

August 4/5, 2018

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

DIVINE RENOVATION & JESUS — FOR US ALL

When I was first asked to take the Clifton Strengths Finder test, I was not sure where this would lead. As a result, I was asked to join the Senior Leadership Team. Many others took the same test. The objective of the test was to find members who brought strengths that would complement the strengths of Fr. Gerry. This team would help him make the best decisions for St. Paul.

I was asked to read the book *Divine Renovation*. I enjoyed the book. *Divine Renovation* is about how to make your parish stronger through a unified vision and mission where everything your parish does points to the vision and mission. As you have heard, it is about bringing your parish from maintenance to mission.

As a team member, I had the opportunity to attend the Divine Renovation Conference. We attended Mass on the Sunday before the conference began at St. Benedict. It was obvious this parish was on fire with the Holy Spirit. I have never experienced a Mass with so much joy and enthusiasm. From the opening song to the closing song I have never witnessed so much participation from the congregation. I especially noticed that after Communion the seats were still full. People did not leave. That was so positive.

Throughout the conference it became clear that everything was very intentional at St. Benedict. The use of audio/visual equipment during Mass seemed very strange to me at first, but I learned it was there to increase participation and to help those who were not Catholic feel a part of the Mass. At St. Benedict they want all to feel welcome and that they belong at Mass.

During the conference I attended the youth session. They quoted statistics that show we need to make sure we are providing opportunities and guidance for our youth at St. Paul. We were encouraged to help them develop a deeper relationship with Jesus that will assist them when some of these tough moral decisions arise in their life and their parents are not around to help them. At St. Benedict, they use Alpha with their youth, a program very similar to Christ Life but specifically designed for their age group. I was blown away to hear a 5th grader say that Alpha helped her develop a deeper relationship with Jesus. Now she talks to Jesus daily and He is her best friend, always there at her side. There were several other youth of different ages giving their testimony of their relationship with Jesus. It was amazing to see how Jesus was working in their lives.

Another important thing I learned at the conference is that everything they do at St. Benedict centers around their vision and mission to bring people inside their church and in their surrounding community closer to Jesus. The parish, as a whole, understands this mission and works as a team to make it happen. We have started down this path at St. Paul. Some great things are happening within our parish and I am so excited to see what our future will bring!

-Rebecca Harris

Mass Intentions ~ August 6-12, 2018

Monday @ 7:30 am — Communion Service

Tuesday @ 7:30 am — Communion Service

Wednesday @ 6:00 pm — Communion Service

Thursday @ 7:30 am — Communion Service

Friday @ 7:30 am — Communion Service

Saturday @ 5:30 pm — Jeffrey Simon (RIP)

Sunday @ 8:00 am — U.S. Armed Forces (Sp Int)

Sunday @ 10:30 am — Francine Gilmer (RIP)

New Prayer Requests

Special Intentions:

Gene Lafhameyer

Lisa Oswalt, friend of David and Melinda Cannon

Amanda Trapp & unborn baby,
daughter of Deb & Robert Scott

Repose of the Soul:

Hamilton Marufu, friend of Mary Helen Walton

****Holy Day Mass** for the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary will be August 15th @ 6:00 pm
Adoration this week: Mon—Fri 8am-12noon **Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Sat 4:30-5:00 pm

Altar Flowers this week are donated by Lonnie & Patsy Graeber
in memory of Charles & Guendaline Graeber and Leon & Virginia Howell

Blessed Mother Flowers this week are donated by John and Margaret McAleese
in memory of The McAleese and Kyles Families



Get Involved ~ Here's how!

Religious Education Classes — Register Online Now!!! ages 3 years ~ 12th grade Classes begin the week of Sept 9

Ages 3 years ~ 6th grade meet Sundays @ 9:15 am. 7th ~ 12th grades meet Wednesdays @ 6 pm. Students must be registered. Registration Forms on our website for new & returning students. An adult class meets Sundays @ 9:15 am. Registration is not required for the Adult Class.

Parent & Student Orientation and Open House on Sept. 9th and Sept. 12th. Please plan on having at least one parent attend with your child. Orientation will begin in the gym. We will discuss an overview of our program and then give students and parents the opportunity to visit their classrooms and meet the teachers.

Big Deal Braves Game — August 18th. All 7th-12th graders are invited to the ballgame! Sign up is this weekend and next. Sheets are on the tables near the office. Questions? Email Cory Head at youth@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com.

Small Group Study begins August 19 — The book study is *Wisdom: God's Vision for Life* by Jeff Cavins. You may form a new group or we can assist you in joining a group. Contact Sarah O'Donnell at fellowship@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com.

Early Learning Center Annual Golf Tournament — Save the Date — Friday, September 14th, at Bay Pointe Golf Club. Please call the Early Learning Center at 601-992-2876 if you have any questions or email stpaullearningcenter@gmail.com.

ChristLife Sessions — All are invited into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. Discover or deepen your relationship with Him and be transformed into His missionary disciple. Contact Rodney Hipp at adult.edu@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com.

Sharing Christ October 4—November 17, 2018 (Retreat Day Nov 17th) *must have completed Discovering & Following Christ*
Discovering Christ October 23—December 11, 2018 (Retreat Day Dec 1st)

Following Christ April 23 — June 4, 2019 (Retreat Day May 18th) *must have completed Discovering Christ*

A Note from the Children's Emergency Shelter — Dear Father Gerry: We give thanks to all those at St. Paul Catholic Church who recently donated back packs and supplies. Please express our appreciation to your entire congregation for this kind gesture. We are so grateful for those who support our program. We ask for your prayers as we serve these children whose lives have been damaged to a degree that most of us cannot even comprehend. Blessings to you all, Janice Wilder, Exec Dir



Discipleship requires a commitment. You must want to grow, decide to grow, make an effort to grow, and persist in growing.



Church website: www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com **Office phone:** 601-992-9547
Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm; Friday 8:00am-12noon