

SAINT PETER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION STAFF

2009-2010

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PARISH STAFF
(249-6652)

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Judy Stolper, Bereavement Minister	Ext. 41
Jack Dillon, RCIA Coordinator	Ext. 40
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SCHEDULE OF CLASSES - 2009-2010

GRADES: PRE-KINDERGARTEN - KINDERGARTEN - 1

Sunday, 10:00 - 10:55 a.m.

SEPTEMBER

27 Regular Class

OCTOBER

4 Regular Class

11 Regular Class

18&19 "Lighten Up!" with Doug Brummel

NOVEMBER

8 Regular Class

15 Regular Class

22 Regular Class

DECEMBER

6 Regular Class

13 Regular Class

16 Wednesday - Liturgy practice for
Christmas Eve (6:15 p.m.)

24 Christmas Eve Liturgy (4:00 p.m.)

JANUARY

10 Regular Class

20 Catechist Jumpstart
No Class for students

24 Regular Class

31 Regular Class

FEBRUARY

6 & 7 Souper Bowl of Caring

7 Regular Class

14 ***PreK-K-1 Liturgy 9:00 a.m.***

14 Regular Class

21 Regular Class

MARCH

7 Regular Class

14 Regular Class

21 Regular Class

APRIL

Sunday 4:30 p.m. Mass
All School Liturgy and Potluck

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES - 2009-2010

GRADES: 2 - 3 - 4 - 5

Wednesday, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

23 Regular Class

30 Regular Class

OCTOBER

7 Regular Class

14 Regular Class

18&19 "Lighten Up!" with Doug Brummel

NOVEMBER

4 Regular Class

11 Regular Class

14 ***2nd Grade Reconciliation Retreat
(9:00 a.m.-12 noon)***

18 Regular Class

DECEMBER

2 Regular Class
2nd Grade First Reconciliation

9 Regular Class

16 Wednesday - Liturgy practice for
Christmas Eve (6:15 p.m.)

24 Christmas Eve Liturgy (4:00 p.m.)

JANUARY

6 Regular Class

13 Regular Class

20 Catechist Jumpstart
No class for students

27 Regular Class

FEBRUARY

3 Regular Class

6 & 7 Souper Bowl of Caring

10 Regular Class

17 Regular Class - Ash Wednesday
Families invited to attend Mass

24 Regular Class

MARCH

3 Regular Class

7 ***Grades 2-5 Liturgy 9:00 a.m. Mass***

10 Regular Class
Grades 3-5 Reconciliation

17 Regular Class

24 Regular Class

APRIL

10 ***2nd Grade First Communion Retreat
(9:00 a.m. - 12 noon)***

18 ***First Communion 11:00 a.m.***
Sunday 4:30 p.m. Mass
All School Liturgy and Potluck

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES - 2009-2010

GRADES: 6 - 7 - 8

Monday, 7:00 - 8:15 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

28 Regular Class with parents

OCTOBER

5 Regular Class

6 Protecting God's Children 6:30 p.m.
(Madison Diocese requires all
volunteers to attend one training
session, parents encouraged to attend)

11 Optional Sunday - Making and
decorating cookies for Bazaar

12 Regular Class

18&19 "Lighten Up!" with Doug Brummel
6:47 p.m.

25 6:30 p.m. Sunday Living Rosary

NOVEMBER

2 Regular Class - All Souls Liturgy

9 Regular Class

16 Regular Class

DECEMBER

7 Regular Class

14 Regular Class

16 Wednesday - Liturgy practice for
Christmas Eve (6:15 p.m.)

24 Christmas Eve Liturgy (4:00 p.m.)

29 St. Peter's Mt. Olympus Day - \$6.00
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

JANUARY

20 Catechist Jumpstart

25 Regular Class

FEBRUARY

1 Regular Class

6 & 7 Souper Bowl of Caring

13 Mardi Gras Fund Raiser Dinner

15 Regular Class - Palm Burning

21 ***Middle School Liturgy 9:00 a.m.***

22 Regular Class

26 Mt. Olympus Middle School Event

MARCH

1 Regular Class - 5:30 p.m. with Dinner
Middle School Family Gathering
Madison East Show Choir

8 Regular Class

15 Regular Class

22 Regular Class - Living Stations

31 St. Peter's Mt. Olympus Day - \$6.00
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

APRIL

Sunday 4:30 p.m. Mass
All School Liturgy and Potluck

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES - 2009-2010
GRADES: 9 - 10 - 11
Sunday, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

