



VERMILION CATHOLIC
a legacy of Mount Carmel

VC families,

Sep 10, 2025

I pray that the beginning of the academic year has been as enriching for you as it has been for me. I hope to see many graces unfold throughout the year. May God bless what he has begun!

On Monday, I will be traveling with 41 pilgrims (and Fr. Don Bernard!) to Italy on a Jubilee Year Pilgrimage. The theme of the Jubilee Year as established by Pope Francis before his death is "Pilgrims of Hope." As we visit shrines and churches in Turin, Assisi, and Rome (including the burials places newly canonized [Sts. Pier Giorgio Frassati and Carlo Acutis](#)), we will be carrying with us many prayers and desires. Each sacred place, each Holy Door we visit will be for us personally an expression of hope, but it will also be an expression of the hope of those back home, for all of you.

The point of a pilgrimage is to express physically the spiritual truth that all of us are pilgrims on this earth, journeying to heaven. It isn't just that we go to holy places, but that we look forward to returning to home, to reuniting with our loved ones renewed by grace.

Which brings me to you all, my spiritual family. As I go, I carry with me the whole community of those entrusted to my spiritual care. To express this, I have a notebook of prayer intentions. Currently, it's at the school office. This weekend, it will be near the baptismal font at all weekend Masses. I encourage you to write your prayer intentions in that notebook. I will then carry it with me as an expression of your hope and mine that this spiritual act of prayer and pilgrimage will shower grace upon us all.

Please pray for us as we travel. We'll pray for you all along the way. Let us all continue to walk in hope. In hope of grace, in hope of safe return and reunion, in hope of one day reaching that heavenly homeland for which we all long.

In Christ,

Father Alexander M. Albert,
Pastor, Vermilion Catholic, a legacy of Mount Carmel
St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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