

Curate's Comments - Spire Addendum

By Barrett Van Buren

In my first two weeks as your Curate, I have already experienced in preparation or actual events of weddings, youth gatherings, Summer Camp at Camp Steven's, staff meetings, Worship, Building and Grounds issues, hospital visitations, and so much more. I am so thankful to God for our Bishop to assign me here at Ascension, where I can participate in my continual formation towards Holy Orders in a healthy and active parish, and be charged with the "cure of souls" through a great mentor, Father Bamberger for the next two years.

It is a joy to be a part of the community at Church of the Ascension, and I look forward to assisting in the areas that are assigned, especially in Christian Education and formation for both children and adults. The first area that I will be involved with is the youth group. Starting September 18th, we are planning a new study program on Sunday mornings for the youth, aimed at answering the basic questions of our faith, and find out about the real existence of God in our lives. Along with this study time, Diane Rhodus and I are planning the fellowship activities for the year, based on the results of the Youth Formation Surveys that were filled out by all the teenagers. We are eager to find and train additional youth leaders to assist with this new vision. With the parent's support and the preparation that has taken place, we should be ready to share what it is all about for the Ministry Fair on September 12th. Please keep the youth and the new program in your prayers.

I also will be involved with the younger children and the adults. Plans are underway for me to receive additional basic training in Catechism of the Good Shepherd and to develop an adult Book study group later this year. It is indeed exciting times for all of us as God is using us to be his instruments for various ministries. We all have a "calling" and we ALL need to utilize the God-given talents and desires to be empowered to build the reign of God. Let us all work together to make this vision happen. God's peace to you!