27 Regular Class with parents

OCTOBER

4 Regular Class
Confirmation Parent Meeting 6:45p.m.

6 Protecting God's Children 6:30 p.m.
(Madison Diocese requires all
volunteers to attend one training
session, parents encouraged to attend)

11 Regular Class

18&19 "Lighten Up!" with Doug Brummel
6:47 p.m.

25 Regular Class - Living Rosary

NOVEMBER

8 Regular Class

15 Regular Class

DECEMBER

6 Regular Class

16 Wednesday - Liturgy practice for
Christmas Eve (6:15 p.m.)

24 Christmas Eve Liturgy (4:00 p.m.)

29 St. Peter's Mt. Olympus Day - \$6.00
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

JANUARY

20 Catechist Jumpstart

24 Regular Class

31 Regular Class

FEBRUARY

5-7 Resurrection Rally 2010

6-7 Souper Bowl of Caring

13 ***Saturday 5:15 p.m. Mass
High School Liturgy and
Mardi Gras Fund Raiser Dinner***

14 Regular Class

21 Confirmation Retreat (Juniors only)

MARCH

7 Regular Class

14 Regular Class

21 Regular Class - Living Stations

31 St. Peter's Mt. Olympus Day - \$6.00
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

APRIL

Confirmation Practice/Class at IHM for
Confirmation Candidate and Sponsor
(date to be determined)

4:30 p.m. Mass
All School Liturgy and Potluck

MAY

2 Confirmation 4:00 p.m. at IHM

13-14 Juniors/Seniors deliver flowers

22-23 Mission Trip Stock Sale - all Masses

23 ***Senior Mass***

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES - 2009-2010

Grade 12

Sunday, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

SEPTEMBER

27 Regular Class with parents

OCTOBER

6 Protecting God's Children 6:30 p.m.
(Madison Diocese requires all
volunteers to attend one training
session, parents encouraged to attend)

11 Regular Class
4:30 candy making

18&19 "Lighten Up!" with Doug Brummel
6:47 p.m.

25 Regular Class - Living Rosary

NOVEMBER

1 11:00 a.m. Mass and raking

7-8 Collect money for Bowl-a-thon
after all Masses

8 Regular Class

14-15 Collect money for Bowl-a-thon
after all Masses

15 11:00 a.m. Mass and Bowl-a-thon

DECEMBER

5 Bingo/Barbeque Night after 5:15 p.m. Mass.
Students will set up before Mass at 4:30 p.m.

16 Wednesday - Liturgy practice for
Christmas Eve (6:15 p.m.)

24 Christmas Eve Liturgy (4:00 p.m.)

29 St. Peter's Mt. Olympus Day - \$6.00
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

JANUARY

20 Catechist Jumpstart

24 Regular Class

31 Making dinner for Ronald McDonald House
arrive at St. Peter's 3:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY

5-7 Resurrection Rally 2010

6-7 Souper Bowl of Caring

13 *Saturday 5:15 p.m. Mass
High School Liturgy and
Mardi Gras Fund Raiser Dinner*

14 Regular Class

21 Confirmation Retreat (Juniors only)

MARCH

7 Regular Class

14 Parent thank you dinner.
Students arrive at 4:30 p.m. to prepare dinner
for their parents. Parents arrive at 6:30 p.m.

