

Nativity Friday Night Prayer Ministry

This is the 17th year of the Nativity Friday Night Prayer Ministry! It was birthed from the 1999 Holy Thursday all-night prayer vigil. Beverly Stephens, a long-time parish member who passed away in 2014, had the idea to continue a weekly all-night vigil throughout the year. Instead of praying in church, each member would pray at a designated hour in the comfort of their home. You can refer to it as a “prayer chain” that takes place every Friday night starting at 9 PM through 9 AM Saturday morning. It’s been my privilege to coordinate the schedule, and I have been blessed through my phone contacts with parish family members who I call “prayer warriors.”

Prayer is our privilege to have intimate fellowship with God. It’s a time of talking and listening. Often Jesus slipped away to a quiet place to pray and even now sits at the right hand of the Father making intercession for us (Romans 8:24). This ministry demonstrates “the communion of saints.” We are indeed linked in prayer with those who shared in this ministry and are now in the presence of Jesus – Esther Kuzak, Sr. Judy Singer, Oday McDonough, Mary Grace Johnson, Norma Danforth, Marie Anderson, Hermenia Gabriel, Cecilia Overstreet, Wiley Adams, Shirley Scott, Frank Rivers, Marty Carnaghi, Fr. Jerry Singer, Tom Scamihorn, Irene McGill, John Hardwick, and Beverly Stephens.

At present, there are 22 members committed to pray for one hour weekly. At the end of their hour, a call is made to the next person on the schedule. Not as a reminder, but to signify our agreement in prayer -- *“Again I say to you, that if two of you agree on earth about anything that they may ask, it shall be done for them by My Father who is in heaven.”* (Matthew 18:19). ***Will you consider joining us?*** For some this is an invitation to return and to others an offer to try something new. It is a way for us all to continue our Lenten prayer beyond these 40 days. A sign up sheet will be available in Church today and the next two weekends. – *From Hermenia Adams*

