

SS Peter & Paul Parish School of Religion Newsletter



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

MAY 2011

“It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praise to your name Most High.”

~ Psalm 92:2

MANY THANKS TO OUR 2010-2011 PSR WEDNESDAY NIGHT STAFF!

We are so grateful to the men and women who dedicate their time on Wednesday evenings to make our program run so smoothly. Please thank them when you see them and maybe have your children do something special for them. We are so appreciative for their commitment and devotion to educating our kids in the Catholic faith! It couldn't be done without them!

The Catechists for the 2010-2011 school year:

- 1st Grade - [Rebekah Appelbaum & Lauren Diaz](#)
- 2nd Grade [Jennifer Kretchmer & Deb Thompson](#)
- 3rd Grade [Vicki Truman, Barb Quinones & Ruth Wessel](#)
- 4th Grade [Dottie Heimos & Lori Luecking](#)
- 5th Grade [Lara Pope & Monica Paul](#)
- 6th Grade [Andrew Kohnz, Denise Foerg & Linette Hermanns](#)
- 7th Grade [Brittany Huelsman, Julia Holtgrewe & Sally Rothlisberger](#)
- 8th Grade [Krista Miller, Debbie Rusteberg & Dawn Helfrich](#)

The SPPS Administrative Staff -
[Debbie Schneider, Staci Wittenauer, Amy Crump, Wendy Lampitt, Denise Crump](#)

Gibault Administrative Staff - [Colleen Goessling & Amy Ingram](#)

PSR REGISTRATION **FOR THE UPCOMING 2011-2012** **SCHOOL YEAR !**

In order to have adequate staff and keep our class sizes 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., May 4 - Gibault (6:45p - 8:00p)
Wed., May 11 - SPPS (6:30p-7:45p)

Fees will remain unchanged from last year:

- 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.

Attention: 7th Grade Parents!

There will be a brief informational meeting for the
2012 Confirmation Class
in church on Sunday, May 22,
immediately following the 11:00a Mass.

All 7th Grade PSR parents and students are required to attend to pick up their Confirmation packets and receive the event dates that are scheduled for the 2012 Confirmation year. Please mark your calendars now!

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

May 1	8th Grade Family Mass @ 11a - Confirmation practice immediately following in church
May 2	LIVING ROSARY (see article)
May 4	PSR Classes PSR Registration – Gibault
May 11	PSR Classes PSR Registration – SPPS
May 9	PSR Advisory Board Meeting – 6:30p
May 12	CONFIRMATION (Confirmandi & Sponsor must be in church @ 6p) Mass at 7pm
May 18	PSR Closing Mass – 6:30p @ church
May 22	7 th Grade Confirmation Meeting Immediately following 11a Mass.
May 23	PSR Home School Meetings 3:30-7p
May 24	PSR Catechists & Admin Staff “End-Of-Year Wrap-Up” 6:30p in SPPS Cafeteria

PLAN AHEAD!!!

SEPTEMBER 7 – PSR BEGINS w/Parent Meeting at 6:30p in Church. One parent from each family must attend to sign forms & meet your child’s catechist! Children will briefly leave with their Catechists during the parent meeting.

SEPTEMBER 14 – PSR Classes Begin for students
6:30p – 7:45p SPPS (Grades 1-6)
6:45p – 8:00p Gibault (Grades 7-8)

Congratulations to our 2nd Graders for receiving Jesus in the Eucharist for the first time!

A big “Thank You” to the parents and the 2nd Grade PSR Catechists, Jennifer Kretchmer & Deb Thompson, for their time and efforts in preparing our children’s hearts to receive Jesus in this special way!

Dear Parents: Thank you for supporting the PSR program this year! Our catechists have worked really hard to help your children learn their prayers and to better understand the Mass. Please continue to pray with them over the summer and attend Mass regularly so that they can retain the progress that was made this year. We appreciate your support and dedication! Don’t forget to check the PSR website over the summer for updates and new additions! Have a blessed summer!

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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDI!

On Friday, May 12, our 8th Grade class will have the Sacrament of Confirmation bestowed on them by Bishop Edward Braxton. We thank the parents, Amy Ingram (Confirmation Coordinator), and especially the 8th Grade Catechists: Krista Miller, Debbie Rusteberg & Dawn Helfrich for keeping them on track and encouraged during their preparation time.