21 Regular Class - Living Stations
Arrive for practice at 4:30 p.m.

31 St. Peter's Mt. Olympus Day - \$6.00
10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

APRIL

Confirmation Practice/Class at IHM for
Confirmation Candidate and Sponsor
(date to be determined)

4:30 p.m. Mass
All School Liturgy and Potluck

MAY

2 *Confirmation 4:00 p.m. at IHM*

13-14 Juniors/Seniors deliver flowers

22-23 Mission Trip Stock Sale - all Masses

23 *Senior Mass*

“Lighten UP!” This celebration of faith and family is a whole community event urging all generations to “Lighten Up!” Nationally-known Catholic Inspirational comedian, singer, storyteller, teacher and author, Doug Brummel, and his cast of characters will lead our parish community on a unique faith journey on Sunday, October 18 and Monday, October 19 with a start time of 6:47 p.m. In these busy times with everyone doing their own thing, it is a real gift to have this celebration in which all generations come together to celebrate the gift of faith and family. Everyone is welcome! So bring your family, friends and neighbors. We look forward to seeing everyone at “Lighten Up.”

www.DougBrummel.com



Sunday, October 18 - Monday, October 19

6:47 p.m. Sharp! Two-night Series!

FREE Admission! (Free-will offering available! Memories made: priceless!)

Don't miss this one-man character-changing show you have to see to believe!

***THE PHILOSOPHY
OF
SAINT PETER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/YOUTH MINISTRY PROGRAM***

A religious education/youth ministry program must meet four major requirements:

1. It must reflect the centrality of Christ and present us as redeemed by Him.
2. It must teach the essentials of the complete Christian message.
3. It must be contemporary and immediately comprehensible to the student.
4. It must offer a developmental sequence of content that helps to make maturation in faith possible.

A religious education/youth ministry program must apply the important aspects of the Catholic message at each grade level according to the child's capacity for understanding. The program must involve the family in the learning process.

You as parents have the privilege of being the most important religious "teachers" for your children.

You can be that "Good Example" for your children.

You can create a loving and giving environment for your children.

You as parents can make God a part of each day of your life and come to see God's love as something always there for you and your children. The model and source of this love is Christ, who gave His life on the cross for us.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Saint Peter's Religious Education and Youth Ministry Program is to assist the students to grow in their relationship with God based on knowledge of their Catholic faith, expressed through prayer, worship and service to others. Recognizing the role of parents as the primary witnesses of faith, the staff works with parents to accomplish the goal of witnessing to the Gospel message.

Safe Environment Policy
Required by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
in their Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

Purpose

In an effort to establish safe environments for children and young adults within our parish, all volunteers are required to go through the education and awareness program developed by Virtus. Through this education and awareness program, the Diocese of Madison seeks to provide educational sessions that train clergy, staff, volunteers, parents and all parishioners to establish safe environments for children and youth that will prevent abuse.

All volunteers are required to attend one 2-hour session “Protecting God’s Children.” All parents and parishioners are encouraged to attend. The sessions are free. St. Peter’s and the eastside parishes are working together to offer many options for dates and times for these sessions. Check the bulletin/newsletter for dates for training sessions. Pre-registration on-line for these sessions is required. Instructions for registering on-line are available in the parish office. If you do not have e-mail or internet access, you may register by calling Sally Matusek at 249-6652 ext. 23.

In addition, the *Charter* also requires that each diocese/parish provide programs for parents and guardians to establish guidelines and principles to assist them in their roles as the primary educators in the areas of morals, values and human sexuality and in ensuring their children’s safety, especially safety from sexual abuse. The Diocese of Madison has contracted with Virtus to use their recently developed program “Protecting God’s Children - Teaching Touch Safety Program for Parents, Guardians and Caring Adults.” St. Peter’s is required to provide these sessions for parents to attend.

