

Spirit on 7th Street

An up close and personal look at the ministries of Saint Henry's

Alan Ames Returns for Healing, Reconciliation

By Grace Janssen and Ann Medley

Wonderful things happened when Alan Ames visited our parish in March 2015. Our church was packed with over 1,000 people, including our neighbors from surrounding parishes. After his inspiring talk and individual prayers for healing with people, there were some who returned to confession after long absences, some as long as twenty years. Others reported spiritual gifts, and some reported an overwhelming sense of peace or love. There was even a report of someone who was

healed of a serious disease.

On Monday, June 27th, Mr. Ames will once again be visiting our parish for a Healing and Reconciliation Service. There will be a rosary at 6:30 p.m., followed by Mass at 7:00 p.m., celebrated by Fr. Jim Livingston. After mass, Alan will speak, followed by the Healing Service of the laying on of hands by both Alan and Fr. Jim.

Alan's heart was transformed by personal encounters with Jesus, and he has become a humble, loving servant of God. He has written

Continued on page 3

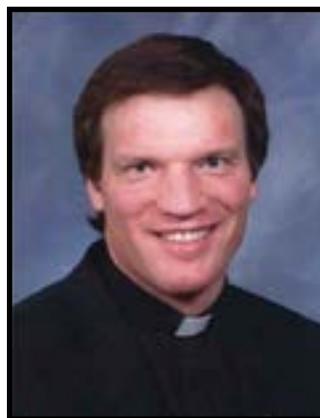


Alan Ames returns to Saint Henry's on June 27th.



Father Jim Livingston will celebrate mass at 7 p.m.

The Holy Spirit in My Life



Father Tony VanderLoop

I was asked to write an article on myself for this newsletter because people have expressed a desire to know more about me. For some reason I find this hard to do. Maybe it is because I need to reflect on how God has led me. How has God led me to this point in my life, being the pastor of this church, here in Monticello for the past five years?

That is a good question and one that I don't think any answer is totally adequate. The way that God works in our lives is always in part, a mystery. That is to say that we can see God at work in us and put words on that, but it also eludes our

understanding. If we did understand it fully, we would be putting ourselves in charge. But I will try to make this reflection.

I feel that God has given me many blessings that began with growing up in Bloomington, MN through the 2nd grade. God gave me a mother and a father who have always been there for me. God gave me four sisters, and this has also shaped my life. I remember walking to school and then transferring to Nativity of Mary Catholic School, where I received my first holy communion. I remember riding along with my dad on his milk delivery route, as he was a milk deliverer. My dad was a den leader for Cub scouts and I remember the fun we had.

When we moved to Elk River, I remember the neighborhood friends that I had. They were a great blessing, as we played a lot of football, hockey, and basketball.

Continued next page

Holy Spirit

Continued from front page

I remember when my parents bought me a trumpet, which I still have to this day. I played in the concert, jazz, and pep bands in high school and also the marching band for the University of Minnesota. That one instrument has taken me to so many places! Then there was basketball. I remember the awe I felt as a kindergartner when my dad came home with a basketball hoop and started putting it up on our garage. My Confirmation retreat was an all-nighter. That was what we did in the 80's. It was in a gym, so one of the highlights was shooting baskets for much of the night.

I think I was definitely exposed to work from a young age. My dad had a hydroponic growing business in Elk River and we built greenhouses in which he grew lettuce. That was a lot of work, along with landscaping the house.

For as much as I see God present in the activities of my life, I would also say that God has been there for me in my times of prayer. I remember going to Saint Andrew's in Elk River and we'd sit pretty near the front. The time we had together as a family

before and at Mass is very memorable for its solitude with God and then praying and singing together to God. This was reinforced by the times with my grandmother at her church in Thief River Falls, MN when we would go to daily Mass. Another time that was really important for me was between jobs after I had graduated with a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University. It was a time of discernment and I had some time during the day so I would go to Nativity of our Lord in Saint Paul and pray before the Blessed Sacrament. Looking back, I realize now that these would be some very important minutes with God.

