

ST. JOHN
VIANNEY
CATHOLIC
CHURCH

PARISH PULSE

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SJV

PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

MEMBERS:

JANET BARRILLEAUX
CATHERINE CROCHET
LEAH DAUGHERTY
JULIE GRIFFY
BARBARA HASSIG
SHARON HENRY
TAMMY HODGSON
DOTTIE MORROGH
DEBBIE NORIEGA
NUZHA PETRO
JENNIFER RIDER
GREG & ROBYN
STOKES
LAURIE WIGGINS

INTRODUCING THE PARISH PULSE

Finally, we are providing updates and useful information from the Parish Life Department right at your fingertips. Every few months we will publish an issue of the Parish Pulse, which will be available in the office or on the church website. Keep in mind this

is new to all of us, but we are hoping nothing but the very best. We are always acceptable to comments, questions and suggestions.

Inside these issues, you will find articles covering past events, "Heart & Soul" - stories about our own

parishioners or staff, "Q&A" - frequently asked questions, "Save the Date" - a list of upcoming events and so much more.

We hope you find this newsletter informative & enjoyable!!!

HELPING HEART: THE PARISH LIFE COMMITTEE

The Parish Life Committee was formed just a few months ago, but since then has helped the Parish Life Department grow so

much. The group was asked to assist in serving the parishioners along side of the Parish Life Staff. They were assembled to help build the community spirit and encourage more involvement from other people just like themselves. They aid in the organization of a vast majority of social activities of the parish, such as

coffee & donuts, annual super bowl party, Mardi Gras events and so many more. For people willing to give some time and commitment for such a heart whelming reward in assisting the parish, please contact Committee Chair, Richard Fairly, for more information on membership.



"FALL INTO MINISTRY"

On the morning of Sunday, November 1st, parishioners joined together in the Activity Center for our Annual Ministry's Day Fair. People came to learn about all the different ministries that are available to them at St. John Vianney. There

were representatives from the nearly 100 organizations and apostolates of our parish. This was another great success, as more than 1,000 people dropped by to gain more knowledge of the wonderful ministries that make St.

John Vianney Church so great!





Believe it or not, you really are "making a difference"

PARISH BAZAAR: A NOTE FROM FATHER TROY

“Congratulations for a great job on our bazaar! You all did wonderfully. We received many positive comments throughout the set up and during the day. It is especially rewarding given the weather conditions how positive everyone was. Special thanks to

Maintenance, Finance, the Bazaar Committee and all of the volunteers!

The best remarks came from those who said we had more volunteers and that there was such a positive spirit!!!! As I spoke to various people thanking them for their

help, they in turn told me how helpful others were to them, That is so nice to hear. Everyone I spoke with throughout the day was happy and pleased.

Again, thank you for your long hours and your joyful spirit. Keep up the good work.”



THE CATHOLIC—JEWISH DIALOGUE



On the evening of November 3rd, Adult Formation and Parish Life Ministries hosted over 500 people in the Activity Center to hear Senior Rabbi, David Rosen speak on The Catholic – Jewish Relations. Rabbi Rosen of Congregation Beth

Yeshurin was a most gracious speaker and gave a wonderful and informative presentation, explaining the differences and similarities of the two religions and clarifying any questions people had.

We were also honored to

have guests from the Jewish community, the University of St. Thomas School of Theology, the Anti-Defamation League and the Coalition for Mutual Respect. There was a kosher reception beforehand, prepared by Suzie’s Grill.

JOIN IN DICKENS’ DREAM

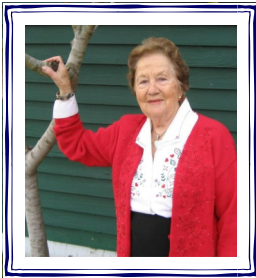
Dickens on The Strand has been Texas’ favorite Victorian holiday festival for 36 years. Galveston Historical Foundation holds its annual event the first weekend of every December in The Strand National Historic Landmark District of Galveston. Food and entertainment fill 10 blocks of smells and sights that take you back to another era. SJV took a bus on Saturday, December 5th to see for

ourselves just what Dickens on The Strand was all about. Needless to say we were not disappointed. People were able to eat anything



from pork shish ka-bobs to flowering onions, bargain with street side vendors, listen to various choirs & pipe bands, visit the historical vessel *Elissa*, ride a Piccadilly Circus elephant, see characters from Dickens’ novels walk the streets, watch the Queen’s parade and so much more. It was a great time for all who went and definitely something you won’t want to miss out on next year!