Confirmation Night Details:

The Confirmandi and their Sponsors will need to be in church by 6:00p to take pictures and meet with Bishop Braxton prior to the start of Mass. Please allow plenty of time to put on the robes and collars prior to 6:00p. LifeTouch will be collecting orders and payment at that time.

Mass begins at 7:00p and the church will be completely filled downstairs and in the choir loft, please plan to arrive early for seating large groups. Also, the Mass will last at least 90 minutes so parents with young children might want to make alternate arrangements for them. A brief reception will follow the Mass in the SPPS gymnasium.

Please pray for the Holy Spirit to fill the hearts of the 2011 Confirmation Class!



SPP donated clothing arrives in Kyrgyzstan!

KYRGYZSTAN UPDATE!

The following is an excerpt from USAF Major Villanueva's "Thank You" note to Anita Toth's sister (USAF Major Lisa Hess) who coordinated the Kyrgyzstan clothing drive this past fall:

"I saw the sorting and distribution activities of the clothing and winter supplies you initiated. The 5500 pound shipment arrived in three pallets. We immediately enlisted the help of 40+ airmen to sort the items and placed them in bins marked by sizes or categories. The warehouse was quickly filled with donated clothing, toys and educational supplies.

Most of the items were donated to the villages surrounding the Transit Center at Manas (TCM). As you know, the TCM is very active in performing HA activities in order to foster positive relations. We have dozens of Group Squadron and base organizations who regularly visit schools, clinics, Orphanages and children's centers. Whenever a team is scheduled to visit a facility, they simply came to the TSC warehouse to pick and box items for donation. Because of the availability of the supplies, visits to the facilities surged for two weeks. The airmen enjoy such events because it gave them a great feeling in extending commodity or service type of assistance. A few of the airmen stated that they never expected this experience from a deployment. The recipients are equally grateful. The kids especially enjoy a new set of clothing, toy or a book.

Part of the donation you organized made its way to Talas, Kyrgyzstan; about 8 hours drive from TCM. We sent a team for a 3-day Warm and Dry event

*distributing blankets and clothing to hundreds of recipients from three surrounding villages. The responses from the villagers were overwhelming positive, and one of the Mayors indicated that the activity glued smiles in people's faces. It was especially helpful because he's on a quest to improve the economic condition of the village. **The timing couldn't be better. Thank you!**"*

Anita's note: My entire family is so proud of the generosity of our PSR program. You are amazing! I hope you've shared with your children the pictures as they've been posted so they can see that their efforts blessed so many people...even our own airmen! Thanks again for putting your faith to action and helping those in need! God bless you!



USAF airmen distributing donated clothing from SPP

Another Thank You Note Because of Your Generosity on "Hat Night"!

*Dear PSR families,
We can't thank you enough for the very generous donation you gave to us. The kids lost every one of their board games to the damage the fire caused, and it was one of the things we weren't going to be able to replace for quite a while. We decided with your donations to let the boys pick out some of their favorite games over the weekend, and you can only imagine how excited they were. And...guess what we did much of the weekend :-)! You brought a lot of joy to our home!! It's truly overwhelming how loving and caring everyone is, and we are so grateful!!! Thank You!*

Mark, Jen, Kyle, Nate, and Logan Mechler

PSR STUDENTS TOUCH THE HEARTS OF THE ELDERLY IN OUR COMMUNITY

"I wanted to write and thank you, for taking part in the St Vincent DePaul Lent collection for our local nursing home residents and those in the Homebound Ministry. When I spoke with the Activity Director at the nursing home she told me how much the residents enjoyed colorful cards made by children. Today we delivered the 150+ Easter cards made by the PSR children to the local nursing homes. The residents loved the cards. I did relay to them that the children were praying for them. Our gifts were well received. Please let everyone know that they brightened the lives of some very nice people and express my thanks to your wonderful, dedicated teachers and all the children. Happy Easter to all of you!"

Anne Marie Branz
St Vincent DePaul
Elizabeth Ann Conference

Holy Hero

St. Damien de Veuster

Apostle to the Lepers - feast day May 10

Joseph de Veuster was born in Belgium in 1840. While attending a Lenten Parish Mission, he was inspired to become a priest and joined the Congregation of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary, and took the name of Damien. He wished to be a missionary and got the chance when his brother,



Auguste, who was already a priest, became ill and could not travel to his assignment at the Sacred Heart Mission in Hawaii.

