

MEN'S OPEN GYM – BASKETBALL!

I became involved in the men's basketball ministry after seeing a poster advertising it in the Church narthex while visiting Father Andy a month or so after my wife Denise passed away. I thought this might be a way to slowly get in touch with people because I was not all that interested in being around people. It has turned out to be a blessing. While the games can be a little competitive, everyone is very friendly and cares about one another.

The best story that I can relate is one evening before all of us started a game, Steve, a long-time member of Holy Family Catholic Church and who was a member when my wife and I were newlyweds attending Mass celebrated by Father Sam and Father Ryan, suggested that all of us say a prayer together. I would imagine that most guys playing basketball would not be enthralled with this idea and find it not necessary. However, all of us stood in a circle while Steve led us in a prayer. I don't even remember what he said, but the effect on the guys was tangible. There was less arguing between the guys that whole night. It also made me realize that sometimes you must speak up and do what is right even if you might be seen as odd or overly religious. Steve is a man of great character and exemplifies the teachings of Jesus Christ by doing what is right at the risk of being seen outside the norm. The Holy Spirit at work in our ministry. Anyway, that is my story and I'm hoping that more guys from the church will come out and benefit from the experience.

Men's Open Gym night is held at Riva Trace Baptist church. Check the website or bulletin for dates and times.

