

A special *thank you* to retiring member John Kemper for his many years on the Finance Commission.

PARISHIONERS, WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED GENEROSITY IN THESE REQUESTS, AS WELL AS THE TIME AND TALENTS OF THOSE WHO GIVE INDIVIDUALLY OR THROUGH PASTORAL COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS AND PARISH ORGANIZATIONS.



© Catholic Herald

Peace **BEGINS WITH A** Smile

Saints act for us as beacons, casting light to reveal possible paths to heaven. Mother Teresa, that is, St. Teresa of Calcutta, cast a light so bright before her and wended her way to eternal communion with God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, that she illuminated many ways to advance our own personal paths.

St. Teresa of Calcutta, born in what is today Macedonia, left home at 18, never to return to her family, in a quest to give her entire self to Jesus. She joined the Sisters of Loreto in Ireland, but it was in India where she took her solemn vows in 1937. It was in Calcutta (now Kolkata), India where she found her "call within the call" to minister to the poor, diseased, dying, neglected and unwanted, one soul at a time in the starting of The Missionaries of Charity of whom she was foundress and Mother Superior.

This is the lighted path shown most readily to the whole world stage, seeking to serve Jesus by ministering to the weak, and serving with love and mercy the "poorest of the poor." This brilliant example of charity and

joy beamed as she sought to relieve the suffering of Jesus by seeking to soothe and comfort those suffering and neglected in the busy streets of that Indian city.

Though St. Teresa was a source of relief for the suffering of others, she also suffered greatly herself. And this is part of the great depth of St. Teresa, since no one is ever so simple and one-dimensional as that. While St. Teresa loved Jesus with a fervor and lasting determination, she felt God was hiding from her; she could not feel His love.

It is disturbing to consider that a woman as holy as St. Teresa, could not feel God's assured love for her; this is referred to by St. John of the Cross as the "dark night of the soul." But though unsettling, it is also comforting to look over her life and only see joy on her face during such a sadness and endless suffering. For a brief moment following the funeral of Pope Pius XII, she was enveloped by the love of Christ, saying, "today my soul is filled with love, with joy untold, with an unbroken union of love." But it was

only for a moment, and then it was gone.

St. Teresa said, "The more I want him, the less I am wanted. I want to love him as he has not been loved, and yet there is that separation, that terrible emptiness, that feeling of absence of God." But for the next fifty years, she offered her life, her difficult and good works, her own sufferings, her feelings of loneliness and rejection, to Jesus in order to join him in his suffering on the Cross.

Here St. Teresa lights our own sufferings, loneliness, and spiritual pain as a trying yet effective path to God. Where we may not be able to start a religious order serving the poor, we can unite our suffering to Christ. And we can reach out to those feeling unloved, lonely, neglected, and unseen. St. Teresa tells us, "If I ever become a Saint—I will surely be one of 'darkness.' I will continually be absent from Heaven—to light the light of those in darkness on earth."

St. Teresa of Calcutta, pray for us. ●
By Becca Sontag

OLV FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT SHOWING ACCLAIMED FILM

Mary of Nazareth

OCTOBER 9, 2016 • 5:30PM • OLV175TH

2016 PARISH PICNIC = TOTAL SUCCESS!

Our Lady of Victory celebrated its ninth annual Parish Picnic on Saturday, August 27th. It was thrilling to witness a large number of parishioners gather and take part in this fun, exciting, community building event! As is tradition, Father Reutter presided over the outdoor Mass with the help of Deacon Charlie and Deacon Mark Machuga. The Children's Choir, led by Kathy Lynn, filled the air with beautiful music, while Mary Ann Mecher's delightful voice could also be heard. Thank you to the Helping Hands committee for taking time to pass out nametags!

