



Fellowship happens when people get honest  
about who they are and what is happening in their lives.

### Mass Intentions ~ May 28-June 3, 2018

Monday @ 7:30 am — Tommy Autrey (RIP)

Tuesday @ 7:30 am — Mayrene Messer (RIP)

Wednesday @ 6:00 pm — Tommy Autrey (RIP)

Thursday @ 7:30 am — Mary McAleese (RIP)

\*Friday @ 10:00 am — Healing Mass

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

Sunday @ 8:00 am — Charles Sweeney (RIP)

Sunday @ 10:30 am — People of the Parish

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

Fri 8am-10am

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday, 4:30-5:00pm

### New Prayer Requests

#### **Special Intentions:**

Chuck Lafhameyer Linda Klein

Alice Lewis, mother of Gene Lafhameyer

Colleen Falwell & unborn baby, niece of Nath & Jim Roberts

Barrett Talley, grandson of Nancy Talley

Britney Martin, friend of Nancy Talley

#### **Repose of the Soul:**

Valerie Bergsten, mother of Dawn Clancy

Marjorie Middleton, friend of Marilyn Stefka

More on our website [www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](http://www.saintpaulcatholicchurch.com) Church office @ 601-992-9547

office hours: Tuesday — Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm; Friday 8:00am-12noon



**Altar Flowers this week: In honor of Edward & Sueann Prybylski  
on their 40th Wedding Anniversary**

**Blessed Mother Flowers this week: In Honor of all mothers.**

**St. Paul 40 Hours of Adoration**  
Sit with Him, Adore Him, Listen to Him

Friday ~ Sunday  
June 1st @ 6:30 pm ~ June 3rd @ 10:30 am

**Please sign up  
for one Holy Hour.**



*Pentecost 2018*



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## **May 27, 2018 ~ The Most Holy Trinity**

### **Church – Hospital – School**

About this time last year, I was asking myself this question: is it really necessary for me to visit a physical building when I have a real relationship with Jesus?

I had run to the end of myself with the pieces of my failed marriage, my broken heart and my shattered wits lying in shards around me.

I found myself sporadically attending random churches, disillusioned. I was broken, barely dragging myself from week to week. Why even go to church? I literally sat in the car outside my apartment, after a church service, searching my heart with that question. A still small voice, a whispered knowing in my heart: "To worship God." I realized that I needed to be in a church whose entire focus was on God. A top-dressing wasn't going to do.

I caught the end of a Mass at St. Paul. I expected a stern look for being late, but the first person who turned to me smiled. I slipped into the nearest pew, and informed the lady next to me that I wasn't Catholic, but that I was looking for a church to belong to. She told me that she was glad that I was there, and explained that she had also come to St. Paul from another religious background. It was then that my search began to seem much less random.

Having been initially well-received, I turned my attention to Mass in progress, and was immediately struck by the massive crucifix at the front of the Church. There it was, right in front of me, what Jesus did for me. I began to tremble as the mightiness of God overcame me. I realized that He could've easily squished me like a bug, but He died for me instead. I had been so prideful to rebel against Him. What had I been thinking to treat such love and mercy so glibly?

I threw myself into the rest of Mass where I found myself kneeling, praying, responding with everyone as if we were a single being. We were all focused on our Lord. Everything that we were doing there was ostensibly to and for God. There was no other focal point, no question. I was pretty sure that I had found the right place.

My goal should be to go to Church, as I am able, to visit my Father at His house, to show Him the reverence, respect and homage that I owe Him for His unimaginable love and unfathomable mercy. I should go because the building of the Church is dedicated only to Him, and He can much more easily be my only focal point when I am there.

Thank God He brought me to St. Paul.

Elizabeth Lee





The church as a hospital with too many patients failing to getting well.

Sometimes we pretend we are well when we are sick inside. We look good on the outside and act “right” on the outside when the inside is very ill. We are not honest. We are full of fear. We are full of pride; too scared to get out of our comfort zone. We can’t accept help because that would mean we would have to humble ourselves. We can’t give help because we are selfish; we have our own problems in our own lives. Plus, we don’t know how to help. This is probably not true of you, but it is certainly true of me and maybe some others because I am sure I am not that special.

