

# SAINT ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH'S PARISH PROFILES

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Jennifer Love

The roses around Saint Rose are ready to bloom, which means the legacy of Victor Hermes carries on. The long-time parishioner and owner of Hermes Floral, who died in 2005, planted all the rose bushes surrounding the church. The roses are still a part of Saint Rose and so is Victor's granddaughter Jennifer Love.

"Even though our family lives in Lake Elmo I joined Saint Rose 13 years ago because that's where I felt more at home," she says. "When I go to Mass it's like visiting my grandparents. I try to sit in the same place they used to sit for decades. It helps me stay connected to them."

Victor planted and took care of the rose bushes and other flowers around the campus. Virginia, his wife of 60 years, was a very active parish volunteer. Jennifer as a young mother with a full-time job (dental hygienist) cannot dedicate a lot of time to the church. However, she has been a Eucharistic minister since 2008. "It's something I can do to stay involved in the parish without taking up too much extra time," she says. "That's my way of giving back. I'm already at Mass, what can I do to help?"

That question was answered when she spoke with Debbie Gohl, her aunt and Godmother. Debbie is coordinator of Eucharistic ministers and was very pleased to bring Jennifer on-board and to train her.



## Other things to know about Jennifer:

- Jennifer initially lived in Roseville; the family moved to the Lake Elmo area when she was in grade 4. They were members of the Church of St. Charles in Bayport. Jennifer graduated from Stillwater High School and Argosy University in Eagan, with a degree in dental hygiene.
- Husband Mark also graduated from Stillwater High School. They did not know each other in school, but met when Jennifer trained him when they both worked at a pharmacy. Mark is a glazer, installing and repairing windows in commercial buildings.
- Jennifer and Mark, who were married in 2010, have two sons: Victor, a first grader, and Eddie, who is in pre-school. Both attend the Saint Rose Sunday morning Religious Education program. In one way the pandemic was a blessing for the family, says Jennifer. "The boys spent a lot of time together and their relationship really grew, and our family was able to take several camping trips."