



The Catholic  
Archdiocese  
of Edmonton

Joy in Christ  
**100** Jubilee  
1912-2012

## Jubilee 100 Biography Project

### **Biography of Victoria Kisling**

St. Andrew Parish, Edmonton

Victoria Jessica Marchuk was born in Volga, Manitoba, to John and Mary Marchuk. She and Ed Kisling were married for more than 50 years and together raised their son, David.

Vicky Kisling was loved by many as she was a shoulder to cry on, a teacher of life skills, and had a keen interest in people, especially anyone new to the parish, and made them feel welcome in the parish as well as in her home. A few words that have been used to describe her are, kind, devoted, dedicated, concerned and meticulous in her work. At various times she was involved with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, CWL and RCIA. One of her fellow Vincentians describes her as being hospitality personified. "If you look up hospitality in the dictionary, you would find a picture of Vicky." Being very eager to serve, if she saw something that needed to be done, she would do it. She maintained garments for parishioners and clergy alike. She put her abundant talents to use baking and cooking for RCIA and CWL events as an important part of the hospitality ministry of St. Andrew Parish.

Jovita Tobias Fisher, St. Andrew Parish Assistant, was welcomed into their comfortable and immaculately kept home by Ed and Vicky when she found herself needing a place to stay when she first arrived at St. Andrew's. This was a very important time in Jovita's life as she transitioned from convent life to parish ministries and she feels as though Vicky and Ed were God sent. According to Jovita, Vicky lived the Gospel of Matthew 25:35, 36. "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothing. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me." This generosity of time, talent and treasure was experienced by many in the parish and the community. Vicky was a wonderful baker and taught others to bake, cook, knit and sew.

Vicky had a natural affinity for helping the poor so when the St. Andrew Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul was established, Vicky's ministry to the poor was a great fit with the St. Vincent de Paul philosophy. Under the umbrella of St. Vincent de Paul, she continued her work with the poor by doing daily home visits and delivering food, some of which she made in her own kitchen. This was an important part of her Christian witness. Ed was her personal chauffeur on these missions as she didn't have a driver's license of her own.

Unfortunately, Ed and Vicky's son David suffered from a disability and predeceased his parents. After Vicky passed away from heart failure in 2005, Ed moved to St. Andrew Centre where he lived until his passing in 2008.