

St. Paul Health Ministry



"Faith Rooted in Community"

Providing information requested by parishioners

THE HEALING PLACE

APR-MAY-JUN 2011

Volume 5, Issue 2

Health Ministry Team

"wholeness of body, mind and spirit"

Spiritual Leaders

Father Vicente Teneza
Father Felipe Paraguya

Chair

Clara Heimericks, RN

Members

Grace Bati, RN
Paz Cajucom, RN
Dana Dinh, RN
Carmela Encina, RN
Romy Encina, RN
Norv Latreille
Patti Morrow, RN
Hank Morrow, RN
Lottie Munsayac, RN
Judy Niedzwiedz
Monica Parker, LVN
Ramona Parks, RN
Bernie Silla, RN
Rhonda Vrchoticky, RN

Regular Meetings

Third Thursday, 7pm
Rectory Office
Conference Room

Membership

You need not be a medical professional. If you are interested in the Health Ministry please call Clara Heimericks at 689-3932 or the rectory at 381-5200.

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

June 25th — 26th

Each June the Health Ministry of St. Paul Catholic Church guides the parish in celebrating the lives of those among us who have been touched by cancer.

This celebration is to honor and cherish both those living among us, and those who have left this earthly life for their eternal life in the Kingdom of God.

Communal Ceremony

This annual, symbolic celebration strengthens both our faith in a loving God and in the loving memories of our lost loved-ones.

The St. Paul Health Ministry asks you to join us on Saturday, June 25th and Sunday, June 26th at all Masses in this moving communal ceremony.

Cancer survivors and their caregivers will be participating as Ministers during the Mass.

Honoring Those We Love

A special presentation board will be displayed in the front vestibule of the church prior to the Masses and you are encouraged to write the name of the one you love and wish to honor on a slip of paper and affix it to the board.

Health Ministry members will be available to help you. You may

honor as many as you wish; friend, family, living or departed.

The presentation board will be brought forward with the offering of the gifts and will remain in the chapel for daily prayer for the next month.

Sharing the Faith

Each Mass will include, with the homily, witnessing from parishioners who will share stories of the role their faith played in their cancer experiences.

Some will tell stories of physical healing, some of spiritual healing, and some of both.

These stories are to remind us that God has a plan for all of us and that plan is not ours to know. What is ours to know is that God will heal us. He will make us whole. He will fill our hearts with the love and joy that only He can give.

"Your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God". (1 Corinthians 2:5)

"...Protect us from all anxiety..."

These words from the liturgy are so meaningful to those who have been touched by cancer. The mere thought of being seriously ill or dying can send anyone into a frenzy of anxiety. A dizzy, unfocused panic can consume your every thought. Your heart thumps, your head swims. You think of mortality and

become paralyzed with fear. You fear partings, you worry about leaving family and friends. But, wait! Remember that God answers our every-plea; He will "...protect us from all anxiety'...". Remember that we were born not into death, but into life, and that the journey continues after we have finished our days on this earth. We know this to be true and that God's gift of life, once given, cannot be taken away. Those who have been touched by cancer enjoy the special privilege of being able, with the fullness of their faith, to live fully, richly, and exuberantly—no matter how their days may be numbered.

You Have Been Called

Oftentimes, the first reaction to hearing a diagnosis of cancer is to turn to God and ask for Him to make it all 'go away'. We look and listen for God's response and when it doesn't 'go away' we may wonder why God hasn't answered us. But, if you listen carefully, you may hear a voice saying, "You have been called."

Your experience with cancer will have called you to draw closer to God, closer to those you love, closer to the issues that matter, and has relegated other everyday concerns into insignificance. By listening and following this call we can truly become closer to God.

All Can Be Healed

As difficult as it is to live with any of these situations it's important to remember that all of us can be healed, in all ways, by the power of God.

We come to realize that the healing we are looking for may take many forms.

Rather than focusing on only physical healing, open yourself to the magic of spiritual healing as well.

Love Changes Everything

Spiritual healing is based on the truest of love. Remember, when Jesus was faced with the prospect of crucifixion, he grieved not for himself, but for us. He cried for Jerusalem before entering the holy city. From the Cross, He took on the cumulative burden of human sin and weakness, and begged for forgiveness on our behalf.

In our lives, we get repeated chances to learn that life is not about us, that we acquire purpose and satisfaction by sharing in God's love for others. Let us seize this chance and live the life God wants for us.

A Show of Love

So, if you are a cancer survivor; a family member, friend,

or caregiver to someone with cancer, or if you have lost someone to cancer, join us in our annual **Celebration of Life** so we may show our love. Stop in the vestibule on June 25th and 26th, add names to the presentation board and let us honor you and others with love and faith.

As you journey through your own difficult path of cancer know that you are never alone.

Remember that God and your parish family are with you every step of the way.

Upcoming Health Ministry Events and Activities:

► **Blood Pressure Screening Clinic in parish hall FREE**
-June 5th -8:30-12:30
-NO BPS CLINIC IN JULY

► **ZUMBA classes every-Wednesday evening from 6:00 p.m. till 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall. The cost for each class is \$7.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children (7-12).**

► **Celebration of Life (remembering all who have been touched by cancer) June 25th & 26th All Masses**

Excerpts from Christianity Today, July, 2007; Tony Snow, Commentator and Broadcaster