Soon before entering the seminary, I sat on a bench outside of Saint Lawrence-Newman at the university and said to God that I have found home, and I now know that I will always be Catholic. I knew this because I believed in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, something which no other denomination believed in. I had previously started attending other churches.



Father Tony finishes his first ever official 5K race! Here he is crossing the finish line at the Holy Spirit Academy's 5K run, held May 23rd. In his spare time, Father Tony still enjoys basketball, running, biking, and hiking.

My Ordination day was a taste of heaven to me. So many family members and friends were there who had an influence on my life. They were and still are like God's hand directing me forward. The Mass in 2003 was beautiful and it was an opportunity to say to God that I am yours, no matter what happens. I give thanks to God as I did then that God led me to such a calling to serve the people of God.

After two assignments as an associate priest and then as a pastor at Saint Peter in Richfield, I feel like I have learned a great deal. I have learned a lot here in Monticello, also. I have learned how much God wants to bless us. I have seen the Holy Spirit move at Monticello! It always seems to be a constant battle to get things done and bring them to completion and move on to the next

thing – it's the story of my life! But I have been blessed to get to know you all and to see your faith in action as you offer the gifts that you have. Oh, in-between, I take my walks, go cross country skiing or jogging, or play basketball. I get in a little time here and there with a priest friend on Mondays. That is true. And it is nice that my mother and father live in Buffalo. I get to see them regularly.

There is so much more that we as a community can do to reach out to and be a light to those who are searching, those who are hurting, or who are disengaged. I believe that the Holy Spirit wants to show us the way. So let's resolve to do nothing to sadden him and resolve to walk together under His guidance.

Father Tony



First Friday Book Club

Did you know the Church of Saint Henry's has a book club? A wonderful group of women have been meeting for over four years and we have read and discussed over forty (40) books.

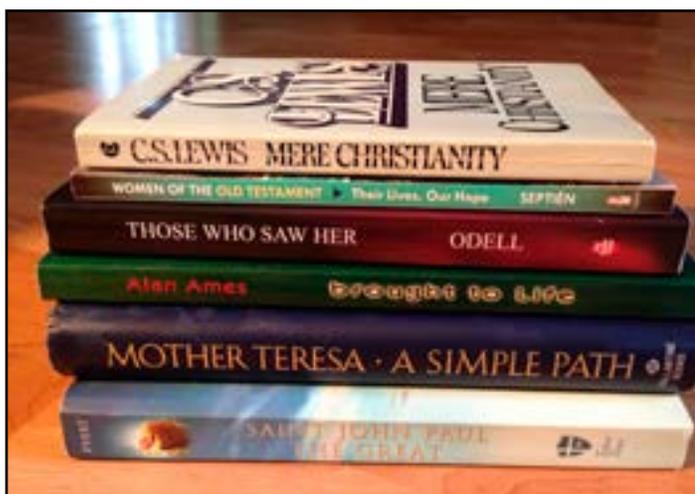
The book club started when Saint Henry's gave away copies of Rediscover Catholicism, by Matthew Kelly, during Lent. We had a small group that met for six weeks to discuss the book. It was so good that we all said we didn't want it to end. We decided to meet monthly, read a chosen Catholic book, and discuss it.

We meet the first Friday of the month at 9:15 a.m. (except for July and August) and discuss for about 75 minutes. Some of the books we have read include: The Boy Who Saw Jesus, by Imaculee Ilibigaza; Mere Christianity, by C.S. Lewis, Surprised

by Truth (by Patrick Madrid), Orthodoxy (by G.K. Chesterton), Little Talks with God (by St. Catherine of Siena), and many other great Catholic classics.

Discussions are always enlightening, even when books have been hard and none of us finished (Crossing the Threshold of Hope by JP11). For most of us, this has been an opportunity to read good Catholic literature that many of us probably would not read on our own otherwise. It has been a great way to share and grow in our faith. We invite new members any time. Contact Marcia Flicker at m.flicker@zoom.net for more information.

"You will not see anyone who is really striving after his advancement who is not given to spiritual reading. And as to him who neglects it, the fact will soon be observed by his progress."
- St Athanasius



Healing, Reconciliation

Continued from front page

a number of books based on his personal experiences with God. He lives a deeply mystical prayer life and has been graced by the Holy Spirit with the Gift of Healing. He travels throughout the world to evangelize and heal those in need.

