

# OUR *Church of* LADY OF VICTORY

## Dear Parishioners of Our Lady of Victory,

As I write to you, our trip to Peru is right around the corner, and when we return (right about now!), Lent will be “right around the corner”! Have you ever thought about how Lent might be a completely different experience for those who live in poverty than it is for us? For instance, Fr. Lucho has told me that his bishop most years DISCOURAGES people from fasting and abstaining from meat. Why? Because they are already suffering from malnutrition.

Instead, they seem to enter more deeply into the Passion of Christ itself. The Good Friday carrying of the cross, the scourging, the whips and blows, and crucifixion are all reenacted...and the preaching is intense. The efforts to help the very poorest of the poor, the most desperate, are also increased. The lesson through the Passion of Christ and the poverty and suffering they know so much about first hand, is Compassion.

To increase our compassion and understanding of others could be a good, common goal to have with our Peruvian brothers and sisters this Lent. It's really one of the purposes of any fasting and abstaining. The idea is that we turn from self-preoccupation and indulgence, to thinking of others. The same as we meditate on Christ's Passion: we can ask ourselves how do we show love and

compassion to people who are living out that Passion of Christ in our world today...through physical pain and suffering, and also emotional.

I am sure that those who have just returned from Peru will have plenty of stories to share. It happens every time; I've been there with groups many times before. Those who are poor have very important lessons to teach us. It's not that poverty is always the path to sanctity, but so often, among the poor, you find very deep faith and a trust in God that you can't imagine.

So, maybe something you will want to do this Lent is to visit with some of the travelers who went to Peru. Ask them about their experiences. What stories do they bring back to share? What did they learn from the trip and how did they grow in faith? Part of the purpose of this trip is *“on returning, to be a resource to the parish as we share our experiences.”*

And of course, you can always visit with Father Lucho too...he will be with us for about a month. Give a call to the office and leave a message if you would like to invite him for a special visit.

God bless us all on the Lenten journey to Easter glory!

Father Alan



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## February 2018 Overview for the Month

The month of February is traditionally dedicated to the Holy Family. This year the first thirteen days of February fall during the liturgical season known as **Ordinary Time** which is represented by the liturgical color green. Green, the symbol of hope, is the color of the sprouting seed and arouses in the faithful the hope of reaping the eternal harvest of heaven, especially the hope of a glorious resurrection. The remaining days of February are the beginning of **Lent**. The liturgical color changes to purple — a symbol of penance, mortification and the sorrow of a contrite heart.

Between the events which marked Christmas and the beginning of Christ's public life, the Church has seen fit to recall the example of the Holy Family for the emulation of the Christian family.

The Feast of the **Presentation** (February 2) or **Candlemas** forms a fitting transition from Christmas to Easter. The small Christ-Child is still in His Mother's arms, but already she is offering Him in sacrifice.

The saints that we will focus on this month and try to imitate are **St. Blaise** (February 3), **St. Agatha** (February 5), **St. Paul Miki & Companions** (February 6), **St. Jerome Emiliani** and **St. Josephine Bakhita** (February 8), **St. Scholastica** (February 10), **Seven Founders of the Orders of Servites** (February 17), **St. Peter Damian** (February 21), **Chair of St. Peter** (February 22) and **St. Polycarp** (February 23).

The feast of **Our Lady of Lourdes** (February 11) will not be celebrated this year because it is superseded by the Sunday liturgy. The feast of **Sts. Cyril and Methodius** (February 14) is superseded by the Ash Wednesday liturgy.



*Jesus, Mary  
and Joseph,  
I give  
you my  
heart and  
my soul.*

### CATHOLIC RECIPE:

## Heart Cakes

#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 package (6 ounces) semisweet chocolate pieces (1 cup)**
- 2 tablespoons vegetable shortening**
- Packaged cake layers or layers made from mix**
- 1 cup heavy cream**
- 2 tablespoons sugar**
- 1/2 teaspoon peppermint flavoring**

#### DETAILS:

Serves: 6 - Yield: 6 heart cakes - Prep Time: 45 minutes

***St. Valentine's Day is a joyful feast, and there's no better way to observe it than by exchanging sweet, heart-shaped confections. Here is one delicious recipe for heart cakes to suit the occasion.***

