

July 28/29, 2018

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

EXCITEMENT IN DIVINE RENOVATION

I first discovered Fr. James Mallon's book, *Divine Renovation: Bringing Your Parish from Maintenance to Mission*, over five years ago when I was searching for new ways to revitalize our youth program and motivate parental involvement. What I found in the book was a parish wide plan for renewal, with an emphasis on evangelization and mission. This excited me as, page after page, I saw the community of St. Paul reflected in Fr. Mallon's own experience at St. Benedict. This excitement prompted many conversations with Fr. Hurley and me, and the staff, on the great potential at St. Paul to motivate and inspire parishioners. Great things happen when we grow out of the comfort of a maintenance attitude, and move toward God's call to evangelization/mission. This led us to bring ChristLife to our parish. The response was overwhelming, and we knew this was only the beginning. The big question became, "What's Next?" We now have more than 25 established Small Groups who meet regularly to accompany each other on their faith journey. There is still so much we can do!

I was so honored to accompany Father Hurley and others to Nova Scotia recently to see the Divine Renovation strategy at work at St. Benedict Parish. The excitement was palpable. Everything they do is with the sole purpose of bringing people to Christ. I was fortunate to attend a workshop on Alpha, which is their primary evangelization tool for reaching those outside the walls of their parish. It was humbling to hear the testimonies of those who had fallen away from the Catholic Church or who had no religious experience at all, find a home at St. Benedict through this program.

As we continue our journey from maintenance to mission, it is my hope that we become a people more open and more excited to share our faith with others, and that St. Paul is a parish where all are truly welcome. Let me know if you are interested in hosting a Small Group in your home, or if you are looking for a group to join. We will begin a parish-wide Small Group Study of Jeff Cavin's book, *Wisdom: God's Vision for Life*, on August 19th. This is an exciting look at Biblical wisdom in Proverbs, Wisdom, Sirach and Ecclesiastes, and how it relates to daily life. This study is relevant to all adults. We can all be better seekers of God's plan for our lives through any stage of the journey to Him.

Feel free to contact me by email at fellowship@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com or by phone at 601-292-6089.

—Sarah O'Donnell



Divine
Renovation

exists to inspire and equip parishes to become missional.

Mass Intentions ~ July 30—August 5, 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 @ 10:00 am — Healing Mass

Saturday @ 5:30 pm — Edward & Eileen Prybylski (RIP)

Sunday @ 8:00 am — Sammie Glorioso (RIP)

Sunday @ 10:30 am — People of the Parish

Adoration this week: Mon—Thurs 8am-12noon; Fri 8-10am

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Sat 4:30-5:00 pm or by appt.

New Prayer Requests

Special Intentions:

Cliff Russell Kevin Smith

Gary Harkins

Martha Patterson, sister of Alice Thweatt

Harris Granger, brother of Joe Granger

Repose of the Soul:

Mikey Medlock, son of Mike & Kate Medlock

Wilma Pickett, wife of Hugh Pickett

Scott Perry, cousin of Meredith Head

Carol Duggar, sister-in-law of Cindy Allmon

Bill Cahill, nephew of Alice Thweatt

submit prayer requests to the Church office



**Altar Flowers this week are in honor of Fr. Gerry.
Safe travels to Ireland! Have a blessed vacation!**



Take Note ~ Save the Date ~ Mark Your Calendar

August 3 — Healing Mass @ 10:00 am. All are welcome (No Brunch this month.)

August 4 — Armed Forces Support Ministry Rosary @ 4:45 pm in the Chapel. All are welcome to join us as we pray for our troops and our country.

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.

Religious Ed Registration — We will open online registration for all Religious Ed Classes for ages 3 years ~ 12th grade this week. Classes will begin the week of September 9th. Ages 3 years ~ 6th grade meet Sundays @ 9:15 am. 7th ~ 12th grades meet Wednesdays @ 6 pm. Students must be registered. An adult class meets Sundays @ 9:15 am. Registration is not required for the Adult Class. Contact Renee Borne for more information at rel.edu@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. The ChristLife Process helps us discover, follow, and share Jesus Christ. Registration will be online. Contact Rodney Hipp for more information at adult.edu@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com.

Discovering Christ October 23—December 11, 2018 (Retreat Day Dec 1st)

Sharing Christ October 4—November 17, 2018 (Retreat Day Nov 17th) *must have completed Discovering & Following Christ*

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



*Fix your attention on God.
You'll be changed from the inside out.*



Church website: www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com

Church office phone: 601-992-9547

Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm; Friday 8:00am-12noon