Alan has written many books, and one has been published since his visit with us in March of 2015. The title is "Beyond the Veil". Alan says, "In this book I would like to share some of that which God has revealed as He has

permitted me to see beyond the veil and how He in His great love has led me to experience such wonders and joys." You will be able to purchase any of Alan's books for a few weekends before the event. Watch for more details in the St. Henry's bulletin.

Please come and experience the love of God and the gifts of the Holy Spirit in a deep and personal way with the help of His servants, Alan Ames and Fr. Jim Livingston.



Spring Bling Jewelry Sale News!

The 2nd annual Spring Bling Jewelry Sale event was a great success this year, raising \$3000.00 to put towards St. Henry's mortgage principal.

Thank you to all that were generous with their time, talents, and gifts which allowed for great fun and fellowship.

Our children at Saint Henry's are in good hands

Meet Our Youth Ministry Assistant



Joe Bruley, Youth Ministry Assistant

Please allow me to introduce myself: my name is Joe Bruley, and I am St. Henry's Youth Ministry Assistant. I was brought onboard the Saint Henry's staff as Youth Ministry Kym Alex's assistant; however, when we learned that she was leaving us, my job evolved into helping her transition out, and then taking over youth ministry until our replacement starts her position. (See next page for information on our new Youth Ministry Director!) It will be my job to help the new director transition into her new role.

I graduated from Monticello High School in 2014. I now attend classes at Saint Cloud State University, where I study Philosophy and Economics. After graduation, I plan on

pursuing a career in Youth Ministry. Eventually, I would like to gain another degree in Theology.

This summer, I am in charge of coordinating our parish's mission to the Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos (NPH) Orphanage, located in Miacatlán, Mexico; World Youth Day in Kraków, Poland; and planning summer youth events.

NPH International was founded by a Catholic priest in Mexico in 1954, and has since spread across the globe, serving all those who need loving care so desperately. The charity is dedicated to Christian ideals and truly cares for the children it protects. From June 21st-28th, Father Tony, Alejandra Chavez, and I will be leading a group of teens from our Parish down to Miacatlán to serve at the orphanage there.

At the orphanage, we will be leading a Vacation Bible School for the children, doing service projects, and teaching them about the love that our Lord Jesus has for them.

The last few months have been very busy

as we coordinate our trip to NPH. Our traveling delegation consists of Father Tony, Alejandra Chavez, Ray Fasen, Ashley Goodwin, Nati Espinoza, and me. We have been working very closely with Jim and Dixie Sidla of the Mission Outreach Committee to make this mission a success. Together, the planning and hosting of fundraisers has been a top priority. Thus far, we have hosted our "Sponsor a Child" fundraiser. A "Sponsor a Body Part" fundraiser was held where we asked parishioners to sponsor a portion of the cost of an individual's trip in the form of "body parts." For example, it may cost a delegate \$5 to send their toe on the trip (as a proportion of the entire cost), and they would ask a parishioner to donate

"From June 21st-28th, Father Tony, Alejandra Chavez, and I will be leading a group of teens from our Parish down to Miacatlán to serve at the orphanage there."

towards sending their toe on the mission.

Recently, we held a fundraising event at the local Culver's. This was open to the public and we had an amazing turn out. We bussed tables, ran food, and did dishes to raise money for the trip. I would like to thank everyone who has donated or otherwise sponsored us. A very special thank you to Kurt Fasen for all the amazing guidance and assistance he has provided to our team regarding fundraising.

Going forward, things only seem to be getting busier. June has arrived, and our team will be meeting more frequently to begin planning our Vacation Bible School for the children. We plan to share with the pequeños (children) some of the lives of amazing saints that have walked God's path before us. This message will inspire and help the pequeños grow on their own faith journey. Please stay tuned for more updates, please continue to pray for the success of our mission and for the pequeños.

Thank you, and God bless you all.



Meet Jenna Leighton, Director of Youth Ministry



Jenna Leighton, New Director of Youth Formation and Ministry.

