

ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH

GETTING TO KNOW FR. JULIAN IBEMERE (Part 3 of 3)

ABOUT MY JOURNEY OF LIFE: I attended elementary school from 1974-1981 at Community School Amaraku. My high school education was from 1981-1986 at Amaraku Secondary School. In 1987 I gained admission to do prefecting in St. Peter's Seminary Okigwe in Imo State, Nigeria. This was a two year program based on character examination and intensive spiritual formation.

In 1989 I was sent to Senior Seminary Bigard Memorial Seminary Enugu by my Bishop for my philosophical studies which lasted from 1989-1993. After my graduation in 1993 I was sent to my Alma Mater by my Bishop to teach for one year. At the end of this teaching experience I returned to Bigard Memorial Seminary Enugu for four years of theological studies. On December 21, 1997 I was ordained a Deacon of the Holy Roman Catholic Church. On August 6, 1998, on the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord Jesus into heaven, I was ordained a Catholic priest.

While in the seminary from 1990-1993 I was a member of various offices including: Indigent Fund Member, Student Council Member, Treasurer of the Nigerian Federation of Catholic Students, and Secretary for Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

As a theologian from 1994-1998 I was a member of Holy Bible Translators, President of the Nigerian Federation of Catholic Students, President of Student Council, and President of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

As a Priest, after my ordination in 1998, I had the opportunity to serve in various parishes in different capacities. In 1998 I served as Associate Pastor at Our Lady of Lourdes, Umuduru. In 1999 I served as Associate Pastor at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish and Principal of Christus Dominus Secondary Technical School, both in Okwe. From 2000-2005 I served as Pastor at Holy Family Parish Mbato and Principal of Holy Family Secondary School Mbato, both in Umulolo Okigwe.

It was from this assignment that I was sent by my bishop for my mission to the Diocese of Owensboro. This is my journey so far.

God bless you all. *Fr. Julian*

**ST. PIUS X -
OCTOBER, 2011**

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At this time, funding has not been secured for next month's Newsletter.

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the Office.**

**This month's Newsletter
made possible by the
generous donation of a
Parish Family!!!**

Thank You!

WE, THOUGH MANY, ARE ONE BODY IN CHRIST

Rom 12:5 by Jane Strehl

Six of my ten brothers and sisters and I, along with our spouses, gathered this past weekend in Bowling Green. We attended 4:30 Mass at Holy Spirit Catholic Church and took up two long pews. My sister whispered to me, "Now I know how Mom and Dad felt each Sunday at Mass!" After Mass, my brother, Mark, who is a member of Holy Spirit, gave us a tour of the new facilities. Mark has been on the planning committee for the new church and was excited about giving us the grand tour. We were all impressed by the beauty, the symbolism, and the spiritual essence of the Church and all the surrounding offices, meeting rooms and outdoor landscaping. What a tremendous blessing they have to be able to gather and worship in such a holy, beautiful space.

As I reflected on our visit in Bowling Green, I kept thinking, not of the Church, but of my brothers and sisters. We are and always have been a very close family, in spite of our many differences.

I am one of the older children in my family, being 4th of the 11. At times it seems we older kids were raised by different parents than the younger ones. If we older kids ever used the word "ain't", you'd think we had cursed. Let's just say it was a word we were highly encouraged not to use. But my younger siblings say "ain't" without blinking an eye. Some of us listen to Josh Grobin and some to Josh Turner. Some of us would be happy forever as long as we have a book in our hands, others never pick up a book. Some love the old, ornamental, stone & marble, heavy décor in a Catholic Church, some prefer the newer, cleaner lines offered in more modern Churches.

These are only a few of the differences. So, how is it that we love being with each other? We never want to end our time together. We stood in Mark & Janice's garage talking for an hour after we had hugged and said good-bye. Nobody was ready to leave.

I believe this is a lot like what we have here at St. Pius Tenth. We are a close family. There is always something going on "on the hill." Though there are many different families, backgrounds, opinions, views, and tastes, we are still one family in Christ. "The body is one and has many members, but all the members, many though they are, are one body." 1Cor 12:12. Let us always rejoice in our oneness as a parish family. Though we may have many differences, let us dwell on how we are alike, mainly how we are each a child of God in this parish family of St. Pius Tenth. I'll bet there are even a lot of parishioners who say "ain't" and many who would never dream of saying it!

Special thanks to Jane (Calhoun) Strehl for writing this column and sharing her thoughts on family and the St. Pius X Parish Family. If you enjoyed this article and have a story you would like to share, please contact Delores Turnage at 315-0789 or email your story to delores4tf@bellsouth.net

A NOTE FROM SR. SUZANNE SIMS

Dear St. Pius X Family: Thank you so much for your support of the Mount St. Joseph Ursuline Sisters Annual Picnic. Special thanks to members of the Cooking Team and the Parishioners that worked the St. Pius X booth AND to Debbie Lanham, an Ursuline AssociateYou did St. Pius X proud!!!! Obviously Stewardship is alive and well on the hill!

It was so nice to have the opportunity to be back home at St. Pius to sell raffle tickets (\$535) and visit with so many old friends and fellow Parishioners. The St. Pius X Family will always hold a very special place in my heart and prayers.

