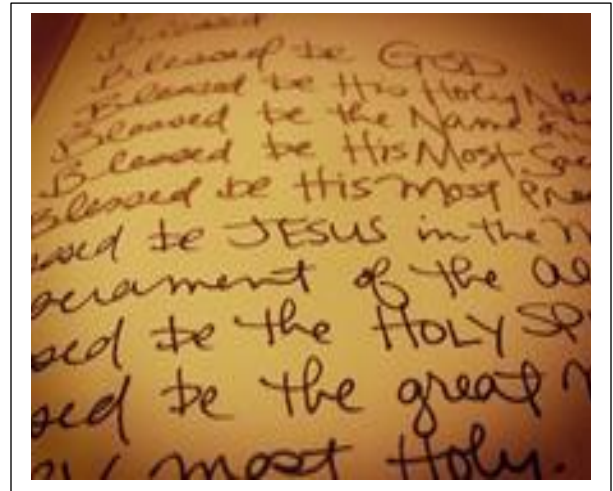


Lord, it is good to give thanks to You!!! Laretta N. Beale, Director of Youth Ministry

Psalm 92:1 declares, "It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to Your Name, Most High." Unfortunately, in our culture today, the Name of God is used carelessly and even irreverently; OMG and using God's name in vain has become so common in films, at work, in school hallways, on television, and even in our homes. However, this is not a new phenomenon. Back in the 18th Century, many people were disrespecting the Name of God, which was commonly called blasphemy. "*Blasphemy consists in uttering against God – inwardly or outwardly – words of hatred, reproach, or defiance; in speaking ill of God; in failing in respect toward Him in one's speech; in misusing God's name.*" (Catechism of the Catholic Church 2148). In order to make reparation for the blasphemies of his own day, Father Felici (1736-1818) composed **The Divine Praises**, a prayer in which God, Jesus Christ, Our Lady, the Angels and Saints are praised through a sequence of prayers beginning with **Blessed be**:

Blessed be God.
Blessed be His Holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.
Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.
Blessed be His Most Precious Blood.
Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most Holy.
Blessed be her Holy and Immaculate Conception.
Blessed be her Glorious Assumption.
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.
Blessed be St. Joseph, her most chaste spouse.
Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints. Amen.



Our youth pray **The Divine Praises** on Sunday Nights during Soul Time (Adoration) and have heard the history of why this prayer was composed. Hopefully, we will all be more aware the next time we hear or see God's or Jesus Christ's Name being blasphemed and will remember to make reparation to God by praying the first line of the Divine Praises: "*Blessed be God, Blessed be his Holy Name.*"

In the meantime, it is always good to thank and praise God, and I am thankful for God whom has been the source and strength of all that we have been able to accomplish with our Youth Ministry. However, due to my husband's transfer to Taiwan and our imminent move, I am resigning as the Director of Youth Ministry at All Saints Parish. It has been a privilege to serve the youth and their families of our parish, and I will cherish the many Spirit-filled experiences that we have shared. I am also appreciative for the support that Father Jones, the Staff, the Parish, the Core Team, the Youth Council, the Parish Council, ASA and the many volunteers have given to Youth Ministry during my tenure. The Youth Ministry and Confirmation programs have been great to work with; the youth, their families and all the volunteers, especially the Core team are to be commended. I am especially grateful to God for continually blessing our parish and for His encouraging and loving Spirit; He has been our Rock! Even though this has been a difficult decision for me and my family, it was a decision that was made with much prayer. I have no doubts that God has already prepared a passionate, energetic and faith-filled person to fill this position. In the meantime, I will continue to oversee the Youth and Confirmation Program through May and ask for your continued prayers for a smooth transition. +Peace, Laretta N. Beale