

SS Peter & Paul Parish School of Religion Newsletter



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

January 2011

May your homes be filled with the Peace & Joy of Jesus Christ in 2011!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

January 5	PSR Class
January 8	2 nd Grade Sacramental Meeting 9a - 12p @ church
January 9	4 th Grade Family Mass & Reception at 9a Mass
January 12	PSR Classes
January 18	Teaching Mass (8 th Grade & Parents)
January 19	PSR Classes
January 26	PSR Classes

4th Grade Family Mass & Reception on Sunday, January 9th!

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 with the remaining dates:

February 13 – 3rd Grade

March 13 – 2nd Grade

April 10 - K/1st Grade

May 1st – 8th Grade/Confirmation Practice

ATTENTION 2nd Grade PSR PARENTS!

There will be an informative meeting for all 2nd Grade parents whose children will receive the Sacraments of First Reconciliation & First Communion this Spring. The meeting will be held in church this Saturday, January 8th. Please bring your calendar and plan for at least one parent to attend. Details will be shared regarding the following dates:

First Reconciliation - (two choices)
February 10th OR February 12th

First Communion - (two choices)
March 5th at 4p OR March 6th @ 1p

First Communion practice will be held on Feb. 26.

THANK YOU!

The Ss Peter & Paul Christmas Angels program was a huge success this year. Thank you for your generosity to brighten the lives of families less fortunate! Thanks also to the parents and students who helped wrap and put the “finishing touches” on each gift! You are angels indeed!

ATTENTION PARENTS OF UPPER GRADE PSR STUDENTS:

CELL PHONE & ELECTRONICS POLICY NOW IN EFFECT!

It is unfortunate that we have had numerous problems with students using their cell phones or other electronic devices in class. Effective immediately all electronics used during class time will be removed from the student and kept at the Administrative desk in the lobby at Gibault. Parents will need to retrieve the confiscated article when picking up your child that evening. Please help us eliminate the need for this inconvenience by talking with your children about respect for teachers and fellow students. If at all possible, we would suggest that all electronic devices be left in the car as you drop them off. Thank you for your help in this matter. ~ The PSR Staff

Confirmation Update – Mark your Calendars!

8th Grade Teaching Mass

Tuesday, January 18th @ 7p in church

Deacon Doug will be hosting this parent/child activity to learn more about the Mass and why Catholics worship in the way that we do. This evening is a great opportunity for the Confirmandi and parent to truly understand the symbolisms and meanings of the Eucharist.

Confirmation Retreat

Saturday, April 9th, 2011, from 8:30a – 2p at the Ruma Convent. Members from the St. Louis REAP team will be hosting this parent/child retreat. Lunch is provided.

Chrism Mass @ the Cathedral

Tuesday, April 19th @ 11:30a. Bus transportation will be provided. More details to follow.

8th Grade Family Mass, Confirmation Practice, Mass & Reception

**Sunday, May 1st - 8th Grade Family Mass @ 11a &
Confirmation Practice immediately following in
church.**

Confirmation Mass & Reception

Friday, May 13th - CONFIRMATION Candidate & Sponsor need to be in church by 6p for pictures and to spend time talking with Bishop Braxton. Mass will begin promptly at 7p. Reception will immediately follow in the SPPS Cafeteria.

Please note: The Confirmation Mass is usually very crowded and is much longer than a usual Mass. The evening might not be suitable for younger children.

Confirmation Service Projects 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

* January 9th - After 9a Mass - Food/drink servers needed for 4th Grade Family Mass. Contact: Cheryl Doerr @ mcdoerr4@htc.net

* Ongoing – Humane Society of Monroe County - We are looking for volunteers to help out at the shelter on Saturdays, from about 11-3. Walking dogs is the biggest help. If you are interested, just go down to the shelter during open hours or call 618-282-PETS and let them know when you could help out. Contact: Jan Ripplemeyer

Other Confirmation Project Planning & Ideas:

* SSPP Wurstmarkt is in late February. Contact Staci Wittenauer (wittens@mac.com) if you or your child would like to work in the dining room.