Lastly, the *Charter* mandates that each diocese “provide education and training” for children and youth about “ways to make and maintain a safe environment for children.” A curriculum has been designed to provide not only the how of personal safety but also the why. The age appropriate lessons aim to provide young people with the tools to protect them and to resist the advances of those individuals who do not respect their personal value and who may intend to do them harm. The lessons also seek to educate them about their God-given value and the need to respect others. Recognizing that the parents are the primary educators of their children, these lessons are intended to supplement lessons by the parents. As required by the Diocese of Madison, St. Peter’s will incorporate these lessons into our Religious Education program curriculum.

The Protecting God’s Children Parent Packet is available in the church office. This is for your reference regarding internet safety, safe environment and communication tools for parents.

POLICIES - RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/YOUTH MINISTRY

- I. **ABSENCE POLICY:** Students are expected to attend all classes. Parents are required to notify the Religious Education Office at 249-6652 at least ½ hour before class if it is known that the student will be absent or tardy. When several classes are missed, excused or unexcused, make up work can be done under the direction of either the Assistant Director or Director of Religious Education.

Reasons:

- 1) The subject matter covered in each grade contributes to the development of the student's understanding of him/herself and the Catholic Faith, so that mature responsible Catholic decisions can be made throughout their lives.
 - 2) This curriculum is established to build one year upon another, and in total to cover the basics of our Faith.
 - 3) This guideline gives support to those parents who faithfully and regularly send their children to Religious Education classes.
- II. **NON-REGISTERED PARISHIONERS:** There is an additional charge of \$100.00 per student to attend Religious Education classes to those families that are not registered in the parish. We would appreciate only registered students to attend classes. (Please don't bring friends.)
- III. **REGISTRATION POLICY:** For all students registered in the spring, you will receive a packet in the fall with all information for the coming year. The fee this year will be \$25.00 per student with a maximum of \$60.00 per family.

LATE REGISTRATION:

- 1) Late registrations cause much confusion and necessitate many changes in ordering textbooks, finding teachers, rearranging class lists, and finding more classrooms.
- 2) Late registrations and late arrivals cause many problems in a classroom for teachers. Each new student sets up a new dynamic in the classroom.

IV. **DISCIPLINARY SITUATIONS:** Saint Peter Religious Education teachers are chosen with the following qualities in mind: Jesus Christ is a central force in the life of the Catechist; the Catechist strives to be an extension of the Word in his/her catechetical ministry; the Catechist seeks to cooperate with other parish leaders in making the parish a focal point of community in the Church; the Catechist believes in the youth he/she is working with; and the Catechist is committed to serving and encourages individuals simply by asking for respect and cooperation from their students.

All our Religious Education Catechists have participated in workshops to enable them to use positive classroom reinforcements toward better discipline management.

Class rules will be established. When rules are not followed, teachers proceed as follows:

SAINT PETER RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/YOUTH MINISTRY DISCIPLINE PLAN

POLICY AND DRESS CODE:

Hats are not allowed to be worn in the building (church, hallway or classrooms). No cell phones, pagers, beepers, CD headsets, iPods or hand held games. If any of these items are brought to class, they will be taken and NOT returned until a much later date. Leave them all at home.

All t-shirts must have respectable logos. No strapless or spaghetti strap tops. No showing of midriff. Please dress respectfully.

RULES:

1. Be respectful.
2. Follow directions.
3. Keep hands, feet, and other objects to yourself.

POSITIVE CONSEQUENCES:

1. Students will learn new things.
2. Students will earn praise.
3. Students' families will receive positive notes/phone calls.

NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES:

The first time a student chooses to break a rule:

Warning or sent to office. Parents may be called.

The second time:

Sent to DRE and parents or guardians will be called. If the discipline problem is not resolved, the parent may be asked to attend the class with their child or the student will be removed from the program for the year. Parents may be asked to home teach.