HEART & SOUL: AN INSPIRING STORY OF SURVIVAL



Long time parishioner, Helen Gannon, is more than just a friendly smile and a strong German accent, she is a girl with an amazing story of survival from Hitler's Germany. She recently graced some of our staff with her miraculous story, which we think is deserving of sharing with other

parishioners.

During WWII, 16-yr old Helen and her younger brother had been separated from their parents after a surprise attack in their home of Germany. The two were able to track down a relative, but it was not safe for Helen to stay. So she continued her travels for another two years trying to get to Austria, where there was still American territory. Struggling to keep her German identity a secret from the Russians was tricky, but luckily she knew three different

languages. Eventually, she got a ride out of Czech by hiding in the back of a moving van. Upon approaching a security checkpoint, the driver and Helen both knew if she was seen it was the end of the road for them both. So the driver warned the young Helen by summarizing the current situation to her in a song in the Czech language, which the security guard did not understand. Thankfully everything went okay, and needless to say she finally made it safely across the border. She began schooling to become a

nurse, in hopes to one day get a job in America. It was during her studies in England that she met John, a handsome, Irish veteran of war. He had just survived "The Great Escape", four years in a German Prison Camp. They married 9 months later and came to the U.S. in 1949, where she was finally reunited with her family. It was because of Helen's hope and faith in God that got her through those tough times and coming out a stronger person today! May we all have your blessed heart & soul, Helen!

JOURNEY TO THE SHRINES OF FRANCE

Our "Journey to the Shrines of France" was a wonderful way to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the death of St. John Vianney, the Cure of Ars, and his entrance into glory. Thirty pilgrims from our parish embarked on September 14, 2009 for a 10-day adventure to mark this momentous anniversary to this humble and holy

parish priest. They saw places where the world was changed and countless souls touched by St. John Vianney.

They also had the opportunity to visit other wonderful, beautiful and inspiring locales in France, including Lourdes, Paris, Chartres, Nevers and Lyon. Our travelers were able to

experience something truly special: a pilgrimage to places of historic significance, physical beauty and spiritual richness. Daily mass, wonderful meals and excellent guides made this a truly memorable trip. Many have already asked, "Where are we going next?"



AND THE BEAT GOES ON...



1st Thursday after 9 am Mass
Continental Breakfast (Adult Lounge)

1st Sunday after ALL morning Masses
Coffee & Donuts (Dining Rm)

3rd Sunday after ALL morning Masses
Monthly Breakfast (Dining Rm)

January 11-14
Parish Mission (Church/Chapel)

January 17 8 am-4 pm
Blood Drive (Youth Lounge)

February 7 4 pm
Super Bowl Party (Dining Rm)

February 13 7:30-10:30 pm
Valentine's Dinner & Dance (Dining Rm)

February 16
Fat Tuesday Feast (Dining Rm)

Fridays during Lent 12:30-1:30 pm
Tuna Fish Lunches (Multi-Purpose Rm)

Fridays during Lent 5:30-7:30 pm
Lenten Dinners (Dining Rm)

ST. JOHN VIANNEY CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Check out
St. John Vianney
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**“One Purpose.
One Life.
Parish Life.”**

**Newsletter
brought to you
by the Parish Life
Department**

Editor: Jaime Hassig

“One Purpose. One Life. Parish Life.”

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The role of the Parish Life Ministry is to welcome, connect and provide fellowship through special events, fundraisers, receptions and so much more. Our goal is to encourage involvement not only within the parish community but beyond our liturgies. It includes small monthly committee meetings to our well-known annual Fall Bazaar. Parishioners who would like to get involved in parish life activities or offer new ideas can contact the Parish Life Office.



KIDS SUMMER DAY CAMP 2010

June 7 through August 6 will be the dates for Summer Camp 2010, with no camp the week of July 5-9. Please continue to check the website for updates and registration information.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: I have a lot of ideas for fun social events and would love to volunteer my time to making them reality. How do I become part of the Parish Life Committee?

A: The Parish Life Committee is a small group of parishioners who dedicate their time



and talents to the Parish Life Department of St. John Vianney. They try to develop new ideas that will create fellowship and bring parishioners together. They not only

brainstorm these plans, but also put much effort into executing them. We appreciate these volunteers who are available to provide so much of their creativity and time to our parish. If you think this is something you are interested in doing, please contact the Parish Life Office.