

Parishioner Faith Story

Jesus said "Come follow me", and in 1982 I thought that was what I was doing! My children were going to St Agnes of Bohemia School so I volunteered to help in the school library and the office. I was a lector, a Eucharistic minister, helped with fund raisers, and with the RCIA program. I was trying so hard to fill an emptiness that I felt, something was missing! I thought I was doing all that God wanted me to do.

One day I ran into my cousin, Rita, and in our conversation she mentioned, "Have you ever asked the Holy Spirit to come dwell in you?" I answered. "I've been baptized and confirmed isn't that enough? She said, yes - but can you imagine how happy and welcome the Holy Spirit will be if you gave a special invitation. I thought about what she said and decided to make that special invitation. My spiritual life has not been the same since.

All my volunteer work was now done with a new found love and a sense of His presence. I felt a powerful sense of fulfillment. That emptiness was being filled with joy. The Holy Spirit had filled me and continues to guide me and anyone that will call on Him.

Following Jesus has taken me in many directions. It has been and continues to be an exciting adventure. I remember when I moved into this area in 2003, I visited the Catholic Churches, When I came to St. Chris I was touched by the people. They were so friendly to me a stranger in this neighborhood.

I wanted to be a part of this loving "family." When I became aware that there was going to be a women's retreat, Christ Renews His Parish, I immediately signed up. Thanks to a kind lady, Debbie, who gave me a personal invitation at Mass that day. I also became a lector a couple of years later. I now greet people that I don't know because of this kindness shown to me.

My participation in the CRHP retreats and being a lector has blessed me with a number of new friends with similar values and loving hearts. Our CRHP team continues to meet once a month. God has blessed us. We pray, we laugh, we help, we share, and we all came together because we answered His call, "Come follow Me."

Sabina R.— Lector