Before my Daddy died he was very sick with stage 4 esophageal cancer, and by the time he found out it was too late for him to be cured. For a long time before this came about he had a very hard time swallowing food, but he always denied that anything was wrong . He didn’t want to accept that something was wrong. If you asked him how he was doing he would say he was fine and that he felt good. My Daddy was a proud man and never wanted to bother anyone with anything.

I believe that God put us all together in this world to help one another, to be the hands and feet of Jesus. “Jesus said, feed my sheep” (John 21:17). To me this means to take care of each other. What keeps me from doing this? I love God, I want to please Him. When I look deeper I see my sickness, defects (sin) that keep me from accomplishing what I think God wants. You may or may not see some of these in yourself. I do. Some are pride, selfishness, resentments, laziness, judgement, shame, etc. Then I think about the cure and replace those with love, helpfulness, selflessness, honesty, kindness, courage, etc. We, the people, are the church so we ARE the hospital. It’s up to us to cooperate with God and allow Him to do His work through us to heal and be healed. Sometimes we will receive the medicine and sometimes we will be administering the medicine, and I believe this is love. With God all things are possible. He is love and He wants us to love.

Peace to all of us,

Holly Smith

## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

**Your responses are still welcome  
as the dialogue continues.**

## WRITE IN !!!

**[pastor@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com](mailto:pastor@saintpaulcatholicchurch.com)**

Dear Fr. Gerry,

Your church/hospital analogy brings to mind one of Fr. Balser’s wonderful homilies. It went something like this:

One of my hobbies as a young priest was photography. When I was just getting started, I worked with black and white photos and I set up a room for developing film. I remember walking into the room for the first time and turning on the black light. To my surprise, the light revealed scars on my hands that I had completely forgotten about. That scar by my thumb I remember cutting it with a saw and I remembered how painful that was. There was another where I slipped and cut my hand using another power tool. The light helped me remember these past injuries, but there was no more pain.

Thats the way life is too. We have many hurtful times, regrets, sad times and we get over the pain. Or do we? When something or someone reminds us of a failure, do we hurt all over again or do we just remember it and let it go?

I believe many of us don't get well because we let the past influence us too much. We just can't forgive ourselves. We become our own worst critics and we won't or don't let ourselves move on. So we don't get well. We allow ourselves to dwell on past hurts, failures and regrets.

And there’s the people in our past that have hurt us. We harbor hate or bad feelings toward them and think if we ever see this person again, we will put the hurt back on them. We will teach them a lesson for what they did to us! Of course all that energy about getting even doesn’t affect them in the least. While we are brooding, they haven't thought about the event for even a second.

I believe what Fr. Balser was saying is to just let the past go already. They are only memories but they don't have to hurt us now - be well - live for today and know that God loves us just the way we are despite the past failings, hurts and disappointments.

Pete Canizaro

*Father,*

*Your analogy that coming to church is like coming to the hospital and failing to get well is a good one, but I have this thought. When I was much younger and got sick, my Mom would take me to the doctor and after examining me, he would prescribe some awful tasting medicine. If I had my way, I would have stayed sick and not taken that medicine, but Mom made me take it and I eventually got better. I think a similar situation is when we turn towards the hurch because we are sick, there are prescriptions given that will help us, but if we don't participate and don't enthusiastically receive the grace (medicine) and do our part, we will never heal. I think this describes me for a long time. I went through the motions of fulfilling my obligations but didn't do much more than attend, and as usual, I didn't really get anything out of the service. After attending a few bible studies and especially the Discovering Christ Series, I began to give more time and attention to my faith. As soon as I started looking to give my time and attention to growing my faith, I did just that. It seemed the more I invested in my church community and my faith, the more my relationship with the Lord grew. I guess to sum it all up is: the Grace of God is there for the taking, I just had to take my medicine and the healing of my Christ will take over.*

*Thanks for the message,*

*David Cannon*