

# SAINT ROSE OF LIMA CATHOLIC CHURCH'S PARISH PROFILES

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Brian Hindt- Parish Staff

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Brian Hindt's journey from growing up in a Pittsburgh household where his parents were a great witness on how to live a Christian life to the blessings he brings to his ministry as Saint Rose Parish Pastoral Associate has been marked by some very significant inflection points.

**Inspiring book.** Brian was 23 years old and working at a bank in Pittsburgh when a colleague recommended reading a book about Padre Pio, a friar, priest, stigmatist and mystic known for his charity and piety who became a saint in 2002. "At the time I did not have a very thorough knowledge of my Catholic faith," he says. "I was going to Mass but did not understand what was happening in front of me. Reading about this Saint transformed my life. Later, I started going to daily Mass, which helped me grow in my relationship with God and find peace and direction in my work."

**Helping the less fortunate.** Another work friend of Brian's, who was a very strong Christian, invited him to join her in ministering to the homeless in downtown Pittsburgh. "At that time I realized my happiness came from serving others," he says. "Doing something as simple as having a conversation and praying with someone going through a hardship brought me something that was missing in my life—interior happiness."

**New calling.** When Brian lived in Charlotte and spent much time with his terminally ill father he saw first-hand the power of prayer as his father's physical and spiritual health improved drastically after telling others of his condition and asking for prayer. It was during this time that Brian had a strong calling to "follow Jesus" wherever he leads. After his father's death he moved back to Pittsburgh, worked for a Catholic Church and later entered St. Paul Seminary in Pittsburgh. "The Seminary was a great experience, but after two years I felt the Lord calling me elsewhere. I felt called to stay connected with the Catholic Church but as a Pastoral Associate. I also desired to reconnect with my family; none were left in Pittsburgh. Almost all lived in Minnesota."

**Next stop: Roseville.** Brian officially withdrew himself from the seminary on August 23, the Feast Day of Saint Rose of Lima. He recalls going to daily Mass on that day and afterwards praying with two friends for Saint Rose's intercession for all the unemployed which included himself. He credits Saint Rose of Lima's intercession for his current position.

“In the more than two years I have been here, I’ve learned—first and foremost—that the parish has an amazing group of volunteers,” he says. “Each person has special gifts and talents that the Lord is calling them to utilize. So many parishioners have unique skill sets. It has been very beneficial to our parish community to help them determine how best to use their special gifts to make an impact and help them follow the path the Lord is calling them.”



Other things to know about Brian:

- Brian grew up in Pittsburgh and attended Our Lady of Grace School and Chartiers Valley High School. He was the leading scorer (nearly 20 points per game) on the 2004 large school Western Pennsylvania championship basketball team. An injury cut short his basketball ambitions at Seton Hill College. He transferred to Duquesne University where he graduated with a degree in finance and investment management. After college he worked for several years at PNC Bank.
- Although he has only lived here a few years, Brian says Minnesota is home to him. His sister, aunts, uncles, cousins and grandfather all live here.
- Brian’s duties as Pastoral Associate include: Being the main contact for families making funeral arrangements; helping and supporting parishioners going through hardships; overseeing and creating new parish adult and family ministries; meeting and connecting new parishioners; organizing gatherings and events; assisting the Christian Services Committee and Adoration Chapel team; and helping others in their faith journey. One of his main goals is to bring people together and help them grow their faith.