SEVERE CLAUSE:

Swearing, wilfully hurts or suggest such action, destroys property, overtly refuses to follow directions, stops the class from function. **IMMEDIATELY SENT TO OFFICE.**

V. **POLICY AND PROCEDURES FOR ACCIDENTS AND ILLNESSES DURING RELIGIOUS EDUCATION/YOUTH MINISTRY CLASSES AND ACTIVITIES:**

Purpose of Policy: This policy is to provide specific procedures to the Religious Education Staff on how to handle accidents or illnesses of students during Religious Education hours at our Religious Education sponsored functions.

Policy Procedures: The following paragraphs highlight the reporting system:

- a) Religious Education Staff will instruct youth to report all injuries/illnesses.
- b) Religious Education Staff shall refer the reported or observed incident(s) to the Director.
- c) In cases where the youth cannot return to class or in emergency situations, the parents (guardians) are responsible for making arrangements for medical treatment and transportation.
- d) If an emergency is severe, the Religious Education Staff shall call for Emergency Medical Care before or concurrent with notification to the parents (guardians).

VI. **CLASS CANCELLATIONS:** If weather becomes a threat, parents can call the Religious Education Office at 249-6652. An outgoing message will be left on Peg Miller and Nicki Paulson's voice mail regarding any cancellations. Cancellations will also be posted on the website www.stpetersofmadison.org. Parents are encouraged to exercise their discretion for those "other" weather situations that inevitably happen.

RECEPTION OF THE SACRAMENTS

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS AT SAINT PETER PARISH

At Saint Peter Parish, the Religious Education Program follows the guidelines from the Diocese of Madison in the reception of the Sacraments.

FIRST RECONCILIATION: This sacrament is received in second grade prior to First Eucharist. However, if your child has not received this sacrament and is older than second grade, they may receive it after special instructions are completed. First semester classes will be focused on preparing the children for their First Reconciliation. Those unable to attend class regularly will be expected to complete work at home. The children will be required to attend a morning retreat on Saturday, November 14, 2009 from 9:00 a.m.-12 noon. Students will receive their First Reconciliation in a communal setting on Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.

FIRST EUCHARIST: This sacrament is received in second grade after the sacrament of First Reconciliation. However, if your child has not received this sacrament and is older than second grade, they may receive it after special instructions are completed. Second semester classes will be focused on preparing the children for their First Eucharist. Those unable to attend class regularly will be expected to complete work at home. The children will be required to attend a morning retreat on Saturday, April 10, 2010 from 9:00 a.m.-12 noon. At least one parent is expected to attend this retreat with their child and work actively with their child at home. Students will receive their First Eucharist on Sunday, April 18, 2010 at the 11:00 a.m. Mass.

CONFIRMATION: This sacrament is received in the junior year of High School. However, if your child has not received this sacrament and is older, they may receive it after special instructions. The class years just prior to Confirmation are important years of formation. During this time concentration is focused on understanding a Catholic life style, sifting through the decision making skills and situations unique to this and completing a required number of hours of service aimed at this goal.

Attendance during these years is an important step toward a solid faith foundation so the youth can make good decisions and understand the true meaning about receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Students are required to attend a Confirmation Retreat on February 21, 2010. There will be a parent informational meeting on Sunday, October 4 at 6:45 p.m. At least one parent is asked to attend. **Confirmation will be held on Sunday, May 2, 2010 at 4:00 p.m. at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Monona.**

PARENT MEETINGS:

Confirmation: A parent meeting will be held on **Sunday, October 4, 2009** for all parents who have children receiving the sacrament of Confirmation.

PROGRAM INFORMATION
PRE-KINDERGARTEN - 5TH GRADE

CLASS TIMES:

Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 1: Sunday morning from 10:00 - 10:55 a.m.

Grade 2 - Grade 5: Wednesday evening from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.

CONTENT: Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 5 will use the program “Faith First” published by RCL. Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 1, as a group, will participate in special Liturgies during the year. Also, Grades 2 through 5, as a group, will participate in a special Liturgy during the year.

