

**"GROW IN SPIRIT"**

*Spirit Growth Ministry*

PARISHIONER FAITH STORY  
A WORK IN PROGRESS

In the course of a lifetime one never knows what the future will bring. As a child we depend on our parents, grandparents, teachers, family and friends to point us in the right direction. I thank God everyday that I had that beginning. We even depend on the good priests that have been a part of our lives to keep us on the right track teaching us how God wants us to live.

I believe that the only way that this is possible is to be an active part of our parishes, attending Mass regularly, listening to the scriptures and listening to the homilies that the priests or deacons have prepared to reflect those readings, and to keep these instructions in place in our lives.

My life is one such work in progress. After being married for 44 years and raising two sons and grandchildren in that same spirit of faith and relying on God, my life has a new direction because of the death of my husband.

Yes, that is sad but also grateful that we had many years together even though it had it's ups and downs as every other couple would know. As is said -- God never said it would be a rose garden, but maybe it is, because there are many thorns that give us pain in life -- but as one parishioner from many years ago always said, God never sends you any more than you can handle. I have always remembered that lady -- her name was Laverne Malone, maybe you'll remember her too. Say a prayer for her and remember to pray for our priests also, in this Year of the Priests.

God Bless You Always,  
Barbara N. – Eucharistic Minister