



The Parish Covenant Corner

A weekly look at how our faith community is living out the Parish Covenant and growing in our relationship with God.

“ I will make a covenant of peace with them...

I will be their God and they will be my people.”

(Ezekiel 37:26-27)

On a visit to the zoo, our then three year old asked why we only see church people at church. That really sounded off a chord with me and made me realize just what we were missing in our lives.

I grew up Baptist and while we were happy at our church, something really was missing. That summer, we decided to visit St. Mary's for a few Sundays to check it out. We quickly identified what was missing. It was community.

We never went back to our old church and within a month, my children were always looking for friends from day-care. Jerry and I reconnected with friends and co-workers whom we've known for some time. Other families with children quickly became favorite points of contact.

After exchanging a few emails with Sr. Jane Mary, I was all set on my quest for RCIA. You know, every Catholic should attend a few sessions just to refresh your spirit. You will be amazed at what you will learn about the faith and sacraments, but to see and feel the power of support from the church community.

On Holy Saturday of the following year, I was fully accepted into the Church and our two sons were baptized. Later that summer our newborn was also baptized. It was a beautiful sight to see it all come full circle.

Our two older boys, Dixon and Payton, are now learning and growing wonderfully as students at St. Mary's. We enjoy watching our little guy, Anton, offer grace for each food item on his plate (he does everything to the extreme), break out in his nighttime prayer without any effort and dip his whole hand into the holy water to sign the cross while leaving mass. He thinks of Church as the place where there is no talking (wish he did that to the extreme).

My children look forward to filling the pew that Grandma and Grandpa must arrive thirty minutes early to reserve, pulling tags from the giving tree, high fiving Father Greg, attending Angel Academy, buying toys and medical items for the Honduras children, and begging me to attend Home and School meetings so they can see their friends and get that out of uniform pass of course.

Hopefully they will always "need" communion to make it thru the week, pause each day to offer thanks to God and ask for favor for themselves and others and most importantly know that this community shares their spiritual goal to live Jesus!

Tracey Seymour

Each week we will highlight a family/individual or group of people that is finding their unique way to live out the Parish Covenant. It is our hope that by doing so we may all continue to grow in our faith and relationship with God. If you have a personal story you would like to share please email Sue Miller at mmiller101@wi.rr.com