**DIRECTIONS:** Melt semisweet chocolate pieces and shortening over hot (not boiling) water. Pour into wax paper-lined jelly roll pan, 15 x 10 x 3/4 inches; spread evenly. Chill until chocolate is hardened. Cut chocolate into 12 hearts with heart-shaped cookie cutter; cut cake layers into 6 hearts. Put cake on half of the chocolate hearts. Whip cream until stiff with sugar, peppermint flavoring, and red food coloring; spread on top of cakes. Top with remaining chocolate hearts. (If desired, chocolate left over after cutting out hearts may be broken into pieces and folded into the whipped cream mixture.) Makes 6 servings.

**RECIPE SOURCE:** *Cook's Blessings, The* by Demetria Taylor, Random House, New York, 1965

## NEW MEMBERS OF OLV

**Ava Friederichs** will be moving to Fergus Falls permanently in September when she marries her fiance, Logan Briese. She enjoys being outside snowmobiling, four-wheeling and farming. She grew up on a farm by Foxhome, and she works in agriculture.

**Mildred Simonson** has lived in Fergus Falls for twenty years but couldn't decide between joining St. Elizabeth Church in Elizabeth or Our Lady of Victory. She reached a decision and is becoming a member of OLV! Mildred and her husband John have three grown children and eight grandchildren. Their oldest son moves all across the country with his work. The oldest daughter lives in Kansas City, and the youngest daughter lives in Surprise, AZ. Welcome to OLV, Mildred!

Taken from the *Fergus Falls Journal*  
 by Kristin Goosen  
 Tuesday, December 19, 2017  
 (Submitted By Mike Bellmore)



*Emily Stawarski plans to help an unknown person through donating her bone marrow, giving the gift of life.*

## YMCA's Stawarski plans to share the gift of self this holiday season

When asked about her plans for Christmas and the holidays, Emily Stawarski's reply was short and to the point. "When you get the opportunity to help someone, why not?" she said with a trace of a smile.

Just how does Miss Stawarski plan to help somebody? In a caring, selfless manner. A manner quite fitting for this festive, happy time of the year. While the true reason for the season is the birth of Christ, Emily plans to help an unknown person increase her chance of living too.

She will donate stem cells pulled from her bone marrow to a woman with leukemia. The pair was connected through an international registry, with the woman remaining anonymous. Emily signed up for the registry in September of 2016, at a DKMS Delete Blood Cancer drive held at the YMCA where Emily is the membership and aquatics coordinator.

In September 2016, Emily underwent a short process of registering, gave a cheek swab and placed her name on the registry for the next 40 years. Being on that registry meant she could conceivably, be called to donate, but chances of that happening are slim. "Less than 1 percent of donors on the registry are called for a match," said Emily. She said when she got the phone call from the national registry, she was thankful for the opportunity to do it and hopes that it will be successful for the unknown recipient. There are no guarantees, she cautioned. She doesn't know if she will meet the woman receiving the stems cells, but would like to if possible.

Emily is an active and healthy 26-year-old. She participated in swimming and track at Foley High School, where she was an excellent student and graduated in 2009. Her feats in high school eventually landed her at the College of Saint Benedict near St. Cloud where she obtained a degree in environmental studies in 2013.

She came to Fergus Falls to be a health inspector and eventually got a job at the YMCA while a member of

AmeriCorps. When a full-time job became available, she seized the opportunity.

Emily downplays what she is about to do next week during an eight-hour process at a Twin Cities hospital. She will be connected to a machine that will draw blood, separate and remove the stem cells that were pulled from her bone marrow and return the remaining blood back to her body. She prefers to focus on the real meaning of Christmas and the woman fighting her courageous battle.

"During this time of year, everyone is so happy," she said. "Christmas always puts everyone in such a good mood. To me, it's about the birth of Christ but it's also about caring for each other. If I am called upon as a Christian to help others, I will do it the best I can, in any way that I can. My family, friends and work have all been so supportive of me and I'm thankful that I'm able to help in this way."

