



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."

March 9 & 10, 2024 4th Sunday of Lent

Pastor: Father Efoe "Emmanuel" Anani
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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

5th Sunday of Lent

1st Reading—2 Chron 36:14-17,19-23
2nd Reading—Eph 2:4-10
Gospel—John 3:14-21



Events - News - Information

4th Sunday of Lent

Introduction: The Fourth Sunday of Lent is called Lætare (Rejoice) Sunday, from the first words of today's liturgy. As on Gaudete Sunday in Advent, rose-colored vestments may replace violet, and flowers may grace the altar, symbolizing the Church's joy in anticipation of the Resurrection of Our Lord. The central theme of today's readings is that our salvation is the free gift of a merciful God, given to us sinners through Jesus, His Son. The readings stress God's mercy and compassion and remind us of the great love, kindness, and grace extended to us in Christ.



Life Messages

1) **We need to love the cross, the symbol of God's forgiving and merciful love:** The crucifix – the symbol of the "lifted up" Jesus – holds a central place in our Churches because it is a forceful reminder not only of God's love and mercy, but also of the price of our salvation. Hence, no Christian home should be without this symbol of God's love. The crucifix invites us to respond with more than compassion; it inspires us to remove the suffering of other people's misery. It encourages us not only to feel deep sorrow for another's suffering, but also to try our best to remove that suffering. Hence, let us love the cross, wear it, and carry our own daily cross with joy.

2) **We need to reciprocate God's love by loving others.** God's love is unconditional, universal, forgiving, and merciful. Let us try, with His help, to make an earnest attempt to include these qualities as we share our love with others during Lent, for in them we love and serve Him.

3) **Our rebirth by water and the Spirit must be an ongoing process.** As Christians, we are meant to lead a life of repentance and on-going conversion, bringing us to a renewal of life with the help of the Holy Spirit living within us. The renewal of the Spirit comes when we work with Him to be liberated from the bondage of evil habits by using the Divine strength we receive from Him through prayer, Adoration, Bible reading and frequenting the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Holy Eucharist.

4) **Let us be bearers of Jesus' Light and carry it to other people.** When we allow the Light of God's forgiveness to shine in our lives, it brightens up every corner, forgives every sin, restores our relationship with God, and renews our lives. Whoever follows Jesus will not walk in darkness. We will experience the joy and peace of sins forgiven, of new attitudes and of new relationships with God, family and friends. Jesus' Light of truth, justice, holiness, and charity shining in our lives is meant to bring blessing to others. We are to let this Light of Christ shine through us into the lives of the people around us. The Light we give to others can dispel the darkness of their lives (as well as to our own in the sharing), and bring them to a completely new outlook. Let us not underestimate what the Light of Christ can do through us. As Jesus said: "You are the light of the world... your light must shine before people so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in Heaven" (Mt. 5:14, 16).

Taken from frtonyshomilies.com

JOKE OF THE WEEK

“For God so Loved the World that” He sent His Son to Israel

A Jewish father in the U.S. was concerned about his son. He had not truly raised him in the faith of Judaism... So, hoping to strengthen his son's Faith, the father sent him to Israel so that the boy could experience his heritage. A year later the young man returned home. He said, “Father, thank you for sending me to the land of our Fathers. It was wonderful and enlightening. However, I must confess that while in Israel I converted to Christianity.”

“Oh, (groan) what have I done?” the father thought. So, in the tradition of the patriarchs, he went to his best friend and sought his advice and solace. “It is amazing that you should come to me,” stated his friend. “I, too, sent my son to Israel and he returned a Christian.” So, in the tradition of the Patriarchs, they went to the Rabbi. “It is amazing that you should come to me,” stated the Rabbi. “I, too, sent my son to Israel and he returned a Christian. What is happening to our sons? Brothers, we must take this to the Lord,” said the Rabbi. They fell to their knees and began to wail and pour out their hearts to the Almighty.

As they prayed, the clouds above opened, and a mighty voice stated, “Amazing that you should come to Me. I, too, sent My Son to Israel...”

