

## Mass Intentions ~ June 3-9, 2019

Monday @ 7:30 am — Henry Ziemianski (RIP)  
Tuesday @ 7:30 am — Fr. Eugene Bailot (RIP)  
Wednesday @ 6:00 pm — Mike Brown (RIP)  
Thursday @ 7:30 am — Mary Lalande Harkins (Sp Int)  
\*Friday @ 10:00 am — Healing Mass  
Saturday @ 5:30 pm — Nancy McGee (RIP)  
\*\*NO 8:00 MASS THIS WEEK  
\*\*\*Sunday @ 10:30 am — Outdoor Pentecost Mass  
& Parish Picnic

**Sacrament of Reconciliation** — Saturday @ 4:30-5:00 pm

**Adoration this week:** Monday — Thursday, 8 am - 12 pm Friday, 8 am - 10 am

## New Prayer Requests

### **Special Intentions:**

Norbert Penrose, cousin of Jerry Manieri  
Ruth Sellers, sister of Alice Mitchell

### **Rest of the Soul:**

John Dellavalle, brother of Bill Dellavalle  
Joe Heitzmann, cousin of Jerry Manieri  
Kathleene Galloway, sister of Louise Pipitone

(full prayer list on our website & prayer board)



**Our mission is to invite everyone into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ.**

**June 2, 2019 ~ The Ascension of the Lord**

## **Meet the St. Paul Senior Leadership Team**

*Today, we hear from Karen —*

I had been feeling weak spiritually, and last year I started praying for direction on what I needed to do to strengthen myself. After several months of prayer, I was asked to take the Clifton Strengths Finder Test, and based on the results Fr. Hurley asked me to join the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). I had no clue what that team was, but it was clearly going to be a big commitment of my time. I told Father that I needed some time to think and pray about it before I could make a commitment. The Holy Spirit nudged me to jump on board so I said yes.

After those first two weeks on the team, I was still unsure exactly what I had signed up for. I started reading Fr. James Mallon's book, "Divine Renovation," and began to better understand. The book is an honest account of the culture of the Catholic Church. I was finally beginning to understand what the phrase we've been hearing, "moving from maintenance to mission," was all about! Fr. James shares in his book many ways to bring a parish back to life, and invite people to have a true encounter with Jesus Christ. If you have not read his book, I encourage you to read it. Then, you may better understand, too. You can find it on Amazon for less than \$20.

Our Parish is part of the Divine Renovation Network which provides support and guidance to help transform parishes into missionary parishes. Our coach, Ron Huntley, meets with the SLT every two weeks via an online webinar. He inspires and equips us to become a missional parish. I am excited to be on the team, and I can't wait to see where the Holy Spirit leads us! I can't think of anything better than bringing people who do not know Jesus to have a personal encounter with Him.

We have **all** been called to the Great Commission, not just the priests. Jesus said, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

Divine Renovation has many podcasts and videos available to everyone on their website. One that I found to be very interesting is titled, "Do You Know How Awkward It Is?" Here is the link to the YouTube version <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KFrS3USyKHE> or scan the QR code below. In this video, you will see Fr. James, Ron, Dan and their guest, A.J. Thomas, Lead Pastor of Deep Water Church in Halifax. It's a long session, but you can scroll to about the 22-minute mark, to hear A.J. speak about ways to engage people and make them feel welcome at church. It is great material!

—Karen Cox



## **~ upcoming events ~ save the dates ~**

**June 1/2 - Second Collection for Catholic Communications Campaign.**

**Our Home Open House, June 2nd @ 5:30 pm in the Family Life Center** — This is a repeat of the May 23rd event hosted by the St. Paul Capital Campaign Committee. We will begin at 2:00 p.m. with a social and refreshments. There will be a brief presentation with time for questions, input, and discussion regarding the fundraising campaign for our Renovation Project.

**Pledge Packets** were mailed to all parishioners. Please call the Church Office if you did not receive one. We may need to update your contact information.

**Automatic Bank Drafts** are a good option for making your contribution to the Capital Campaign and our parish renovations. Please contact the Church office to set up a giving plan by bank draft.

**First Friday Healing Mass & Brunch, June 7th**

**Armed Forces Support Ministry First Saturday Rosary, June 8th**

**Annual Pentecost Outdoor Mass & Picnic, June 9th @ 10:30 am Dress is casual — NO 8:00 MASS THIS DAY!!**

**Big Deal Youth Group Summer Fun:** Open to all upcoming 7th graders through graduating seniors!

— Geyser Falls June 22nd — Canoe Trip July 20th — Brave's Baseball Game August 17th

**Have you been given a gift of musical talent? If so, prayerfully consider auditioning for our St. Paul Music Ministry — We are seeking the following musicians:**

- **Synthesizer Keyboardist to play Sunday 10:30 am Mass**  
Must commit to rehearsals two evenings and Sunday morning Mass each week.
- **Rhythm Guitarist to play Sunday 10:30 am Mass**  
Ability to play by ear and by sheet music preferred. Must commit to rehearsals two evenings and Sunday morning Mass each week.
- **Male & Female Vocalist to sing Saturday 5:30 pm Mass**  
Ability to sing in contemporary style required. Must commit to rehearsal one evening and Saturday evening Mass each week.

**Contact Alan Black by email [music@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](mailto:music@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com) or by phone 601-992-9547** if you are interested in applying and scheduling a private audition.



## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

**Weekly Offertory Collection for May 25/26: General Fund = \$14197.10 Other = \$225**

**Office phone: 601-992-9547 Hours: Tuesday - Friday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm**  
**[www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](http://www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com)**

## The Ascension by: Phil Wickham

This is the start of something amazing  
A moment when heaven touches earth  
Here in our hearts Lord we are waiting  
For something that's far beyond  
What we have seen or heard

Let us start the ascension let's begin the climb  
Up this holy mountain where Your glory shines  
Further up further in just to  
Be with You again  
Let us start the Ascension

We're fixing our eyes on glory and fire  
Your name is branded on our hearts  
You are the source of all we desire  
Nothing can hold us back  
We're running to where You are

The above song has powerful lyrics that speak to the way we are meant to worship — engaging in relationship with the Lord, present in our Eucharistic Celebrations. This weekend, we celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord. But, this is not merely an event from history. Notice the song says, “Let us start the ascension. Let's begin the climb up this holy mountain where Your glory shines.....Nothing can hold us back. We're running to where You are.”

Alan Black, our Music Leader, says this song spoke to him about what we hope for in worship. Here's what Alan had to say about selecting this song for our celebration of the Ascension of the Lord:

“As I listened to this song, I began to realize all the more that as we begin to worship, we are actually ascending the mountain into God's very presence, face-to-face with Him. As we come into His presence, we experience God's glory and the fire of the Holy Spirit. As Christians, we tend to celebrate and worship historical events rather than joining the celebration ourselves. When I found this song, I understood the importance of making it real — to actually take part in the Ascension. Once we understand that we are part of these events, the life of Jesus will become more real and experiential.”

It's relationship. We become one with Him. Jesus prays this for us in John, Chapter 17 (which would have been the Gospel for celebrating the 7th Sunday of Easter). “Lifting up His eyes to heaven, Jesus prayed, saying: “Holy Father, I pray not only for them (His Disciples), but also for those who will believe in me through their word (us), so that they may all be one, as You, Father, are one in me and I in You, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that You sent me.”

Jesus prayed for us. He wants us to be one with Him, with His Father, with His Spirit, and with each other. All of us. Every person. Every one is created in His image and likeness, but we sometimes forget that we all are alike in Him. We tend to see our differences. But, if we can see ourselves as one with Him, and see that the other person is one with Him, then perhaps we can grow to celebrate each other's unique gifts (differences).

In a similar way, we might find it hard to embrace changes in the way we worship. The way we did it before was comfortable. We have grown accustomed to it. Why can't it stay that way? The answer is — we could stay the same. But, we are meant to grow. We are being called to something better. The Lord has lead our parish to explore and move into deeper relationship with Him.

That is the reason for ChristLife. That is the reason for Divine Renovation. We hope you are exploring the videos and podcasts from Divine Renovation, as members of our SLT have encouraged. It is exciting material that opens up discipleship as it is meant to be. Therefore, Fr. Gerry is committed to something larger than what we are doing now. As Fr. James Mallon explains in the first video of [Key Principles of Divine Renovation](#), recommended by Tony last week — As a Catholic Church, we don't HAVE a mission.....we ARE mission — His Mission. Church attendance is waning around the world. Does that mean we just continue to adjust and accept that fewer people are gathering to worship and fewer people are coming to know Jesus Christ?

Of course not! Fr. Mallon points out that most people sitting in the pews each week would be supportive of the changes needed to deepen our Faith, and expand our worship, and bring the Good News of the Gospel to more people. However, for there to be a change — there has to be a change. We have to change. We are all creatures of habit, and change is uncomfortable. However, in order for us as a Parish to flourish, we must all be willing to stretch beyond our comfort zone. If we don't repair the leaky roof, it will eventually collapse. If we don't change the burned out bulb, we will remain in the dark. Through vertical worship we will begin to experience God like never before. We are ready to truly meet with God at Mass, instead of simply going through the motions.

We can do this! He is calling us to do this. He tells us to not be afraid. “You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be my witnesses....” (Acts 1:8) This is us. We receive the power to change and grow by the Holy Spirit. Fr. Gerry says his hope is that we will all get excited about our Faith and about being in the presence of God. “We have to have a dream to get there. My hope is that we move beyond stating our preferences, and become more open to change. Our dream is that our St. Paul family may come to live in oneness of spirit, heart, attitude and vision. That is where the Lord is leading us.”

Alan has been leading worship for over 30 years in several different denominations. He says he learned to worship through worship. “I have been doing music in some fashion since I was twelve years old,” said Alan. “In my twenties, I began to understand the importance of becoming a true worshipper. I realized that like myself, many do not understand HOW to worship, partly due to the teachings of well-meaning individuals who convinced us that attending church is enough. I knew there had to be more, so I began my continuing quest to worship God in spirit and truth. It is my desire to help others come to that truth as well. I am finding that there are more people in our parish who are open to change than not.

“Weekly, I have parishioners approach me to let me know how they are experiencing God's presence. We are preparing to invoke the Holy Spirit into our presence during our Pentecost Celebration. The Holy Spirit is more than an idea to be discussed; the Holy Spirit is attainable, palpable. The songs we will sing are not “about” but are “to” the Holy Spirit. I hope you will join us!”



### Come, Holy Spirit, Come

We celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We will feel the power of the Holy Spirit !!!