



Saint Teresa of Calcutta beautifully described a community of faith when she said that when we begin to pray, we begin to see God with a pure heart; in seeing God we begin to see one another with a pure heart; when we see one another with a pure heart we give our hands to serve and our hearts to love, and that's the beginning of holiness.

More than a gathering of individuals who have faith, the Church of Saint Paul is a true community of persons, who are united in faith. Our unity is expressed in prayer, in song, and in service to one another. Together, these expressions of faith reveal a community life set free from self-interest, division, and indifference, a community life redeemed by the Gospel. Our communal life is a witness to the world around us and to the generations after us that God abides with a people who welcome Him earnestly, and who serve one another joyfully. God is enthroned not only in the praises of his people, but also in our ministry for one another.

Our parish is a house of prayer, built of living stones, the people of this community. It is a house restored time and again by God's mercy and maintained by the generosity of our people. It is a house, in the words of Psalm 122:3, of "compact unity" and it is a house adorned with joy. I am grateful again and again to dwell in, to pray with, and to serve this community of faith.

*Fr. Jim*