After Mass Andy Spinney led the Athletic Association to fire up the grill and serve hotdogs, burgers, and brats, while Terri Carrick kept the buffet running smoothly. Thank you to everyone for bringing a dish to share! Logan Link, owner of Murphy Florist, was ever thoughtful and donated the beautiful flowers, which were the OLV colors of blue and yellow. Kevin Carrick and Eric Spieser set up disc jockey equipment before the picnic began, and then took off with great music and commentary for the rest of the evening. Thank you for sharing your talent and time with us this year, Kevin! Amy Weber prepared a list of students' names, and Suzanne Crable was sought out by lucky students for their "out of uniform" pass.

There were tons of activities as well! Many people enjoyed the *Zoo on the Move* visit where they experienced close encounters with a snake, a lizard, and an armadillo named "Rosie." Some people learned martial arts moves in a forty-five minute class led by Josh from *Club MMA (Mixed Martial Arts)*. And even the Delhi Police

and Firefighters showed up for the fun, letting parishioners tour their police car, fire truck, and ambulance. Some children even got to push the button for the flashers and sirens in the police car! The girls' and boys' homerun derby was a HIT! Many thanks to Jim Schroeder for organizing the girls' game, and to Mark and Nancy Kroeger

for coordinating the boys' game. Parishioner, Allison McDonald, *Sisters A*R*E at Play*, created giant backyard Jenga and Yahtzee for all to enjoy. And, what's more, many children were excited to have their faces painted in all sorts of fun pictures at Face Painting.

The Corn Hole Tournament was a blast! Congratulations to Nathan and Megan Hughes, who conquered the event and will have their names added to the corn hole winners' plaque. And thank you to Shannon and Lew Smith and Tom Bier who put a lot of time and energy into planning and running this tournament.

As the evening crept into night, Melanie Broxterman and Jamie Swafford guided children to make paper lanterns, and the bright light of these lanterns reminds us God always shows us the way. Thanks, Melanie for being an instrumental part of planning and implementing the activities for this year's picnic. At the end of the night, many gathered with their chairs and/or blankets

to enjoy an outdoor movie viewing of, *The Incredibles* on parishioner Denver DeGregorio's 30 ft. inflatable movie screen, donated by his company *Premiere Mobile Cinema*. This was only topped off by Christina Bier, Kristi Wilms, and Jennifer Spieser filling popcorn bags and passing them out along with a glow bracelet for all to enjoy while watching the show.

This type of an event does not happen with out the help from volunteers. Thank you to everyone that helped in ANY way. I would like to thank the people in the parish office especially: Karen Meyer, Charlie Fehr, Erica Trabanino, Jennifer Reinkemeyer, Sara Gonnella, Tommy Youngman and the rest of the maintenance staff for your time. I would also like to thank everyone who took the time to empty a trashcan or clear off a table. A huge thank you to Tim Kessler and Keith Gavin for going up to the fields the next morning and picking up all of the trash that was left behind. This was very much appreciated!

Thank you to everyone who came out to the Our Lady of Victory Parish Picnic. I think parishioners, Steve and Sara Niederhausen's daughter,

Reagan, nailed it on the head when she said, "My Summer is not over until we attend the Parish Picnic!" Amen to that, and I look forward to seeing everyone at the Our Lady of

Victory Parish Picnic next year! ●
By Rochelle Hafner

To see more pictures, visit:
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Welcome to Our New Parishioners

Rose Marie Gutzwiller
Robert and Jessica Matthews
Richard and Tara Blessing
Daniel Johnson

Jonathan and Taylor McNally
Gregory and Victoria Messerschmitt
Richard and Linda Kohler

OLV Baptisms

Cooper Riggs Hoffman
son of Matthew Hoffman & Jennifer Riggs

Adam Michael Hughes
son of Adam & Michelle Hughes

In Loving Memory

Robert Gray Lawrence Brogan
William Thornton William Kiffmeyer
Jean Brucato

Memorial Mass

James Muldoon Jr. Gene Lobernstein
Bob Gray Pat Jasper
Janet Fitzgerald Richard Kessler
Phil Lingg William Thornton
Albano Moreir Norbert Gibbs

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. In lieu of flowers and gifts, please consider donating to support Catholic Education.



