



PSR Family News

January, 2006

PSR Registration Information for the 2006/2007 School Year

Registrations for the 06/07 school year will be sent out mid- March. You should receive a pre-printed registration form the last week of March. Please check it carefully and make any changes necessary. Prompt return of your registration is your best assurance that you will receive the session you requested. We will begin accepting re-registrations and new registrations on April 3rd & 5th during PSR class time (5:00pm-8:15pm Mon or Wed) or Mon-Thurs 9am-1pm. Drop off only is available until 8pm Mon-Thurs in the Parish Center. Openings will be based on a first-come- first-served basis. **Please do not send the registration to your student's teacher — please bring it to the office.** With an ever-increasing student population, it is important to register on time. If a situation prevents you from registering on time, please call the PSR office and we will try to accommodate you.

Our teachers are put into place during the summer months. If we have a low or high enrollment at a particular session, we will reduce or increase the number of teachers at that time period. When parents choose to register late, it is difficult to know where to place teachers in order to best accommodate parents' schedules. Please, help us to help you by registering on time. Please carefully consider your child's extra-curricular activities when choosing a session. Registrations are due **JUNE 1st**. **Any re-registrations received after June 1st will be assessed a \$25 late fee, without exception.** You will be notified if we cannot accommodate your choice of sessions. You will receive a newsletter at the end of August with your child's teacher, class assignment and session listed. New student registration forms are available on line at www.stjoecot.org



Are you being called as a catechist?

During March and April we will begin recruiting teachers for the 06/07 school year. As our program continues to expand, so does the need for teachers. No special training is required, just a love of children and a willingness to share your faith. This is a great time to stop in and observe a classroom to see if it is something you may be interested in for the coming year. We will be training new teachers during the summer months and provide mentors to assist you. If you have any questions or would just like more information about what it means to be a PSR teacher, please call the PSR office at (636) 441-0055 x 300 or x301. We will be happy to speak with you.

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Important Dates to Mark Your Calendar

January 29—Confirmation Meeting for parents/students/sponsors 3:30pm Church

February 11—8th grade CONFIRMATION RETREAT- last names M-Z 8:30am - 2:00pm GYM

February 15—Letters to Bishop & Saint report due for all 8th grade students

February 18—8th grade CONFIRMATION RETREAT—last names A-L 8:30am—2:00pm Gym

February 24 & 25 Luke 18 Confirmation Retreat 7pm

Mar 5 - First Communion Meeting for all 2nd grade parents 3:30pm Church

Mar 20/22 - 2nd Grade Family Celebration during regular class time - parents invited

Apr 3/5 -8th grade Confirmation party/Baby Shower

Apr 3/5—First Communion practice during regular class time

Apr 10/12 - Confirmation Practice during regular class time

Apr 17/19 - First Communion pictures/practice - during regular class times

Apr 24—Confirmation 7:30pm Church

Apr 25—First Communion Rehearsal for students making 1st Comm on 4/29—7pm Church

April 29—First Communion 10:00am

May 2 - Confirmation 7:30pm church

May 1/3 - Living Rosary/Ice Cream Social - Last PSR Class

May 9—First Communion rehearsal for students making 1st Comm on 5/13 - 7pm Church

MARK YOU CALENDARS - THE ABOVE LISTED MEETINGS ARE MANDATORY IF YOUR CHILD IS TO RECEIVE THEIR SACRAMENT (They are highlighted for your convenience)

Attendance at practices is highly encouraged.



LENT

LENT prepares us to celebrate the mysteries of the Paschal Triduum. These three sacred days present us with the mysteries of our redemption which will be celebrated throughout the 50 days of the Easter season. Each day of the Triduum fills one of the three main Lenten disciplines of fasting, almsgiving and prayer. In the Mass of the Lord's Supper on the evening of *Holy Thursday*, our fasting is satisfied at a profound level by the Eucharist. We are nourished by Christ's own Body and Blood. *Good Friday* and *Holy Saturday* commemorate Jesus' death on the cross, the ultimate form of almsgiving. By sharing time, talent or treasure with the poor, we live out Christ's command to love one another. Finally, the *Easter Vigil* on Holy Saturday evening celebrates our baptism in the renewal of our promises to share the very life of God. Baptism is the prototype of all prayer; we ask for the fullness of God's mercy and we receive God's life in return.

