

SS Peter & Paul Parish School of Religion Newsletter



PSR Website – www.spp.waterloo.il.us/psr.html
PSR Coordinator Email – anitatotoh@htc.net

FALL 2010

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.” ~ Mark 12:30

PSR OPENING NIGHT SUCCESS!

Thank you to all catechists, support personnel and parents who helped get this year off to a great start! We had about 90% of our parents attend the Kick Off night to hear Fr. Osang, Fr. Max and Anita Toth talk about the upcoming PSR year and meet their child’s catechist. There were many excited children in attendance that helped create an atmosphere of enthusiasm which has poured over into our Wednesday evening program. We appreciate everyone who participated and thank you for your continued support of the PSR program.

MANY THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELP MAKE THE PSR PROGRAM RUN SMOOTHLY ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

- Nov 3 PSR Classes
1st - 4th Grades “Safe Touch Video”
8th Grade Acre testing
- Nov 6 Jr. High Youth Gathering (6th-8th)
6:30p @ Youth House
- Nov 10 PSR Classes
5th-8th Grades “Safe Touch” Video @ SPPS
- Nov 14 6th Grade Family Mass & Reception @
9a Mass
- Nov 17 PSR Classes (End of 1st Semester)
- Nov 20 Confirmation Covenant & Trivia
9a-12p in Church/Gym
- Nov 21 Youth Mass - 5p
- Nov 24 No PSR Classes - Thanksgiving Break

Publish your Child’s Thankfulness in *THE MESSENGER*

The Messenger will focus on being thankful in an upcoming issue. They would like to hear from Catholic young people in the Diocese about what they are thankful for. They ask for young people to write a paragraph about their “blessings” and they will print a selection of responses from every grade level. If any student (K-Grade 3) prefers to draw a picture to represent what they are thankful for, those drawings would also be most welcome.

Please submit writings and drawings to The Messenger via email on or before Nov 12, 2010, to cathnews@bellevillemessenger.org or mail to The Messenger, 2620 Lebanon Avenue, Belleville, IL 62221.

Last year there was a great response from PSRs and other other parish faith formation programs for this request from the Messenger. Hopefully you can rally your children to share again this year.

The “SAFE TOUCH VIDEO SERIES” by Catholic Social Services will be shown Nov. 3rd to Grades 1-4 and Nov. 10th to Grades 5-8 at SPPS. Parents of 7th – 8th Graders: Please note that you need to drop/pickup your students at SPPS on Nov. 10th because of the video. The times will also run on the SPPS schedule that night from 6:30p-7:45p. Thank you!

Confirmation News!

Bishop Braxton will bestow the Sacrament of Confirmation on the 8th graders on **Friday, May 13th, 2011, at 7p in SS Peter & Paul Catholic Church.**

The Bishop also encourages the 8th graders to begin researching their patron Saint now so that they can have a good understanding of why their Saint made such a difference in our world. Please see the following trusted website for help with choosing and researching your patron saint. <http://saints.sqpn.com/>

Our Confirmandi should also be working on their 14 service projects needed. This is an important tangible way for them to think outside of their own needs and to consider the needs of family, church, school and community as well.

Lastly, it's also time for the Confirmandi to select a sponsor. Serious consideration should be spent on selecting the appropriate sponsor. A sponsor should be someone that the confirmation candidate sees on a regular basis, someone who visibly demonstrates their Catholic faith, and is available to attend Sacramental preparation activities with the Confirmandi.

Confirmation Trivia & Covenant

The date for this activity has been postponed by one week and will now be held on **November 20th from 9a -12n** due to the new carpet installation in the church. Please make sure that you have updated your calendars accordingly. If you have any questions, please contact your child's catechist.

Confirmation Retreat w/Parents

Saturday, April 9, 2011, from 8:30a – 2p at Ruma Convent. Please mark your calendars now! (The students will need to make up this retreat in another community if they cannot attend this one.)

Confirmation Service Hours Available for 6th, 7th & 8th Grades

The upcoming service projects are available to our youth who participate. (Remember that 8th Graders need 14 service projects, 6th & 7th Graders need 3 service projects.) Please bring a copy of

the reflection paper for the organizer to sign. You can print a copy of the Reflection Paper which can be found at the bottom of the PSR Website.

www.spp.waterloo.il.us/psr.html

Upcoming Opportunities:

* Nov 13 & 20 - Scouting for Food - details coming!

* Nov 14 (after 9a Mass) - Food/drink servers needed. Contact Cheryl Doerr @

mcdoerr4@htc.net

* Nov 17 - 8th Graders make fleece blankets for the homebound of the parish 5p in Gibault Cafeteria. Pizza provided. Contact Dawn Helfrich at Helfrich@htc.net if you have any questions or can donate 2 yards of fleece for the project.

* Sunday mornings (ongoing) - Assist some of our parishioners who live at Oak Hill on Sunday mornings from 11:00-11:30a. The students could greet residents as they arrive for the Communion Service, pass out bulletins or set up chairs. What a wonderful gift this could be for the students and the residents. Please feel free to give Kim Straub a call if you have any questions. Her phone number is: 939-3047. Otherwise, the students can just show up and help out any Sunday at 11:00a. Kim would be happy to sign any sheet verifying service hours for Confirmation if needed.

FAMILY MASSES & RECEPTIONS!