Damien, who was not yet even a deacon, asked to take his brother's place. He finished his studies in Honolulu and was ordained in 1864.

Around this time, leprosy was spreading rapidly among the natives of Hawaii.

Leprosy was a terrible disease that disfigured the skin, eyes and limbs. There was no cure at this time and it was very contagious and deadly. To prevent the disease from spreading, the Hawaiian government established an isolated colony on the island of Molokai and sent all those infected to live there. The poor souls on the island had no one to help them in their spiritual needs. Father Damien volunteered to go and serve the people as their priest, even though he knew he could never leave the colony and it would mean almost certain death.

The sick people on the island were lacking even the basic needs of life. Father Damien was not only their priest, but provided medical care, built a church and many houses, planted orchards, brought in fresh water, organized farming, and established orphanages. He even built coffins for the dead and dug their graves. The colony of outcasts with no hope became a community where people found joy in being together and experienced the love of God through Father Damien. As the settlement became known, many donations for the lepers poured in from around the world.

After 12 years on the island, Father Damien began to show the first signs of the cruel disease. He lived and worked four more years with his precious people on the island before dying in 1889, at the age of 49. He was canonized on Oct. 11, 2009, by Pope Benedict XVI.





SPP Youth Ministry Living Stations of the Cross

THE LIVING STATIONS

Ss. Peter & Paul Youth Ministry performed the Living Stations of the Cross Sunday evening April 17, 2011. The performance has Easter tradition at the Catholic parish in Waterloo. The group is under the direction of Nathan and Alison Essner.

Front row from left, Max Kohnz, Gabby Schmitz, Rachel Brown, Sarah Ratz, Amber Beasley

Middle row left to right: Ethan Kipping, Ben Constantine, Matt Lannom, Corey Sanders, Jodi Kaiping, Julia Yates and Alison Essner.

Back row is Parish Administrator Fr. Osang Idagbo, Nick Row, Adam Briesacher, Mitch Brown, Matt Reinholz, Brian Reinholz, Kirsten Pfershy, Cassie Kaiping, Eric Wright and Nathan Essner.

Dear Friends in prayer . . .

During the month of May Ss. Peter and Paul Parish will be saying the rosary every day during the week at 6:15 p.m., and on weekends one-half hour before each Mass. We are looking for volunteers to lead the rosary and one person who would be willing to open church, turn on the lights and lock up after the rosary during the week. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of church. If you are available during the week to open church and lock up please call the Parish Office (939-6426 ext. 11).

Thank you for your consideration!

Thanks, Cate Gross

THE LIVING ROSARY

Monday, May 2nd

We would like to extend a personal invitation to ALL the children of SPP and their families to join us in forming and saying a Living Rosary. This is a perfect opportunity for the First Communicants (and their families) to participate, use their new rosaries as well as wear their First Communion outfits!

I pray that we will be able to honor Our Blessed Mother and her Son as we participate in the formation of the LIVING ROSARY.

The Living Rosary.....formed around the church
When.....Monday May 2, 2011

Time.....6 PM

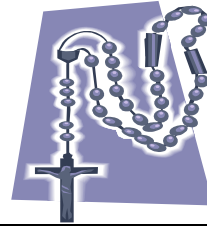
Who.....All parishioners (adults and children) classes, groups, organizations, etc.

Where.....Church

Concluding with Benediction.

We will meet at the back of church at 5:30 PM

Please call Joanne Hoffman at 939-7489 to volunteer to be part of Our Blessed Mother's Living Rosary.



SPP Holy Name Society

GOLF OUTING 4-Person Scramble (Best Ball)

Saturday, April 30th

Acorn's Golf Links

- 12:00 PM – Check in
- 1:00 PM- Shotgun start
- Entry fee - \$320 per team or \$80 per person
- Unlimited beverages on course
- Prizes for closest to the pin and longest drive(men's and women's)
- Dinner (*Featuring JV's famous Pork & Chicken*) and drinks @ SPPS
- Cash prizes for 1st place in each flight
- Optional skins game will be available

For reservations, sponsorships or additional information please contact Dave Meehan 618-939-4117 or Tom Scherff 618-939-5903.