Please take advantage of the special observances here at St. Joseph Parish during this Paschal Triduum.

PSR Lenten Service Project - We serve God by serving others

OUR LENTEN PSR SERVICE PROJECT

The PSR program is sponsoring a collection of gently used shoes and snow boots. We are asking your family to search closets, garages, and basements for these items which will be donated to Fr. Bob Gettinger at Blessed Sacrament Parish in St. Louis, Mary Queen of Angels in St. Charles, and baby or toddler shoes and boots will be donated to Birthright in St. Charles. Please be sure items are clean and suitable for use. Items may be brought to PSR during class time any week in Lent.

P.S.—We also need your empty shoe boxes!



Safety Patrol Assignments

Monday 5pm	Grade	3/6	Miss Weismiller	2	4/5	Mrs Rae	K	
2/6	Mrs. Porter	3	3/13	No PSR Classes	4/12	Mrs Walton	8	
2/13	Mrs. Beck	3	3/20	Mrs. Krieth	1	4/19	Miss VanDillen	8
2/20	No PSR Classes		3/27	Mrs. Wootten	1	4/26	Mrs. Aleman	8
2/27	Mrs. Bellamy	2	4/3	Mrs. Amato	1	5/3	Mr. Murphy	7
3/6	Mrs. Rosen	2	4/10	Mrs. Bronsman	K	Wednesday 7pm		
3/13	No PSR Classes		4/17	Mrs. Ballance	K	2/1	Mrs. Mocca	1
3/20	Mrs. Coveney	1	4/24	No PSR Classes		2/8	Mrs. Corrigan	1
3/27	Miss Weismiller	2	5/1	Mr. Grieb	8	2/15	Mrs. Hundelt & Vogt	K
4/3	Mrs. Lager	1	Wednesday 5pm		2/22	Ms. Weiss	8	
4/10	Mrs. Callahan	1	2/1	Mrs. Reinhart	3	3/1	No PSR Class	
4/17	Mrs. Land	K	2/8	Mrs. Franklin	2	3/8	Mrs. Aleman	8
4/24	No PSR Classes		2/15	Mrs. Banholzer	2	3/15	No PSR Class	
5/1	Mrs. Miller	K	2/22	Mrs. Farran	1	3/22	Mrs. Zuchowski	7
Monday 7pm			3/1	No PSR Classes		3/29	Mr. Bledsoe	7
2/6	Mrs. Recca	3	3/8	Mrs. Walton	1	4/5	Mrs. Diaz	6
2/13	Mrs Bowe	2	3/15	No PSR Classes		4/12	Mrs. Hartley	6
2/20	No PSR Classes		3/22	Mrs. Schmittgens	1	4/19	Mrs. Bengfort	5
2/27	Mrs. Bellamy	2	3/29	Mrs. Barrale-Roettger	K	4/26	Miss Renfro	5
						5/3	Mrs. Ehrhard	4

Eighth Grade to Sponsor a Baby Shower for Birthright

The Birthright organization (locations all over St. Charles & St. Louis city and counties) helps pregnant women with the necessary healthcare, counseling, encouragement and practical baby items they need to ensure a healthy birth. They provide assistance to babies up to age 2.

At the beginning of our school year, each 8th grade student spiritually adopted a baby, named their baby, has continued to follow it's development and prayed for their baby throughout the year. On Monday, April 3rd and Wednesday, April 5th we will celebrate 2 events; we will celebrate the impending births of our spiritually adopted babies and the culmination of the preparation of our confirmation candidates to be fully initiated in the Catholic Church.

