

SS Peter & Paul Parish School of Religion Newsletter



PSR Website – www.spp.waterloo.il.us/psr.html
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March 2011
LENT

“Even now,” declares the Lord, “return to me with all your heart, with fasting and weeping and mourning.” ~ Joel 2:12

March Dates to Remember:

March 2	PSR Classes
March 5	First Communion – 4p Saturday Mass is moved to 6p
March 6	First Communion – 1p
March 9	ASH WEDNESDAY MASS – 7p in church. Please sit as families. (Both SPPS & Gibault campuses are closed.)
March 13	2 nd Grade Family Mass @ 9a Reception following in SPPS Cafeteria
March 14	PSR Home School Parent Mtg – 6:30p in PPC
March 16	PSR Classes
March 20	Youth Mass & Gathering – 6p
March 23	PSR Classes
March 30	PSR Classes
April 6	PSR Classes Reconciliation (Grades 7-8 in church!)
April 9	8 th Gr. Confirmation Retreat 8:30a-2p at Ruma Convent – lunch provided!

Confirmation Retreat

With “The St. Louis REAP Team”

On Saturday, April 9, our 8th Grade Confirmation students and their parents will be meeting at the Ruma Convent for their Confirmation Retreat. The program will begin at 8:30a and will finish at 2:00p. A hot lunch will be provided for all.

The Reap Team from St. Louis will be hosting the day with many skits and activities to engage the students. Please see <http://www.reapteam.org/> for their website that can be used as a reference before and after the retreat.

2nd Grade Family Mass & Reception on Sunday, March 13!

Each month we honor students, by grade level, at the 9a Mass. Pews are reserved for the families in the front of church and the children have the opportunity to participate in Mass. A coffee and donut reception for the families follow in the SPPS Cafeteria. RSVP to Lois Thompson @ dct@htc.net.

Please mark your calendars:
Kindergarten and 1st Grade 9a Mass – April 10.
8th Grade Family Mass and Confirmation Rehearsal - 11a Mass – May 1

LENTEN OPPORTUNITIES

Stations of the Cross will be held every Friday evening at 7p during Lent.

The Parish Reconciliation will be held on April 12th at 7p.

LENTEN SEASON BEGINS WITH *ASH WEDNESDAY* MASS

On Wednesday, March 9, the SPPS and Gibault campuses will be closed so that students and the Catechists can attend the Ash Wednesday Mass with their families. Please mark your calendar with this change!

ASH WEDNESDAY REFLECTION: Since Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, it naturally is also a beginning to recover a baptismal focus. "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the gospel." Though these words do not explicitly mention Baptism, they do recall our baptismal promises to reject sin and profess our faith. It is a clear call to conversion, to that movement away from sin and toward Christ that we have to embrace over and over again through our lives.

ASH WEDNESDAY PRAYER: *"Blessed are you, O Lord our God, the all-holy one, who gives us life and all things. As we go about our lives, the press of our duties and activities often leads us to forget your presence and your love. We fall into sin and fail to live out the responsibilities that you have entrusted to those who were baptized into your Son. In this holy season, help us to turn our minds and hearts back to you. Lead us into sincere repentance and renew our lives with your grace. Help us to remember that we are sinners, but even more, help us to remember your loving mercy."*

As we live through this Ash Wednesday, may the crosses of ashes that mark our foreheads be a reminder to us and to those we meet that we belong to your Son. May our worship and prayer and penitence this day be sustained throughout these 40 days of Lent. Bring us refreshed and renewed to the celebration of Christ's resurrection at Easter.

We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. Amen."

Confirmation Project Opportunities for the 6th, 7th & 8th Graders

2nd Grade Reception – March 13 after 9a Mass.
Food/drink servers needed to serve the 2nd Grade families coffee & donuts during a brief reception.
Contact: Cheryl Doerr @ mcdoerr4@htc.net

Help the Heavenly Dusters clean the church!
Contact: Judy Mueth at the church office 939-6426.

KYRGYZSTAN CLOTHING DRIVE – UPDATE!



On its way to Kyrgyzstan - USAF Loads Clothing
Collected by SS Peter & Paul PSR!

More than 6,500 pounds of humanitarian goods were loaded onto a C-17 Globemaster III. Over half of the items were donated and collected by the SS Peter & Paul PSR program in the fall! Included in the shipment were 3 pallets of 11 skids piled with donated blankets, winter coats, gloves, clothing, toys, and shoes.

The goods are being shipped to Manas Air Base, Kyrgyzstan, as part of the Denton Program, which allows private citizens and organizations to use space available on military cargo planes to transport humanitarian goods to international communities.