Serving 11:00a – 5:00p.

* SPPS Rummage Sale could use help setting up or may need help unloading/carrying the items they bring to the school cafeteria. Contact: Judy Haberl

* Free removal of snow (if we get any) from the walkways or driveways would be nice.

EMERGENCY PHONE NUMBER: In case of an emergency and you must contact your child during PSR class time, you may call Anita Toth, PSR Coordinator, on her cell phone at 618-317-8030.

GIBAULT NEWS!

Applications for Admission to Gibault Catholic High School are in the mail! If you do not receive one, please contact Pat Herzing at pherzing@gibaultonline.com. Check out the details for admissions on our website www.gibaultonline.com.

COLUMBIA SQUIRES CIRCLE

The Columbian Squires Circle will hold an Investiture Ceremony on January 5, 2011 at 5:30 at the Odd Fellow Lodge. (The Investiture Ceremony is only open to Knights and Squires.) The Columbian Squires, the official youth organization of the Knights of Columbus, is a leadership development program for young Catholic men between the ages of 10-18 years old.

Please contact Steve Bushong at 618/304-2669 or sbushong@htc.net by December 31, 2010 to register or if you need more information.

PSR CURRICULUM HELPS:

Blest Are We Faith & Word Online Chapter Reviews – Make learning and reviewing fun! Now

students can access reviews for every chapter online at www.BlestAreWe.com. After they complete the review, students can e-mail the results to anyone – teachers, catechists, parents, grandparents, or even godparents.

The Saints keep Marching in at Resource Center.

Don't wait to visit www.rclweb.com/resources/ to learn more about your favorite saint, the saint of the day, or read about our newest saints, Damien of Molokai and Jeanne Jugan. We brought all of the saints' stories from our three popular religion curriculum sites to this one, easy-to access spot.

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## *January Holy Hero*

**St. Elizabeth Ann Seton**

**Feast Day Jan. 4**

*Hello kids,*

*I was born Elizabeth Bayley in 1774, around the time of the American Revolution, and was raised in the high society of New York. My Protestant family taught me the value of prayer and Scripture, and the importance of loving and serving others. I had a great love of reading, especially the Bible, which became my comfort and support for the rest of my life. The early deaths of my mother and baby sister (1777 and 1778), showed me that life here on earth is only a temporary journey on our way to our true home with God in eternity.*

*At the age of 19, I fell deeply in love and married William Seton, a handsome and wealthy businessman. We were very happy in those early*

*years and had 5 beautiful children. Our life together was all too brief; William soon became very sick with tuberculosis. At the same time his business was failing. While on a trip to Italy, at age 30, I was left widowed and penniless with 5 small children to support. It was then I began to see the beauty of the Catholic faith which I witnessed in action by my friends that lived there. Having lost my mother at such a young age, I found comfort in the idea that the Blessed Virgin was truly my Mother. I asked Mary to lead me to the True Faith of Jesus Christ and joined the Catholic Church in 1805.*

*In order to support my children, I accepted an invitation to Baltimore, Maryland from Archbishop Carroll to start the first free Catholic school in America. That same year, in 1809, I became a nun and founded the Sisters of Charity,*



*which was the first American religious community for women, and was based on the Daughters of Charity established by St. Vincent de Paul in France. My community was very active in doing God's work;*

*establishing schools, hospitals, and orphanages, including the first parish school in the U.S. Through many hardships and trials in my life, I tried to accept and embrace the will of God. This acceptance became the cornerstone of my spiritual life.*

*Today, six American communities of Sisters trace their origins to the Sisters of Charity. "Mother Seton" also worked with the sick and poor, composed hymns and music, and wrote spiritual books. All this was done in her short life of 46 years while raising 5 children. The Basilica of the National Shrine of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton is in Emmitsburg, Maryland, where she lived for several years before her death in 1821. She was the first American-born citizen to be canonized by Pope Paul VI in 1975.*