



# Our Lady of Victory Memorial Parish

*"We, the people of Our Lady of Victory Memorial Parish, accept as our mission to be a welcoming, diverse parish family who shares our gifts and talents that God has given us to serve others in need as we grow in our Faith."*

## February 10 & 11, 2024 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Pastor: Father Efoe "Emmanuel" Anani**  
249 Arnold Avenue  
Winnipeg, MB R3L 0W4  
204-453-4225  
www.ourladyofvictorywg.com  
parish@victoryedu.com

**Baptism:** Contact Father for more information  
**Reconciliation:** Saturday from 3:30 - 3:50 pm.  
**Matrimony:** Contact Father six months in advance.  
**Sacrament of the Sick:** Call Father as the need arises.

**Contact Father for the following:**

- Blessing of the Home
- Visiting the Sick
- Mass intentions

**Contact Sam for Hall Rentals:** bookolv@gmail.com  
**For Bulletin Inquiries:** bulletin@victoryedu.com

**To Contact the School:** olv@victoryedu.com 204-452-7632

**SUNDAY MASS TIMES**

SATURDAY—4:00 P.M.  
SUNDAY—9:30 A.M.

**WEEKDAY MASSES**

TUES, THURS, FRIDAY—9:30 A.M.  
\*\*ROSARY AT 9:10 A.M.  
WED—10:00 A.M. AT RIVERVIEW

**EXPOSITION OF THE  
BLESSED SACRAMENT**

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

### Readings for Next Sunday

1st Sunday of Lent

1st Reading—Genesis 9:8-15  
2nd Reading—1 Peter 3:18-22  
Gospel—Mark 1:12-15



# Events - News - Information

## 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Introduction:** All three readings today teach us that we are called to become pure and holy. But we don't become holy by some ritual observances. We become holy by confessing our sins to God and offering our lives for God's glory and by sharing God's love with everyone around us without discriminating against anyone based on color, race, culture, religion, lifestyle, wealth, or social status.

### Life Messages

1) **We need to trust in the mercy of a forgiving God who assures us that our sins are forgiven and that we are clean.** We are forgiven, and our souls are cleansed, from the spiritual leprosy of sin when we repent of our sins. This is because God is a God of love Who waits patiently for us. No matter how many sins we have committed or how badly we have behaved, we know God forgives us. The only condition required of us is that we ask for forgiveness with a repentant heart. We need only kneel before him and ask him, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean" We are sure to hear his words of absolution, "Very well— your sins are forgiven, and you are clean" echoed in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

2) **We need to tear down the walls that separate us from others and build bridges of loving relationship.** Jesus calls every one of us to demolish the walls that separate us from each other and to welcome the outcasts and the untouchables of society. These include homosexuals, AIDS victims, alcoholics, the imprisoned, drug-addicts, and marginalized groups such as the divorced, the unmarried, single mothers, migrant workers, and the mentally ill. God's loving hand must reach out to them through us. Jesus wants us to touch their lives. Let us pass beyond the narrow circles of our friends and peers and try to relate to those who may be outside the bounds of propriety. Let us re-examine the barriers we have created and approach God with a heart that is ready to welcome the outcasts in our society. Remember the old African-American children's song reminding us that there is room for everyone in God's Kingdom: "All God's creatures got a place in the choir, some sing low and some sing higher. Some sing out loud on a telephone wire and some just clap their hands or paws or anything they've got now."

3) **The Church continues Jesus' healing ministry:** We need to remember that the Church continues the healing mission of Jesus and offers special healing prayers called the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick for those with serious illnesses (CCC #1509-10). This Sacrament is offered to parishioners at any time of serious illness, and especially when they are in danger of death from sickness or old age (CCC #1514). Call your parish priest, who is the proper minister of this great Sacrament (CCC #1516) and celebrate it with your family present (CCC #1517). There are many important graces received through this Sacrament (CCC #1520-22), including the compassion of the believing community.

### A Pastor's Leprosy

A pastor had a dread of getting leprosy. He had read that the early signs are loss of feeling in the limbs, and was always pinching his legs, and if it hurt, he was reassured. On one occasion at a dinner with the parishioners he reached under the table and pinched his leg. He couldn't feel a thing. He pinched it again – harder this time. Still no sensation. The pastor visibly blanched and blurted out, " Oh, no! I've got leprosy!" A young lady sitting next to him asked: "But how do you know?" "Well, one of the early signs is loss of feeling in the leg. I've just pinched my leg twice and I didn't feel a thing!" The young lady remarked, "It was my leg you were pinching, pastor." After the Sunday Mass a little boy told the pastor, "When I grow up, I'm going to give you some money." "Well, thank you," the pastor replied, "but why?" "Because my daddy says you're one of the poorest preachers we've ever had."

