

## Here are some testimonies of parishioners who had done the course:

"I gained a deeper understanding of the Holy Spirit, and have experienced encounters with Him. I have grown closer to Jesus, trusting in Him more and feeling His Presence in my daily living. I yearn to receive Him in the Holy Eucharist more often, making me stronger in my Faith. I'm not so afraid of dying."

"I have done 3 Alpha courses. What I have learned from Alpha is the beauty of sharing with others your true thoughts and feelings while listening to them share theirs. The sharing brings you close to each other and you begin to love each person at the table and in your retreat for who they really are. From that love for the other that develops I experience less judgmentalism, more love, more sincerity and more humility each time."

"I participated in the Alpha Course in the Winter of 2017 primarily because I wanted to make a deeper connection to the parish community. This has certainly been a great blessing to me but I also grew in many unexpected ways. My prayer life is much richer and more meaningful. I've also been inspired to learn a lot more about the Catholic faith through scripture and reading other books such as church history and the lives of the Saints. Seeing and feeling the power of the Holy Spirit working in this church fills my heart with hope."

"The mission statement that I try to live by: "Work hard to do your best. Do what is right. And make a difference." I always felt that God gave me talents, blessings and opportunities so that I could make a difference in a big way.

At the Holy Spirit retreat I asked to learn what it was I was supposed to do and as often is the case our prayers are answered in ways that we would not expect. The answer was not to know my end mission, but rather to do what is God's will for that day. I was not my mission, but I am learning to find it in the day to day, week to week life I live. The accumulated good of what I do in my life is my mission and I have learned to trust that that will be shown to me through prayer. In the follow up to that retreat, in these follow up sessions and in other places where I have been, I have but to listen, and pray the prayer that I am taught: Jesus I trust you."