Emily would like to encourage others to be open to sharing this gift of self. "I am so blessed that I am able to donate and so, so thankful that I signed up." Those interested can register online at [Bethematch.org](http://Bethematch.org) or [DKMS.org](http://DKMS.org). There is a need for bone marrow/stem cell donors, she says. It's part of the season of giving unto others and she wants people to know what they can do.

### CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

JANUARY 28TH - FEBRUARY 2ND

#### Sunday, January 28

CSW Kick-Off Mass 10:30, Community Carnival 11:00-1:00

#### Monday, January 29

Crazy Daze (crazy hair/hats/mismatch day), Bowling 9:30-10:30 (All Day Pre, 3-6), Movies/Games 9:30-10:30 (K,1,2)

#### Tuesday, January 30

Jammie Day, Bowling 9:30-10:30 (All Day Pre, K,1,2), Movies/Games 9:30-10:30 (3-6)

#### Wednesday, January 31

Andes Tower Hills (bus loads at 8:30) K-6...Bag lunches and beverages provided for students.... Parents are welcome to join us, but will need to drive and meet us there (to get the group rate please pay ahead of time)

#### Thursday, February 1

School Spirit Day (wear school shirt), Word and Communion Service at 9:00, Bake Sale

#### Friday, February 2

Rainbow Day (each class has an assigned color), SkyZone (bus loads at 9:00)...Bag lunches and beverages provided for students.... Parents must sign SkyZone's electronic waiver by Jan 24th



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT



- GENTLENESS
- FAITHFULNESS
- SELF-CONTROL
- MEEKNESS
- PEACE
- JOY
- LOVE
- KINDNESS
- PATIENCE

- GOODNESS
- TEMPERANCE
- FAITH

## What's in Your Basket?

### What is all the talk about Gifts, Fruit, and Charisms?

To start at the beginning, the Holy Spirit is the love between the Father and the Son, the breath, the sigh as they gaze upon each other, the motion that connects the two.

At Baptism, you were given the Holy Spirit...at Confirmation you were sealed (strengthened) with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. The thought always intrigued me and I waited for the transformation...But I didn't see any physical change, didn't physically feel different – why? Although I receive the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, it is up to me to open these gifts and to use them. How many gifts do you have left to open?

To help answer those questions, we will start by clarifying some definitions.

**Gifts of the Spirit**, as defined in Isaiah and 1 Corinthians, are Wisdom, Understanding, Counsel, Fortitude, Knowledge, Fear of the Lord and Piety. These gifts are given to us at Baptism and perfected in us through Confirmation. These gifts are given to transform us, to be opened and used.

**Fruits of the Spirit** are the evidence that the Holy Spirit is active in our lives. In Galatians they are identified as Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control. The fruits are graces of the Spirit which help you carry out your vocations for the good of others and the benefit of the Church and the world. *The Fruit is the Holy Spirit working in us.*

*The Gifts of the Spirit and the Fruits of the Spirit are gifts that are given to us to keep.* They are part of our inner transformation as Christians and provide the inner “Christlikeness” necessary for the effective use of our charisms. (CCC, 1830-1832)

**Charisms of the Holy Spirit** are individually given to us to share with others to build up the body of Christ. Charisms are the Holy Spirit working through us (also

called “spiritual gifts”) which are special abilities given to all Christians by the Holy Spirit to give them power both to represent Christ and to be a channel of God’s goodness for people.

*Unlike the Gifts and Fruits of the Spirit, Charisms are given to us to give away, and are one of the ways God continues to enter the world through our assent and cooperation. They always benefit other people.*

## THE CALLED AND GIFTED WORKSHOP

The Called and Gifted Workshop that will be offered at Our Lady of Victory on February 24 is designed to help you discern your individual Charisms.

You may be asking, Why? Here is how the Catherine of Siena Institute answers that question:

God is calling you to a work of love that will fill your life with purpose and joy. Discerning your charisms can help you discover that call. Knowing your God-given charisms can greatly clarify your decision-making. In particular, if you are wondering how you are to fulfill the mission God has for you or navigate a life transition, you might find that gifts discernment helps you decide what turn to take next.

Understanding your charisms can help you simplify your life and avoid burnout. If you know your gifts, it becomes easier to say “no” when people ask you for things that you don’t really have to give. And because it is usually energizing and fulfilling to exercise a charism, you are much less likely to burn out if you are working in your area of giftedness.