Who are the persons of the Holy Trinity? As Catholics, we're pretty familiar with them, whether or not we know it. We begin all of our prayers with the Sign of the Cross, "In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." So we pray in the name of all three persons of the Blessed Trinity, maybe daily. We might even have a personal relationship with Jesus or God the Father. But how many of us take the time to ask for guidance from the Holy Spirit? Who is the Holy Spirit? How can He help differently than the Father or Son?

The first time someone asked me about my relationship with the Holy Spirit, I realized, "Wow! I don't know that I've ever prayed to the Holy Spirit by name." Since then, I've made it a priority to call upon the Holy Spirit, to give Him freedom in my life that He might challenge me, and I might ask Him for strength. Or even just to ask for guidance on a decision I have to make. Being able to place my concerns in the hands of the Holy Spirit has bolstered my confidence in defeating the enemy, the one who wants me to turn away from God, to fall into sin. The Holy Spirit, that third person of the Trinity created by the eternal love of the Father to the Son, is here to help guide us to make right decisions and to remember we are God's beloved.

Jesus knew the coming of our spiritual struggles, so He promised the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete, the Counselor (John 14:15-17). The Twelve were afraid for Jesus to leave. They prayed He never would, but the Lord knew better (as usual). He knew the Holy Spirit would guide us to truth and help us know goodness and justice. The Holy Spirit comes down upon us during our Baptism and Confirmation and provides us with Spiritual Gifts. Don't you remember when the Twelve trapped themselves in the upper room with Mary, terrified of what lied beyond the confines of their safe space? But then the Holy Spirit descended like "tongues of fire" (Acts 2:1-13), and those fearful, holy men caught fire with Love of God and began to spread the Word so fervently people thought they were drunk! The Holy Spirit does a lot, but He rarely receives attention in our ordinary prayer lives.

Are you making a tough decision? Struggling with a relationship? Feeling worn out of your relationship with God? Take time TODAY to pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance. Follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit to share your faith. Allow Him to guide your life. Let Him lead you to the will of the good Lord, to be happy with Him in Heaven for eternity. Choose to let the Holy Spirit to guide your life and our parish community.

Holy Spirit, come with your fire, and draw us to you. ●

By Jonathan Schaefer, DRE



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PARISH

THE DEPTH OF A CHALICE

While attending a funeral at Our Lady of Victory, Karen Kunz Wolff didn't expect anything out of the ordinary to happen, but it did. While speaking to Father Reutter her maiden name happen to come into conversation, and he recognized it immediately. Father proceeded to show her a chalice, engraved with an inscription: To Fr. Cletus Kunz from Anthony and Blandina Kunz. Father Cletus Kunz was Karen's uncle, and Anthony and Blandina were her grandparents, no less! Amazed at this discovery, she pointedly told Father she had never known of the chalice's

existence. It was a gift, he told her, for his Ordination to the priesthood years ago.

Calling together her sisters, Carolyn Doll, Kathy Schlesinger, Corrine Graeme, and Connie Buford, Karen explained to them what Father had shown her, and the five made a commitment to attend the soonest Mass possible. Not all the sisters were strictly living in Cincinnati, so it really was something to see them united in order to view this chalice. Following the 8:30 am Mass on Thursday, August 4th, they gathered around and passed the chalice from

one sister to the next, tears springing to their eyes. With Father Cletus having passed some time ago, as well as their grandparents, this miraculous find was a connection, a root into the past and a well wish for the future. The sisters, as well as those around them, were deeply moved and inspired to be a part of this beautifully ended story. ● **By Karin Marلمان**



Would you or your OLV Organization like to be featured in the Victory Vision? Have our editor place you on the Vision Contact list!

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