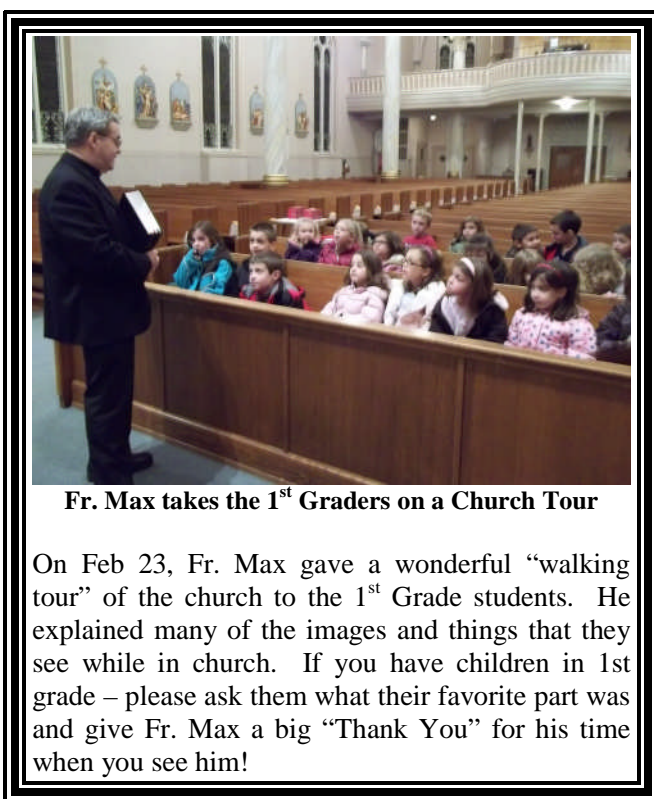
Thanks again for your generosity!

WOULD YOU LIKE FOR GOD TO
SPEAK TO YOU PERSONALLY???

<http://www.birthverse.com/mybirthverse.cfm>

A BIG "THANK YOU" TO OUR WURSTMARKT CREW!

The SS Peter & Paul Parish Wurstmarkt was held on February 27 and was a success thanks to the many families and students who donated their time and efforts to help set up and serve. A personal thanks to each of the following families for their support: the Bedwells, Finnertys, Gutierrezs, Helfrichs, Irovics, Johnsons, Lampitts, Lattimores, Metzgers, Notters, Popes, Rodenbergs, Rustebergs, Schneiders, Sumpters, Tharps, Thompsons, Toths, and Wittenauers. Thank you! We couldn't have done it without your help!



Fr. Max takes the 1st Graders on a Church Tour

On Feb 23, Fr. Max gave a wonderful "walking tour" of the church to the 1st Grade students. He explained many of the images and things that they see while in church. If you have children in 1st grade – please ask them what their favorite part was and give Fr. Max a big "Thank You" for his time when you see him!

GIBAULT NEWS!

MARCH 8 & 10 - Incoming freshmen will register for classes by appointment.

MARCH 12 - Junior High Math Contest (grades 6, 7 & 8) All local junior high math teachers will receive information about entering this contest.

APRIL 30 - May 2 - Spring musical

PSR REGISTRATION FOR THE UPCOMING 2011 – 2012 SCHOOL YEAR WILL BEGIN IN APRIL!

In order to have adequate staff and to ensure that our class sizes remain small for next year, we ask that you please help us plan accordingly by taking advantage of one of the registration dates listed below. All NEW students will need to bring a copy of their Baptismal Certificate to registration.

Wed., April 13 - Gibault (6:30p - 8:15p)

Wed., April 20 - Gibault (6:30p - 8:15p)

Wed., May 4 - SPPS (6:15p - 7:45p)

Wed., May 11 - SPPS (6:15p - 7:45p)

We are thankful to say that the fees will again remain unchanged for parishioners and feeder parishioners:

1st Student - \$100

2nd Student - \$ 50

3rd Student - \$ 25

Four or more - No charge

PLEASE NOTE: Late Registration Penalty (after May 18th) is \$25 per family.



SAVE THE DATE And Learn More About the Sacraments this Lent!

March 21-23

Ss. Peter & Paul Church

Monday, March 21, 7:00–8:00p - Fr. Osang will speak on the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation

Tuesday, March 22, 7:00–8:00p - Fr. Max will speak on the sacraments of Reconciliation & Anointing of the Sick (sacrament of Reconciliation will be available)

Wednesday, March 23, 7:00–8:00p – Deacon Doug will speak on the sacraments of Matrimony and Holy Orders.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

March Holy Hero

St. Matthew the Apostle

Feast day: September 21

The first Gospel was written by St. Matthew; one of the twelve apostles of Jesus. Matthew, also known as Levi, was the son of Alphaeus, and a tax collector in the city of Capernaum. He was Jewish, but collected taxes for the Romans, who had conquered the Jews. This made him greatly disliked by his people, who wanted nothing to do



with this “public sinner”. Jesus felt otherwise. In his Gospel, Matthew writes of his call to be an Apostle of Jesus: “As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax office, and he said to him, ‘Follow me’. And he rose and followed him.” (Mt 9:9) Without looking back, Matthew left his work and his sinful life behind, and answered the call to be a follower of Jesus Christ. Matthew

gave a banquet for Jesus and invited many of his friends who were tax collectors and sinners. The Pharisees criticized Jesus for eating and talking with such people. Jesus said to them, “Those who are well do not need a doctor, but the sick do. I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.” (Mk 2:17)

Jesus calls **EVERYONE** to be his friend. Sometimes the people who seem to be the farthest from holiness become the most wonderful examples of God’s mercy toward sinners and how God’s grace can turn one’s life around. Matthew wrote his Gospel to convince the Jews that Jesus of Nazareth was indeed the Son of God and the awaited Messiah. According to tradition, Matthew preached the Gospel among the Jews in Palestine for some years with the other Apostles before spreading the Good News to other countries.