

## From Your Pastor



### **THIS WEEKEND – ARISE SIGN-UP SUNDAY – SEPTEMBER 19-20**

**Today is ARISE Sign-Up Sunday.** Members of the parish who are serving as ARISE team leaders will be at the doors of the church following each of the Masses this weekend to offer you the opportunity to sign up for the Third Season of ARISE, which begins the week of October 4. We remind you that it is not necessary for you to have participated in the previous Seasons of ARISE to sign up for this Season.

At the heart of ARISE is the opportunity for parishioners to gather in homes once a week during the six week process for prayer, reflection and sharing. Last weekend I provided you with some personal testimonies of parishioners who have participated in ARISE. Why else should you consider signing up?

- **To know God better.** To learn more about God, talk more freely about our faith, and hear how God has influenced other peoples' lives.
- **To grow spiritually.** To see more clearly how the Holy Spirit has touched our lives and to become more willing to ask for the Spirit's guidance in our everyday lives.
- **To meet new people.** Praying and reading the Bible with others brings people closer. New relationships are formed and deepened.
- **To talk about God.** Society and daily pressures offer little opportunity for us to pause and to reflect on our spiritual life. Small communities provide the time and support for reflection.
- **To improve ourselves.** Wherever we are in our relationship with Christ, there is always

room for improvement. Being in a small community offers this opportunity.

- **To put faith into action.** Baptism calls us to reach out to others, to help improve the quality of life for all. Small communities assist us in identifying ways to respond to others' needs. These communities support outreach.
- **To change the way we see the world.** Small communities enable us to view the world and all in it with the eyes of Christ. This leads us to become more attuned to the needs, issues, and problems of others.
- **To improve relationships.** Being in a small community impacts our relationships with more understanding, tolerance, patience, and love.
- **To experience different prayer styles.** The Catholic Church has a rich variety of prayer and methods of prayer. It is a gift to experience the many ways of communicating with God.
- **To be rejuvenated.** Bringing the daily worries, cares, and frustrations into an atmosphere of prayer, reflection, and faith sharing brings new life to our everyday world.

Please pray the ARISE prayer for the success of the Third Season of the ARISE process this fall in our parish. You will always find it in the Sunday bulletin and we will pray the ARISE prayer at every Mass following the prayer after Communion.



God bless each of you.

*Mrs. Fay*