

A Pastor's Perspective

August 3, 2025 Bulletin



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Every day, I am reminded of what a blessing it is to be the pastor of St. Paul the Apostle Parish!

Many thanks to those individuals who submitted nominations for the 2025 **Pilar Thibodeau Volunteer of the Year Award**. Thank you also to Mr. Edward French, Chair of our Pastoral Council, who formed an ad hoc committee that thoroughly reviewed the nominations.

Last Sunday, at St. Teresa's 4:00 Mass, this year's award was presented to **Mr. Leon Binette**.

Leon's involvement in the life and ministries of the parish spans many years. Since his retirement from his chosen career as a nurse anesthetist, Leon has expanded his service throughout the various communities that comprise St. Paul the Apostle Parish. He has represented his fellow parishioners as a member of the Pastoral Council and Finance Council; is a fully active member of the Knights of Columbus; coordinates the annual, parish-wide Christmas Giving Tree program; assists as an altar server at funerals, weddings, and baptisms; and as Lead Sacristan of all six churches, he coordinates and completes that role's many responsibilities so that our primary ministry of worshiping the Lord can take place on a daily basis. And it is important to note that Leon's selfless and generous service doesn't stop at the doors of the church – in his typically quiet, humble, and compassionate manner, he also reaches out to many individuals in the community at large, especially the elderly, simply to ensure that they are okay; he often helps them by performing various chores, errands, and tasks on their behalf.

The person who nominated Leon said of him, "Any time I have a question or concern, he will get right back to me and resolve any issue that I have, in whatever ministry I am working on at the time. His humble demeanor, genuine faith, and sense of humor, and his desire to help others is why I believe he would be an excellent recipient of the Pilar Thibodeau Volunteer of the Year Award."

In response to receiving this award, Leon witnessed as to how personally fulfilling it has been for him to be involved in Church ministries; he then invited everyone to consider serving the Lord and his Church in some manner. For Leon, it has been life-changing!

Congratulations, Leon! And thank you!

*Peace and blessings,
Msgr. Andrew Dubois*