My name is Jenna Leighton. I am thrilled to begin here in July as the Director of Youth Formation and Ministry. My hope is that together we will encounter the Lord anew and walk with Him on the path of discipleship.

A native to Minnesota, I grew up in the parish of St. Stephen, Anoka. It was largely through the youth ministry at my parish that I had a personal encounter with Jesus and began living intentionally for Him. Only a little while later, the call to work in ministry began to grow in my heart. I went to Franciscan University of Steubenville and studied Theology, Catechetics with a concentration in Youth Ministry, and Philosophy. I worked the last two years at the parish of St. Ignatius in Annandale.

I love the outdoors, all-things-crafty, and playing the violin. My favorite saint is St. John Paul II.

I look forward to meeting all of you and being a part of this beautiful community.



Help students be clear and consistent in their faith.

Group discussions, quiet meditation, skits, subject-related activities, prayer and fellowship.

SUMMER FUN

FOR EVERYONE

1st -6th Grade:
9 a.m.—2:30 p.m.
Monday—Friday
July 25th-29th
St. Henry's

Junior & Senior High:
7:00 p.m. — 9:10 p.m.
Sunday—Thursday
July 24th-28th, 2016
St. Henry's

Registration's Are Due by June 27, 2016

Contact: Jessica Soden 763-271-3079 jsoden@sthenrycatholic.com
www.sthenrycatholic.info • totustus@archspm.org

It's Approaching Fast

Saint Henry's Fall Festival, August 27-28, 2016

Saint Henry's Fall Festival evokes many memories and senses. The smell of food being prepared outdoors, children's laughter while playing games, or a smiling face when handed a famous Toby Twist balloon creation. It could be fellowship over a hot dog, or winning a 50/50 Raffle round. Maybe, it's just sitting and tapping your toes to the live music. No one can forget selecting a special treat from the Sweet Shop and Country Market, playing Bingo, keeping up with your bid at the Silent Auction, or buying last minute Grand Raffle tickets. It just all adds up to great fun and fellowship!

The Parish Festival Steering Committee and Chairs have been hard at work planning the favorite traditions of our festival, while layering in new and exciting changes.

Please watch for updates in the bulletin and at www.sthenrycatholic.info. Coming soon, a detailed program of events.

We invite you to come and experience the fellowship and fun of the Parish Festival with us! Below are ways you

can share in this great celebration, as we would appreciate your help:

- Chair Leadership needed : Kid's Town Games, Miniature Golf, Bottle Blast, and the Cake Walk
- Business Sponsorship for band trailer (banner on the stage-both days and featured on publicity)

Please contact the following Parish Festival Chairs for more information:

Lanette and Brent Aitchison, 763-295-5244, coachgirl1@me.com; or Janelle and Rick Hazuka, 763-295-4891, JanelleLHazuka@gmail.com



Saint Henry's Fall Festival evokes many memories and senses. Here is a photo from last year's festival, showing parishioners purchasing Grand Raffle tickets, in hopes of winning one of several great prizes.

New 2016 Festival Highlights

Saturday, August 27th

- 4:00pm bilingual Mass celebrating the Hispanic Culture
- Hispanic Fiesta Dinner in the Social Hall following mass including children's piñata
- Live music: back by popular demand, "High Brow and The Shades"
- Concessions: pork chop on a stick and craft beer
- Clown Town with Toby Twist Ballon Creations and select kid's games
- Minnow races
- Bingo
- Silent Auction in the The Cove/ Administration Hall area

Sunday, August 28th

- 8:30am Mass as usual, 10:30 am Polka Mass with the "Rod Cerar Band"
- Dad's Famous Waffle Breakfast in the Social Hall following both masses
- Live Music - back by popular demand, "Rod Cerar Band " featuring polka, standards, and popular music
- Miniature Golf
- Silent Auction in The Cove / Administration Hall area
- Holy Hoops with Father Tony
- Minnow Races
- Bean Bag Tournament
- Concessions: pork chop on a stick/bloody Mary's, and craft beer
- Kids Town & Prize Redemption Booth
- Afternoon "Pie Social" in the Social Hall

***Just a reminder, all the above are in addition to your favorite festival traditions.



Highlights of Faith Formation

By Jessica Soden, Director of Faith Formation

This parish is so blessed to have many faithful and dedicated volunteers who tirelessly step forward to bring the gift of faith to the children here. A very enormous “thank you” to all of you! Please keep them and the future volunteers in your prayers.