Discerning your charism can help you discover how God has gifted you to make you more effective at what you do for a living, no matter what kind of work you do.

Understanding your charisms can free you from the need to compare yourself to others. Participants in the Called and Gifted Workshops regularly comment how healing an experience it is to discern their gifts. If you find that you judge yourself for not measuring up to the standards of others, you can be freed by recognizing that your giftedness and calling are different from theirs.

Understanding your charisms can make a big difference in family life! It can enable you to understand and cherish your spouse’s gifts and help you recognize and nurture the emerging gifts of your children. Some people recognize that they are especially called and gifted by God to work with children and families.

The discernment of charisms can help you to understand and give a name to what you are already experiencing. After interviewing thousands of average

Catholics, the Catherine of Siena Institute discovered that many lay people are having remarkable experiences of God that they don't understand, can't put into perspective, and feel that they can't talk about with anyone else. If this sounds like you, gifts discernment can help you to see that some of these experiences may be signs of a charism, a normal part of our lives as Christians.

The Church is calling all Catholics to participate in a new evangelization, and your charisms empower you to play an essential role. Catholics are called to actively help spread the Faith through our relationships at work, in our families, and among friends. Our charisms are tools given to us both to help us convince people of the reality of Christ and to be a sign of God's loving presence in the world.

The hope is to have Our Lady of Victory, St Henry's and surrounding parish members take the opportunity to discover what is in their basket and the best way to share them!



To find out more information, please call the parish office at 736-2429 or Diane at 218-205-9002 or by emailing [calledandgifted.olv@gmail.com](mailto:calledandgifted.olv@gmail.com). Registration forms are available in the gathering area and in the office.

Follow us on our Facebook Page by searching Called and Gifted.

DISCOVER~DISCERN~DEVELOP

You are Gifted! ...You are Called!

## For Their Future

In the Rite of Baptism, parents and godparents accept “the responsibility of training him (her) in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him (her) up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor.”

St. Paul describes the gifts God has given the church, with teaching as among the most important (1 Cor 12:28).

“Go teach!” was the final mandate of Jesus.

History has long taught that without teachers to announce the Gospel and educate the young, the church struggles to survive. Evangelization through good teaching is essential to Catholic life. Pastoral leaders in developing nations say that Catholic education is what attracts people to Jesus and his Church. When it comes to education, nobody has a better track record than the Church.

In opening remarks at World Youth Day, Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, offered these words: “Our generation will show that it can rise to the promise found in each young person when we know how to give them space. This means that we have to create the material and spiritual conditions for their full development; to give them a solid basis on which to build their lives; to guarantee their safety and their education to be everything they can be.”

Thus, at Our Lady of Victory School, a means to further the missions of evangelization and education exists in the school's Endowment Fund. Created in the late 1980's by then-principal Philip Gurbada, the Endowment Fund currently provides scholarships for students to attend OLV

school and capital for some operating expenses at the school.

“The Endowment Fund is something that not a lot of people are aware of,” says retired OLV school principal and current fund board member Sandy Carpenter. “About 20 kids, or 13 to 14 families, are aided each year through scholarships. That's about 20 percent of our enrollment. We have this endowment to help ensure that no family who wants a Catholic education for their child will ever be denied one.”

The Endowment Fund was created and is bolstered only through donations and fundraising efforts. By design, only interest earned by the fund may be utilized for tuition and school expenses. Principle is never spent. “What a wonderful gift. When you donate to the endowment, your money stays there forever and continues to work,” says Carpenter.

Let us answer Pope Francis' call to evangelize, to fulfill our promises to educate our children, and to live out our Catholic faith by supporting Our Lady of Victory School and the Endowment Fund.

If you have any questions or would like to donate to the Endowment Fund please contact Principal Tonya Zierden at the school or one of the fund's board members: Chris Carlson, Sandy Carpenter, Daryl Evavold, Melinda Fults, Stacie Hebert, Mickey Rohde, Renae Sell-Lindgren, and Bob Welle.

