

The Ascension Weekly

January 27, 2019

Friends, former parishioners remember Fr. Henry

This is the final installment in a three-part series of memories shared of Fr. Henry Januszkiewicz by parishioners who knew and loved him.



Father Henry was special to the Johnson family for the kindness and encouragement he gave our mother Lelia. Although she attended Mass faithfully and supported church activities, she was not fully involved in the church. Father Henry gave her the opportunity to be a

leader and to be fully engaged at Ascension when she ran the kitchen for Las Vegas Nights – one of our big fundraisers to raise money to rebuild the church. People came to Vegas to gamble, but returned week after week to taste Lelia's hot potato salad, ribs and chicken.

Father Henry would often tell the parishioners if you had an idea to help the church, it was your project. And so my mother organized and held a dance (sponsored by the extended Johnson family). She invited local leaders (Audrey Scott, our mayor) and Representative Steny Hoyer to the dance, and they came. Without Father's encouragement and belief that she could do it, she probably would not have stepped up to the plate. Every idea she had, he supported.

Because of his faith in her and her support of him, he was going to take her to Rome. She was extremely excited and happy for the invitation. Unfortunately, she died before he could take her.

My siblings and I are forever grateful to Father Henry for including our mother and family into his extended family, as he did with so many other parishioners.

- Ann Laverne Johnson

Religious Education students prepare for upcoming First Penance

Last Sunday at 10:00 a.m., students in the second grade of the Religious Education program at Ascension, as well as the second graders attending St. Pius X Regional School whose families are registered at our parish, attended a meeting with their parents in the St. Michael classroom to prepare for the reception of the Sacrament of Penance, which they are scheduled to receive in one week, on Saturday, February 2nd. Greg Rozanski, our parish's Director of Religious Education, went over important dates coming up throughout the remainder of the school year, including a day of reflection and the First Communion Mass. He also discussed the greatness of God's loving gift in instituting the Sacrament of Penance, and he strongly encouraged making time to go together as a family, suggesting once every other month as a good goal to try to achieve. He went over the essential aspects of making the Sacrament of Penance an integral part of one's spiritual life, and gave to each family a Primer for Confession leaflet. He guided the students in reviewing the steps of a good Confession, and gave them a copy of an examination of conscience they could use to prepare for the reception of the sacrament. All are asked to keep the children listed below in your prayers as they approach their first reception of this most wonderful instrument of God's mercy, the gift of the Sacrament of Penance.

**Reese Adriano
Allyson Alquiza
Mckenzie Bogley
Alyssa Burroughs
Mark Centeno
James Coleman
Lisi Johnson
Keira Murphy
Michael Omoruyi
Natalie Reeley**

Please also keep in your prayers the children listed below who are in our Rite of Christian Initiation for Children class, who will be receiving the sacraments of initiation later in the year:

**Ariana Ogunyomade, Elijah Ogunyomade,
Christopher Allen, Elizabeth Allen, Preston Agbor,
Paula Che, and Katelyn Agbor.**