I would like to share a couple of highlights from the faith formation year, the new Catechesis of the Good Shepherd program and the Catholic History Fair.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd is a new program we began here this past year for 3-6 year-old children. The program is a Montessori-based classroom for the Catholic faith. Montessori is a material-based curriculum

that is all hands-on manipulatives for the children to work and learn from. The children are given presentations either in a very small group or one on one. The children are free to work with any of the materials in the atrium that they have been shown. We asked for donations from the parish as well as had some beautiful things made for our atrium. Karl Eiden did an amazing job making many things from wood; Char Thelen sewed miniature vestments; and Alan and Kris Warmka painted wooden figures for us. Their talent to make the room possible is such a gift. The children are able to learn and meditate and grow with a deep understanding

of God from the environment that they are praying in.

A few of the presentations that the children had this year were: Altar I and II (learning how to set the altar and what the sacred vessels for Mass are called), liturgical colors, geography maps of where Jesus was born and died, Infancy Narratives, Kingdom Parables, gestures we use at Mass, as well as group liturgical celebrations for Advent, Easter and Pentecost. One of my favorite moments with the children this year was presenting the Leaven work (the parable of the woman who mixes yeast with the flour until it is all leavened), which is a Kingdom of God parable. As I was mixing the leaven in with a child he said “It smells sooooo good, I bet it tastes so good.” I asked him what he thought this told us about the Kingdom of God, and he replied with sheer joy and giggle “Heaven must be sooooo good!”

Watching the children grow to discover the Good Shepherd and find God with such joy at a young age is truly awesome. Our goal is

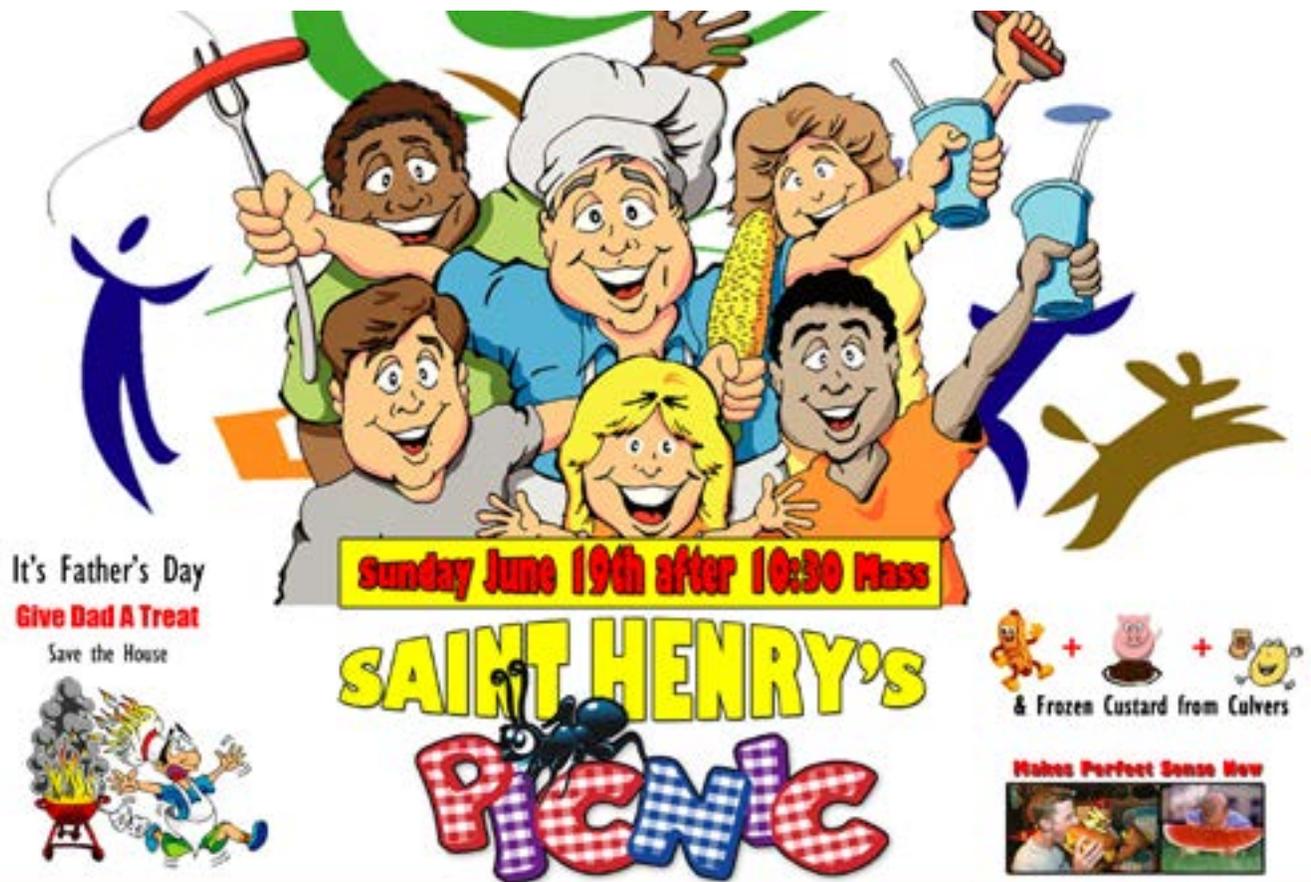
to grow this program by having more Catechists trained; please contact me if you’re interested!