By Craig Hebert



## AN IRISH PILGRIMAGE - OCTOBER 2017

It was an incredible Pilgrimage to “Shrines and Abbeys of Ireland” Oct 22 - Nov. 3. The Pilgrimage was sponsored by the Catholic Daughters through Latin Patriarch Pilgrimage. Here is information on three of the many sites we visited.

A highlight of the Pilgrimage was a daily mass by the Catholic Daughter National Chaplain, Fr. Jeff Maurer. The masses were said in many of the old abbeys, churches, and cathedrals. 52 Pilgrims, mostly Catholic Daughters and spouses, attended. Those of the area who traveled were John and Meg Schmidt, Denise Hendrickx from OLV, Dave and Shirley Seyfried from Battle Lake, and Adrienne Boland from Fergus Falls.

Ireland, the land of St. Patrick, has many myths and legends. We may associate St. Patrick with a three leaf clover or Shamrock. Patrick was a slave growing up in Ireland. He escaped to Europe and became a priest. After returning to Ireland, inspired by God, he came ashore at Saul, stayed in a barn, and started his Ireland priesthood on the north shore. He used a three leaf clover to explain the Holy Trinity to a local Chieftain and converted him. Legend has it St. Patrick drove all the snakes out of Ireland. The truth is there never were any snakes in Ireland. Or as our guide said “unless you consider those folks who work in government buildings.” The St. Patrick Center in DownPatrick is also the location of the first church named after St. Patrick. On top of the hill behind the center is the burial site of St. Patrick and St. Brigid, the second most famous saint in Ireland. We also visited Croagh Patrick, the mountain where St. Patrick fasted for 40 days on the summit. If you were asked what was the favorite color of St. Patrick, most people would say green. However, blue was his favorite color.

On Tuesday, Dec. 19, the Vatican declared Father Peyton Venerable. Father Peyton is known as the Rosary Priest. At one time he was the world’s best known person because of the thousands of people he drew to his worldwide rosary crusades. The Father Peyton Holy Rosary Ministries is special to the Catholic Daughters because it is one of their national projects. They have a member on the National Holy Rosary Board that was with us on our Pilgrimage. One of the daily masses was at the Fr. Peyton Center, and Meg had the special privilege to be a Lector at that mass. If you are interested in future events, watch to see if the Pope will make Fr. Peyton a saint in August 2018.

The appearance of Our Lady at Knock is not as well known as Fatima, Lourdes, or Guadalupe but has a powerful message as well. Knowing a little about the apparition ahead of time, John was ready to ask the question, “What did Mary say at Knock?” To his surprise the first thing our guide said was, “Mary did not speak at Knock but instead brought her husband Joseph, St. John the Evangelist, and

her son as the Lamb standing on the altar surrounded by Angels.”

Apparitions and visitations by Mary usually have a message of prayer and fasting. At the time of the appearance in August 1879, the Irish people vividly remembered the potato famine of seven years that peaked in 1847. Early in 1879 the Irish people were again experiencing the third year of crop failure reminiscent of 1847, so they were already hungry - they were fasting. At the time a typical rural family would say the rosary after the evening meal - they were already praying. The silent message from Knock is one of hope, courage, and comfort. We did not have the opportunity to see the church where the apparition occurred because of updating and refurbishing work they were doing in anticipation of the Pope’s visit in August 2018.

A quick summary of several sites: St. Peter Church in Drogheda, the site of relics of St. Oliver Plunkett, St. Patrick Cathedral in Armagh, St. Patrick Center in Down Patrick, Titanic Museum in Belfast, Peace Wall in Belfast, Giants Causeway on Northeast coast, St. Eugene’s Cathedral, County Donegal, Slieve League Cliffs, grave of the poet W.B. Yates at St. Columbus Church, Father Peyton Center in County Mayo, Marian Shrine at Knock, Ballintubber Abbey built in 1216 by Canon Regulars of St. Augustine and still in use today with a mass said daily since the construction, Kylemore Abbey and the Benedictine nuns, mass in Galway Cathedral built mostly by donations by American Irish Catholics, St. Brigid’s site (the second most famous saint in Ireland), Clonmacnoise Monastery on the Shannon River where our bus driver gave the tour because his grandparents are buried there, St. Eunan’s Cathedral in Letterkenny, movie site of *The Quiet Man* with John Wayne and Maureen O’Hara in Cong, and we experienced much relief therapy (shopping). A special wool shop (and relief therapy -shopping) made in the old traditional ways on looms is at Triona in Ardara County Donegal.