- I. **Pre-Kindergarten** use crafts, dramatic play, stories and activity sheets to develop the themes of God’s love and how he helps them in every day life.
- II. **Kindergarten, 1st, 3rd, 4th and 5th Grades** - The Faith First program is a spiral approach to learning our Catholic faith. The four pillars of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* - Creed, Sacraments, Morality and Prayer - are taught and developed at every grade level every year. This ensures that the beliefs of our faith are introduced to and reinforced for the young people as they grow, develop and mature in their faith. This method means that each catechist will build upon and reinforce what children have learned previously in other grades. The result is age-appropriate learning on all topics of faith.
- III. **2nd Grade** - Students spend 1st semester preparing for First Reconciliation and 2nd semester preparing for First Eucharist. Regular attendance is especially important in this year.

SPECIAL LITURGIES: There will be two special liturgies each for grades PreK-1 and one for grades 2-5. The students take on the roles of greeters, gift bearers and the older children may even do the readings or act out the gospel. Each level performs a song after communion. See calendar for liturgy dates.

SERVICE: Service is an important part of living our faith as Catholics. Students learn the joy of giving and doing for others as they participate in service projects throughout the year. Listed below are a few of the projects that are done annually. Additional service projects are done as needed, such as disaster relief coin drives.

Jesus’ Birthday Party: PreK-5th grade students have a birthday party for Jesus and bring in baby care items. These items are donated to Elizabeth House, a Christian residential maternity program.

Souper Bowl of Caring: February 6 and 7, 2010 – Soup pots are located at all entrances to church before and after all Masses this weekend. Students man the pots and give out “Souper Bowl” tickets as a thank you to anyone who donates money into the pots. All the money collected goes to help feed the hungry in our area.

Alex’s Lemonade Stand: Students sell lemonade out of our beautiful custom made lemonade stand after all Masses. The money collected goes to Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation, which funds childhood cancer research.

YOUTH MINISTRY
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM INFORMATION

CLASS TIMES:

Middle School - Grades 6-7-8: Monday evening from 7:00 - 8:15 p.m.

High School - Grades 9-10-11-12: Sunday evening from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE/DISCIPLINE GUIDELINES: Attendance at both the Middle School and High School level programs is expected. Parents are highly encouraged to promote their children's active participation in all phases and opportunities offered. Parental support and cooperation is vital to a successful program and is greatly appreciated! All absences will be reported to parents, but it is preferable that Saint Peter's be called in advance when absences must occur. Our assertive discipline program focuses on the positive, and when necessary, students, parents and teachers team together to problem solve. See page 10 for details on discipline policy.

PROGRAM CONTENT FOR GRADES 6-7-8

Grades 6, 7 and 8 will participate in a variety of theme centered units intended to facilitate growth in their adolescent faith development. These units include an opportunity for learning through dialogue with others, prayer and activities aimed to heighten the awareness of God's presence in everyday events. There are scriptural references contained in all units and students will be able to participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Stations of The Cross during Lent.

Sixth Grade - Program includes themes on the Sacraments.

Seventh Grade - Program includes Pflaum Gospel Weeklies "Visions." This is a favorite lectionary-based resource for students which emphasize social justice, moral reasoning and service to others through current-interest articles and life-dilemma stories. Discussion starters help young teens explore links between current issues, the Sunday readings (including the Old Testament), and their own lives. Activities reinforce learning focused on the four pillars of the Catechism.

Eighth Grade - Each student will receive a Catholic Youth Bible. The program focuses on learning more about the bible and Scripture (helping youth feel comfortable using it and able to look things up easily) and learning to grow and make good Christ like decisions.

All of these units strive to incorporate those facts and beliefs learned in the previous elementary years into the daily events of the middle schooler. Where is God? Who is God? and How do I include God? are some questions used to help students build a lasting relationship with their God.

Youth Trips: There will be youth trips planned for Grades 6, 7 and 8 throughout the year. You will receive information when trips are planned.