The other highlight is the Catholic History Fair that the 2nd-6th grade students put on. Each classroom was given the assignment to create a display board at the beginning of the year. The classes were each free to choose the topic, as long as it focused on Catholic history or Catholic facts, and work together to fill in and display what they have chosen. Teachers have shared with me that this is really a highlight for their students, and it is so fun to see the children get excited and embrace this project. They learn a lot from working together and researching in this way. We had all the boards on display in the gathering space in March after we came together for our Faith Formation Family Mass. The variety of topics and the depth of the content that the children put on these boards are incredible. We will keep putting out a few boards in the gathering space for parishioners to see the wonderful work the children have done.



Students proudly share their display boards in the gathering space. All displays focused on Catholic history or Catholic facts.





Fit Moms For Life at Saint Henry's

Everyone knows that going to church helps get in shape spiritually, right? But did you know that going to church can help you get in shape physically, too? Well that's just what a group of ladies from Saint Henry's has proven over the last year.

Through some of her own experiences, Tanya Lill felt inspired to come up with a way to share her desire to help others who wanted to feel better about themselves. She recalled a program that she took part in when her family still lived in North Dakota, Fit Moms for Life, and researched to see if it was still active. Not

only did Tanya find out the program was still active, but she found out the founder of Fit Moms, Dustin Maher, was actually born right here in Monticello!

Now that she had a program to follow, all Tanya needed was a group to help and a place to do it. Luckily, Saint Henry's provided both. After just one conversation Tanya had gained the interest of a small group of parishioners. Then Tanya explained her idea and the positive responses with Father Tony, who graciously allowed her the use of our Saint Henry's gym. From there it was all

downhill...at least for the weight, because their strength and spirits have soared.

Since April 2015 Tanya has led two separate 6-week challenge groups; 10 of those people are still meeting every Tuesday and Thursday evening for an hour, encouraging each other to try new forms of exercise and activities. The group has lost nearly 100 pounds and has grown their friendships to unbelievable heights.

Recently some of them traveled to Madison WI to meet Dustin and his core team who help keep Fit Moms for Life moving forward.

While there the group experienced a boot camp-style workout, toured a grocery store to discuss the best way to shop and read labels, and finally a special workout that Dustin uses to keep himself in shape. Each one of them stated this is something they never would have dreamed of doing just a year ago!

If you're interested in learning more about the Fit Moms for Life, feel free to reach out to Tanya Lill or just grab your gym shoes and show up next Tuesday!

*"I can do all things through him who strengthens me."
(Philippians 4:13)*