The World Synod of Families will be held in Ireland from August 21 to 26. In January the Pope will announce the locations he will visit. For us, we expect or hope Our Lady of Knock will be one of them because we can associate with the site. Also of interest is whether Fr. Peyton will be declared a saint at the time of the Pope’s visit. With the World Synod of Families, what message will the Pope and the Catholic Church have for us given the strong family tradition of the Irish? Also, what role will the rosary be emphasized as a prayer within the family? With the secular world we live in in the United States and the decline of a strong family unit, there may be a message from Ireland for all of us.



John and Meg at Kylemore Abbey, a Benedictine Abbey.



Above: Our Lady at Knock but done in symbols. The message at Knock is one of symbols rather than words.



Left: Our Lady at Knock, the mural in the church depicting the apparition.



Right: Meg as a Lector at Fr. Peyton Center.

**INTERESTING AND LITTLE KNOWN FACTS ABOUT IRELAND:**

Seven U. S. Presidents have ancestral roots in Ireland and Northern Ireland.

John F. Kennedy is the only U. S. President that was Catholic with roots in southern Ireland.

The census of 1830 showed 8 million people in Ireland.

The census of 1850 showed 4 million people in Ireland.

Population of Ireland today is about 6 million people.

64 million Americans claim some type of Irish ancestry.

Records show perhaps close to 2 million Irish immigrated to America. Everyone knows the record is not accurate because at least 4 million immigrated or died.

The dedication mass and sermon of the new huge cathedral in Galway in 1960 (new by European standards) was said by Cardinal Cushing from Boston to recognize the contribution of American Irish who largely funded the cathedral, which was nearly debt free.

Because of ocean currents, Ireland seldom sees snow even though they are farther north than we are here in Minnesota.

How many Americans know the Titanic was built in a shipyard in Belfast?

The Euro is the money used in Ireland.

The British Sterling Pound is the money used in Northern Ireland because they are loyalists to the Crown.

Belfast is the home of Guinness Beer, which is much better than in the States.

Jameson Irish Whiskey tastes better in Ireland.

Irish Whiskey is better than Scottish Whisky because the Irish have an e in Whiskey. Also Irish Whiskey is distilled three times and Scottish Whisky is distilled twice.

400 American companies have their headquarters in Dublin because of the European Union requirement that if they want to sell their products in the Union without paying the large tariffs, they must have their headquarters in the Union. Ireland is cheaper than other countries such as Germany and France. As an example, think Medtronic in the Twin Cities.

**THE NORTH IRELAND CONFLICT OR WAR**

The spark that started "The Troubles", the war in Northern Ireland, was inspired by the peaceful nonviolent demonstrations led by an American, Dr. Martin Luther King. The explosion when all hell broke loose occurred in 1971 when 18 year old inexperienced British soldiers fired into a crowd of demonstrators killing several young men. The war ended nearly thirty years later in 1998 when Prime Minister Cameron of England apologized to the mothers of the six young men originally killed by young, inexperienced British soldier.

To understand the conflict, a person needs to go as far back as 1603. This was shortly after King Henry VIII outlawed the Catholic Church and made the Church of England the official church, which did not set well with most of Ireland which was Catholic. What followed were the Penal Laws in Northern Ireland that allowed Catholics to be paid less, discriminated against in housing, and forbidden to hold positions of authority or leadership. The English provided for a vote for the various counties to decide which counties would remain loyal and which would be part of the Irish Republic. Six counties were Loyalists and voted to remain with England and became Northern Ireland. The rest were Separatists that voted to become the Republic of Ireland. However, all was not clear because County Donegal voted to remain loyal but since it was an extremely poor county, the British did not want it. County Donegal became part of the Republic of Ireland. What complicated issues was the Loyalists were mostly Protestant, and the Separatists were mostly Catholic. So the struggle, or as the Irish know it "The Troubles," also became a religious war. What remains today is a large Peace Wall several kilometers long that separates the two groups in Belfast. Tens of thousands of people have visited the wall and added their signature asking for peace. Many of our group added their signatures. The wall does have large gates on each end that can be closed if trouble does develop.

**SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT**

Now for a bit of editorial commentary. In the past few years we saw the same conflict in Ukraine with Russia and Russian speaking people in the eastern part of the country. On the day we visited the wall, the big world news was protests in Catalonia which wants to break from Spain for various reasons. The question is, from a world perspective, have we learned how to resolve these conflicts, avoid huge blood shed, and lead peaceful lives?

By John and Meg Schmidt

# OUR LADY OF VICTORY *Church of*

207 North Vine Street  
Fergus Falls, MN 56537

## MASSES

Saturday 4:30 p.m.  
Sunday 8:30 a.m.  
Sunday 10:30 a.m.

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Thursday 8:30 a.m.  
Friday 8:30 a.m.  
Saturday 3:30 p.m.

## PARISH HAPPENINGS

Feb. 1, 8, 15, 22	Quilters	Mar. 2,9,16,23	Stations of the Cross
Feb. 3	WinGs	Mar. 3	First Communion Class 10:00-11:30 a.m.
Feb. 3, 17	St. Joseph Men 8:00 a.m. - Wings 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 3	WinGs
Feb. 4,11,18,25	Children's Liturgy of the Word	Mar. 3,17,31	St. Joseph Men 8:00 a.m. - Wings 9:00 a.m.
Feb. 6	Social Concerns 5:30 p.m.	Mar. 4,11,18,25	Children's Liturgy of the Word
Feb. 6 & 20	Stephen Ministry 6:30 p.m.	Mar. 6 & 20	Stephen Ministry 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 6, 20,27	RCIA 6:00 p.m.	Mar. 6,13,20	RCIA 6:00 p.m.
Feb. 7,21,28	Faith Formation 3:45-5:00; 7:00-8:15	Mar. 6	Social Concerns 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 8	Catholic Daughters 6:30 p.m.	Mar. 7	No Faith Formation 3:45-5:00 p.m.
	Board of Education 5:30 p.m.		There will be class in the evening 7:00-8:15
Feb. 10	First Communion Class 10:00-11:30 a.m.	Mar. 8	Catholic Daughters 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 13	Knights of Columbus 6:00 p.m.		Board of Education 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 13	No RCIA	Mar. 13	Knights of Columbus 6:00 p.m.
Feb. 14	ASH WEDNESDAY Masses 9:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m. followed by a Parish Meatless Soup Supper	Mar. 14,21	Faith Formation 3:45-5:00; 7:00-8:15
	Stations of the Cross 7:15 p.m.	Mar. 14	Finance Council 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 16,23	WinGs	Mar. 17	Confirmation Retreat 11:00-5:30
Feb. 17	RCIA Rite of Election, St. Cloud	Mar. 17	WinGs
Feb. 18	Women's Group 11:30 a.m.	Mar. 17	Women's Group 11:30 a.m.
Feb. 21	Finance Council 5:30 p.m.	Mar. 21	Parish Council 5:30 p.m.
Feb. 22	Parish Council 5:30 p.m.	Mar. 22	Chrism Mass 7:00 p.m. St. Cloud
Feb. 24	Called and Gifted Workshop 8:00-4:00	Mar. 23	University of MN-Morris Choir after Stations
Feb. 25	KC's Pancake Breakfast	Mar. 24	First Communion Class 10:00-11:30 a.m.
Feb. 27	St. Roberts 1:30 p.m.	Mar. 27	NEO Diversity Event
	Stewardship 7:00 p.m.	Mar. 28	St. Roberts 1:30 p.m. - Stewardship 7:00 p.m.
Mar. 1, 8,15,22,29	Quilters	Mar. 31	No Faith Formation or Confirmation Resurrection Reception after Easter Vigil

[www.ffolvchurch.org](http://www.ffolvchurch.org)

**Weekend Mass:** *Saturday*, 4:30 p.m. Vigil | *Sunday*, 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

**Daily Mass:** *Tuesday*, 12:05 p.m. | *Thursday & Friday*, 9:00 a.m.

**Confession:** *Thursday*, 8:30 a.m. | *Friday*, 8:30 a.m. | *Saturday*, 3:30 p.m.