Each month we will honor students, by grade level, at the 9a Mass. Pews will be reserved for the families in the front of church and the children will have the opportunity to participate in the Mass. A coffee & donut reception for the families will follow in the SPPS Cafeteria. Please mark your calendars!

November 14 – 6th Grade

December 12 – 5th Grade

January 9 – 4th Grade

February 13 – 3rd Grade

March 13 – 2nd Grade

April 10 - K/1st Grade

May 1st – 8th Grade/Confirmation Practice

A big THANK YOU to Lois Thompson, who coordinates the Family Masses, and Debbie Rusteberg & Andrea Irovic who have volunteered to help coordinate the receptions following Mass! We appreciate all of you for your time and help!

LIFE NETWORK Thanks You!

Thank you to all who were able to participate in the LifeWalk on September 18th and showing that Ss. Peter & Paul Church "**Celebrates Life**"! Your support of this ministry is very much appreciated. See you next year!

PRAY WITH YOUR CHILD!

For a listing of prayers and support please see: www.catholic.org/clife/prayers

PSR Curriculum Posted Online!

What information will be covered in the classroom and what prayers should their children know and by when? This information is now posted on the PSR website <http://www.spp.waterloo.il.us/psr.html>

Please assist us by praying with your child the appropriate prayers for the year and reviewing with them the doctrines of our faith that are provided. By working together, we can assure that our efforts are successful in passing our faith down to the next generation.

Additional resources for activities & games to reinforce what is learned in the classroom are on the curriculum websites. Please bookmark the following for yourself and your children: www.blestarewe.com, www.faithfirst.com, and www.loyolapress.com.

Ss Peter & Paul - YOUTH MINISTRY

Calendar of Events

Nov 6th – Youth Gathering – 6:30p for
6th – 8th Grades

7:30p for high school

Nov 21st – Youth Mass 5:00p

All students are welcome to come to any and all gatherings. No need to sign up – just show up!

GIBAULT NEWS CORNER!

NOT YOUR TYPICAL OPEN HOUSE!

We're shakin' things up at Gibault!!! Open House will be completely different this year! Plan your visit around sessions on:

- 1) Financial assistance
- 2) What makes Gibault different
- 3) What makes Gibault Catholic
- 4) How Gibault prepares your child for college

Or visit subject area rooms to meet the faculty and discuss curriculum. Subject area rooms include:

- 1) Math
- 2) English
- 3) Science

Or take a personal or self-guided tour of our beautiful building and grounds. We're looking forward to seeing you on:

Sunday, November 7 - Open House hours are 11a – 2p and no appointment is needed. Call 939-3883 for more info or visit our website at www.gibaultonline.com.

VISIT US !

Students - If you think that you may be interested in Gibault, we encourage you to shadow a Gibault student for a day! Follow a student through classes, meet teachers and coaches, get to know the kids, and experience all that is Gibault. We even throw in a free lunch! Call (939-3883) or email (pherzing@gibaultonline.com)

JR. HIGH TRIVIA NIGHT!

KIDS: Plan to come to the junior high trivia night at Gibault Catholic High School and have some fun with your friends. Here are the details:

WHAT: Trivia Night
WHO: 7th & 8th grade students
WHERE: Gibault Auditorium
WHEN: Dec. 30, 2010 from 7p -9p
RSVP: Required so we have enough snacks and prizes!
HOW: email Pat Herzing at pherzing@gibaultonline.com by Dec 30

Holy Heroes

The Story of St. Martin

de Porres

Feast Day Nov. 3



Hello, my name is Martin and I was born in the city of Lima, Peru in 1579. My father was a Spanish nobleman and my mother a freed slave from Panama. Father spent most of his time in other countries, and left Mother, Juana, my sister, and me to fend for ourselves. I grew up very poor, but that was ok, I believe being poor gave me a deep understanding and love for all God's less fortunate and a desire to help them. My mother used to get so upset with me when she sent me shopping with just a few pennies and I returned home empty-handed, having given the food to the poor on my way home! I spent much of my early youth working for a barber-surgeon. There, I learned about medicine and how to care for the sick. I felt so blessed that I was able to help others while earning a living.

At age 15, I became a servant boy in a Dominican abbey. Later, I became a lay, Dominican Brother. With joy, I did my daily work in the laundry, kitchen, and caring for the sick in the infirmary. God also generously blessed my efforts begging for money in the streets of Lima, to help the many poor and sick people of the city. I felt love for all my brothers and sisters in Christ, no matter their race, color, or status in society. Even the mice and rats that troubled the abbey kitchen deserved

kindness and understanding. They were hungry, that's all!

In my later years I founded an orphanage and a hospital, and cared for slaves brought to Peru from Africa. I even ran a shelter for stray cats and dogs at my sister's house. When I was young, I dreamed of traveling the world as a missionary for Christ, but God needed my help serving the people of my native city, and I was happy doing it!

Martin's superiors saw in him the heroic virtues needed for the difficult job of caring for the sick. Soon, many miracles began to happen due to Martin's presence: instantaneous cures, bilocation (being seen in two places at once), and light filling the room in which he prayed. He often healed the sick just by giving them a simple glass of water. In his humility, he still referred to himself as "Brother Broom". St. Martin de Porres died of a fever on November 3, 1639. He was canonized by Pope John XXIII on May 6, 1962.