Note: Sr. Suzanne was a member of one of the founding families of the Parish and was an active member of the Parish until she entered the convent. She is the only living Mt. St. Joseph Ursuline Sister hailing from St. Pius Tenth Parish.



UPCOMING EVENTS — DON'T FORGET.....**Parish Mission - Fr. Tony Palazzolo, "How to Handle Your Emotions from a Biblical Perspective"**

Sunday, October 2 - Wednesday, October 5. Fr. Tony is a great speaker. He came to the Parish one weekend a couple of years ago and talked about the mission work he does in Jamaica. He was married and has grown children and grandchildren and is now a Priest. An awesome man with a humorous and infectious witness to the work of God in missionary settings.

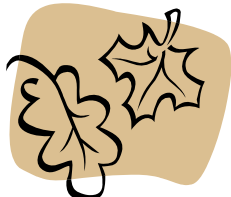
REIDS Apple Festival - October 15 & 16: We will have our Burgoo by the Cup and Chicken Dinner Stand. Workers are needed. Please contact the Parish Office to volunteer or pick your time to work on the sign-up sheets located on the tables at the entrances at Church. This is a great fundraiser for the Parish - PLUS, it is a great way to get to know your fellow Parishioners!!!! We will also be making potato salad beginning at 9:00 A.M. on Friday, October 14 in the Parish Hall. Your participation and support is greatly appreciated.

QUESTION OF THE MONTH: When does the Parish Council meet and are their meetings open to anyone?

ANSWER: They typically meet the first Monday of the Month at 6:00 P.M. in the Parish Office Conference Room. However, from time to time the meetings must occur on a different date (like in October - the meeting conflicts with the Parish Mission). Feel free to call the Parish Office to get the date for the next meeting. Parish Council Meetings are open to all Parishioners. If they have to discuss a personnel issue, they do have the option to go into closed session. If you have any question or concerns, please feel free to contact one of the Parish Council Members.

Special thanks to the current Parish Council Members for their dedicated service to the Parish:

Will Storm - Chair, John Boarman - Vice Chair, Amanda Jones - Secretary, Carol Payne, John McCarty, Mary Lou Storm, Janie Stiff, Jeff Jones, Sally Brooks, and Carolyn McCarty.



SPENDING TIME WITH A SPECIAL FRIEND

Anonymous

I WENT TO VISIT A FRIEND THE OTHER DAY. It was great - I hadn't had the time, or should I say, hadn't made the time to visit with Him in person, one-on-one, for a while. I had been missing Him and I know that He had been missing me too.

We met in a quiet place, the lights turned down low with only the sound of running water echoing around us. We sat on a bench (like the pews in Church) and I leaned my arm over the back of the bench and turned sideways and just talked and talked. I had so many things to tell Him about... the kids, work, health issues, the volunteer work I was doing....there has just been so much going on in life lately. And, as any two really good friends do when they get together, I shared some things with Him that had been bothering me, things that I was worried about. I told him that I needed His help and guidance on a few things...He doesn't always give me the answers I want when I want them, BUT, I know He answers me even if I don't see it or hear it clearly.

He has been so good to me. He is always there—even when I don't see Him or talk to Him. He is so patient with me, always accepts me for who I am and is always ready to forgive me for my faults.

Eventually I stopped talking and just sat quietly giving Him the opportunity to talk if He wanted to. As our visit came to an end, I told Him how much I loved Him and how much I appreciated everything He has done for me. You see, He has done so much for me and my family. I promised Him that I would continue to try "pay forward" His kindness, generosity, and unconditional and unending love.

You know my Friend and He knows you. He has several names Jesus, God, Father.

This article was written about a Parishioner's personal experience at First Friday Adoration. **For more information about Adoration, please contact Joe & Sara Wathen or Tammy Mattingly.**





**ST. PIUS X - OCTOBER,
2011**

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**“A LIGHT SHINING FROM THE
HILLTOP”**

We're on the Web
stpiustenthparish.org

Nursery Service Available at 11:00 Mass

Most of our parishioners can identify with the challenge of dressing, feeding, and loading up young children to take anyplace – whether grandparents’ house, daycare, or even to the park. When this challenge ends with the child needing to sit quietly for an hour upon arrival it is asking for a miracle of a sort. The parish wants to help by offering nursery services during the 11:00 am Mass.

As a support to young families, childcare is now available for children ages 18 months to 4 years. Nancy Greenwell and Michelle Roberts are co-coordinating this new ministry and scheduling the trained staff who will be supervising the children. Just as important the faith formation the toddlers will receive is the fact that parents will have an opportunity to fully participate in the Mass. As one young Mom said after picking up her child from the Nursery, “I told my husband, this is the first time I’ve been able to hear a sermon all the way through.”

This ministry is being offered on a trial basis through December. Parents are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity. For questions, please contact Nancy or Michelle at the Parish Office (684-4745).

STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION

Some folks in the Parish saw the Nursery service as a need and felt that it was a Ministry that we needed at St. Pius X. So, they got their heads together (combined their talents and expertise), came up with a Plan, presented it to the Parish Council AND gathered the funds to cover all expenses related to this ministry for the trial period.

What an awesome example of Stewardship!!!!.