Taken from frtonyshomilies.com

Stations of the Cross

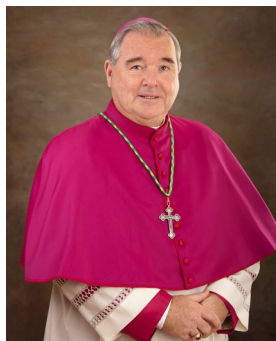
Every Friday during Lent, there will be Stations of the Cross at 6:00—6:30pm. Different groups will lead each week. Think about doing this for a Lenten Promise.



Lenten Reconciliation Services

OLV School: March 19th : 10:00 am

OLVMP: March 20th : 7:00 pm



His Grace, Most Reverend Richard Gagnon, Archbishop of Winnipeg will pay a visit to OLVMP on Sunday, March 17 (5th Sunday in Lent).

We are all invited to give a warm and cordial welcome to our Pastor, by taking an active part in the Concelebrated Mass scheduled at 9:30 am.

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 church and given to Missionaries of Charity on 167 Aikins Street. *Items Donation List* is available at either entrance and on our website.

CWL NEWS

On Sunday, March 17, 2024, the CWL will be hosting a Fellowship Hour following the 9:30 a.m. Mass. Archbishop Gagnon will be visiting our parish that day so let's give him a warm welcome. Fellowship will be sort of a pot-luck. Anything you wish to bring to the table will be greatly appreciated. Thank you so much in advance.

Just a reminder that on Friday, March 22 at 6:00 p.m. the CWL will be leading the Stations of the Cross. All are invited to come, not only on the 22nd, but each Friday during Lent.

Saint for the Week

Saint Raymond of Peñafort's Story

His feast day is January 7th. St. Raymond was a Spanish Dominican Friar that lived in the 12th and 13th centuries. He was a very smart man and received doctorate degrees in both civil and Canon law. That's why he's also the patron saint of lawyers. St. Raymond lived to be 100 years old. In 13th century, it would now be known as Spain, there was a powerful king with some sinful habits. King James the first of Aragon was a married man but decided he wanted a girlfriend too. King James was a Catholic king and luckily for him St. Raymond of Penafort was his confessor. The king decided to go to the island of Majorca to begin a program to help convert the Moors that were living there. He invited his girlfriend along on the trip as well as St. Raymond. When they arrived St. Raymond realized what was going on and he was not happy. He told King James to break up with a woman and truly repent but the king was not interested in changing his ways. St. Raymond asked him repeatedly to stop breaking God's laws but the king dug in his heels. So, St. Raymond told the king he would not stick around if he didn't repent and that he would be on his way. He made plans to leave the island of Majorca and go back to Barcelona. The king did not like this at all, who was St. Raymond to tell him what to do. He was the king. He could do whatever he wanted. And who does St. Raymond think he was trying to leave and embarrass him. King James was so furious that he told St. Raymond he wasn't allowed to leave the island and anyone that took him on their boat would be severely punished. St. Raymond was a man of great faith he turned to his companion, another Dominican, and said, “Soon you will see how the King of heaven will confound the wicked deeds of this earthly king and provide me with a ship.” And with that, he went down to the seashore. He took off his long black Kappa, the black cloak the Dominicans wear over their white tunics and scapulars, and spread one end of it over the water. He then tied the other end to the top of his walking staff. In that way St. Raymond had created a little mast, the part of the ship that catches the wind, and he walked right on. He asked his friend to join him but his friend declined a ride on the cloak boat and who could blame him. St. Raymond said goodbye to his friend and with that he was off. St. Raymond sailed right around the boats that were forbidden to carry him back to the mainland and made the 160 mile trip back to Barcelona in only six hours. His departure from Majorca and arrival in Barcelona was witnessed by hundreds of very amazed onlookers and the news of this miracle spread far and wide. The king was very impressed by this miracle and decided it would probably be a good idea to start listening more to his confessor. King James the first changed his ways and lived a good life thereafter. To this day, St. Raymond Penafort is depicted in art sailing across the sea on his cloak. An amazing miracle proving that for God nothing is impossible.

Transcript taken from *Saint Stories for Kids* Podcast on Spotify