Taken from frtonyshomilies.com

### Catholic Women's League Membership Drive

Happy New Year to all CWL members.

The new year 2024 means it's time to renew your membership for another year. The cost is still \$40.00 and cheques can be made out to the Catholic Women's League. Members will be at the back of the church entrance to take your dues.

For further information, contact the following members:

Florence Bevel ph. 204 475 8545

Karen Gosselin ph. 204 223 7199

Wishing all members a good year with good health and much happiness.



#### CWL Spring Cookie Sale

Come join us for our Spring Cookie Sale on February 18<sup>th</sup>. All of your favorites are returning. Just \$4.00 for a half dozen. Funds raised are for the needs of the parish.



### Coffee Sunday



Coffee Sunday Team will be having a Coffee Sunday this coming Sunday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. Come and join us for Friendship and Fellowship gathering. Donation of food and money are welcome. Hope to see you all.

### Stations of the Cross

Every Friday during Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross at 6:00—6:30pm. Different groups will lead each week. Think about doing this for a Lenten Promise.



### 40 Tins for Lent

Are you looking for ways to fulfill your Lenten Promise? Are you looking to help those in need? We are looking for parishioners to help those less fortunate. We are asking those who can to donate non-perishable food items and other items during Lent. They are collected at the back of the and given to Missionaries of Charity on 167 Aikins Street. Items donation list is available at either entrance.

### Ash Wednesday Questions

#### 1. Who can receive ashes?

On Ash Wednesday the procession to the altar is as diverse as we will ever see it! Mothers carrying babies, toddlers holding on to Dad's hand, teens, parishioners, neighbors, employees from nearby places of business, the elderly—we all come together to mark the beginning of Lent. Anyone, including kids and non-Catholics, can receive ashes.

#### 2. Are ashes a sacrament?

The act of receiving ashes is not a sacrament. Actually, ashes are what we call a "sacramental." Sacramentals are dynamic signs that help us prepare for receiving the sacraments. They help us receive the graces of the sacraments and they help make holy various occasions in our lives. They also remind us that all of creation has the potential to reveal God's presence and receive his blessing.

#### 3. Where do the ashes come from?

The ashes are traditionally made by burning last year's Palm Sunday palms. In the United States, the custom is to mark the cross on a person's forehead, but in other parts of the world, including in Italy, the ashes are sprinkled on a person's head.

#### 4. How do you get ashes?

Ashes are blessed and distributed on Ash Wednesday, often during Mass or a prayer service. People walk up to the altar using the same process as Communion. The person distributing the ashes marks the recipient's forehead and says either, "Remember that we are dust and unto dust we shall return," or "Repent and believe in the Gospel."

#### 5. Should I do anything special before I receive the ashes?

In receiving the ashes, we are entering into the time of Lent, preparing for Easter with prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. We are embracing Jesus' journey: the cross of suffering and the promise of Resurrection. The ashes help us connect the spiritual aspect of Christ's cross and Resurrection with our everyday lives.

In addition to the liturgical significance of receiving ashes, we also are called to remember that in our repentance is a call to proper relationship between ourselves, God, and each other. Saying a prayer of repentance and remembering your sins is an appropriate way to prepare to receive the ashes.

#### 6. How long should I leave on the ashes?

The ashes on our foreheads are a visible sign that we are followers of Jesus. The ashes are also a way to tell ourselves and those around us that we are beginning the holy season of Lent—the forty days leading up to Easter. Leaving them on helps you remember this throughout the day, but there are no rules requiring how long you leave them on or when you wash them off.

#### 7. Is Ash Wednesday a Holy Day of Obligation?

Despite being one of the most-attended holy days of the year by Catholics around the world, it is not an official holy day of obligation.

*Start to think about what you will do for lent. What sacrifice or new habits will you do? See the other side for some ideas.*

**Ash Wednesday Mass Times**

10:00 am—Riverview Hospital

1:00 pm—School Mass

6:00 pm—Evening Mass