We are asking each student to bring a baby gift to class on April 3/5. We will provide pizza, play shower games and have a great time. Gifts will be donated to Birthright and are greatly appreciated. Thank you for all you have done to support your son or daughter on their spiritual journey. May God bless you!

Hat's On for Kids With Cancer Day collected \$217.35

Dear Friends at St. Joseph's PSR,
On behalf of everyone at "Friends of Kids with Cancer", I would like to congratulate you on the success of your Hats On Day. It was such a thrill to receive your donation of \$217.35.

This is such a fun and exciting event and we truly appreciate the efforts and enthusiasm of all the students and faculty at St. Joseph's. Friends of Kids with Cancer is devoted to enriching the daily lives of children undergoing treatment for cancer and catastrophic blood diseases. Our mission is to provide these special kids with the recreational, educational and emotional support needed during the long hours of chemotherapy, illness and isolation. The proceeds from your Hats On Day will help us to fulfill this mission and allow us to continue *to help a kid with cancer...be a kid.*

Please accept this letter as a receipt for your donation. From the families whose lives you have helped brighten, thank you for your support and participation.

Gratefully,

Nicci Murphy Co-Chairman

Judy Ciapciak Executive Director



Attention All Servers

Deacon Mike Piva will meet with all servers on either Saturday, Feb 4 at 9:00am—Church or Tuesday, Feb 7 at 7pm—Church to review the CORRECT procedures for all servers. Attendance at one of these training sessions is required. Call Deacon Mike @ 441-0055 x100 for more information

Whatso ever you do to the least of my brothers, that you do unto me.

As we know, service is part of our Christian faith in which God calls us to help others. Our children should practice their Catholic faith as an example to others, PSR students are asked to participate in service projects at all grade levels. These hours can be parish service, community service or family service. Hours can be fulfilled in any increments (e.g. 15 minutes, 30 minutes) until the desired hours are reached. Additional hours are encouraged. This is an excellent opportunity to help others and bridge their faith life into the community. Service hour requirements are:

Grades: K, 1 & 2—1 hour,
Grades: 3, 4 & 5—2 hours
Grades: 6 & 7—3 hours
Grade 8: 15 hours (see Confirmation handbook)

Projects can be simple and families are welcome to come up with their own ideas. Refer to your parent handbook for additional information or contact the PSR office.

Let It Snow...Let It Snow...Let It Snow...

Should inclement weather cause classes to be cancelled:

*If possible—Classroom contact volunteers will call each family. Be sure to let us know if you have changed your number

*A message of cancellation will be announced on a recording at the Offices of Religious Education 441-0055 x 300, 301 or 302

*If St. Joseph School or Francis Howell is cancelled we will NOT have PSR classes (this applies to snow days only)

If you doubt classes are being held, don't drop off your student until you check the recording at 441-0055 x 300, 301 or 302 or until you are sure the school building is open and orange vested safety patrol parents are present!

PARENTS, PLEASE...

REMEMBER TO CHECK WITH YOUR STUDENTS EACH WEEK AFTER PSR CLASSES FOR MEMOS FROM TEACHERS, HOMEWORK, AND OTHER IMPORTANT PSR INFORMATION.



Donut Sunday, Ye Olde Christmas Shoppe & Candy Grams

Thank you to the parents and students who volunteered to help at Donut Sunday on Dec. 4. Our 8th grade students who helped were awesome as well as the parents who set up, worked and cleaned up. Everyone worked very hard and visitors were very impressed with our volunteers.

A resounding "THANK YOU" to all who donated items to our Christmas Shoppe. The shoppers during Donut Sunday were thrilled with all the beautiful items. We were overwhelmed with the generosity of the PSR parents and entire parish. We raised \$1350 for our St. Vincent dePaul

Society. THANK YOU!!!

(By popular demand, we will sponsor this again next year)

Our Candy Grams were also a big success! The students had fun both giving and receiving them from each other and their teachers. We raised \$157 for the PSR program and had a good time. Thank you to those parents who tied candy canes and delivered them during class time. You're great!