Living Rosary: St. Peter's Religious Education/Youth Ministry students in grades 6-12 will participate in a Living Rosary on Sunday, October 25, 2009 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Praying the Living Rosary will be a tribute to our Blessed Virgin Mother Mary. Through the Living Rosary the students will represent each bead of the Rosary as their candle is lit forming a circle around the church. Parents, families, friends and parishioners are encouraged and invited to attend this spiritual evening of prayer and song to our Blessed Mother Mary.

Parent Youth Night for Middle School families will be March 1, 2010 at 5:30 p.m. This will include a pizza/sub dinner followed by Madison East High School Show Choir.

Middle School Liturgies: There will be three Liturgies for all middle school students. All middle school students and their families are encouraged to attend and participate in all Liturgies. The Liturgies will be Monday, November 2, All Souls Mass, Monday, December 7, Immaculate Conception (please arrive by 6:50 p.m.) and on Sunday, February 21, 2010 at the 9:00 a.m. Mass. Mark your calendars and keep these dates open.

Social Activities will be scheduled throughout the school year and summer months.

PROGRAM CONTENT FOR GRADES 9 THROUGH 12

Grades 9 - 12 will use material from the “Horizon Program,” “Scripture Walk,” “Ready-to-go Scripture Skits,” “We are Fire!,” “Receiving the Gift of the Spirit” and other Youth Ministry books. Lessons include issues in the lives of teens with an emphasis on God in their every day lives. Taking their faith to a deeper biblical spirituality level with scripture, prayer, church history, Liturgies and hands on learning by using their Youth Bible, music, service, rallies, retreats and other activities.

Grades 10 - 11 will continue to more fully participate in the life of the church, develop a stronger spirituality and prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation using the Confirmation book, “Receiving the Gift of the Spirit.” The book includes sharing faith stories, prayer to the Holy Spirit, life long journey, strengthening their relationship with Christ and his church, exploring the Creed, journey of initiation, choosing the way to Christ and sharing in the church’s ministry, word, worship and service.

Grade 12 - During this year the youth have an experience to put their faith in use. They do many different activities designed especially for each group. In the past year they participated in a Bowl-a-Thon (money was given to a needy charity), helped with the bazaar (made candy), hosted a Bingo night, helped with yard work, helped with the church environment, made a meal for the families at the Ronald McDonald House and delivered flowers with our Bereavement team to family members who have lost a loved one.

Living Rosary: St. Peter’s Religious Education/Youth Ministry students in grades 6-12 will participate in a Living Rosary on Sunday, October 25, 2009 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Praying the Living Rosary will be a tribute to our Blessed Virgin Mother Mary. Through the Living Rosary the students will represent each bead of the Rosary as their candle is lit forming a circle around the church. Parents, families, friends and parishioners are encouraged and invited to attend this spiritual evening of prayer and song to our Blessed Mother Mary.

High School Liturgies: There will be one Liturgy for all high school students. All high school students and their families are encouraged to attend and participate. The Liturgy will be Saturday, February 13, 2010 at the 5:15 p.m. Mass and Mardi Gras fundraiser dinner.

Resurrection 2010: February 5-7, 2010 at Chula Vista Resort, Wisconsin Dells. This is a statewide High School Rally designed to give youth an opportunity to wrestle with questions of their faith and life as they struggle to find how they fit into the church. It also allows for teens to gather with people their own age from all over the state. Registrations are due in October. It is highly recommended that high school students attend this rally.

Retreat for Grade 11 is a required part of the Confirmation Program. The Confirmation Retreat is Sunday, February 21, 2010. All necessary information will be mailed in advance.

Mission Trips: High School students have an opportunity to participate in St. Peter's Mission Trips. This year's trip will be with Catholic Heart Work Camp in Nashville, Tennessee from June 25 - July 3, 2010. Students must volunteer at least 20 hours at St. Peter's during the year in order to participate in the mission trip. Students will have ongoing fund raising volunteer opportunities through Per Mar Securities, wreath sales, Mardi Gras dinner, stock sales and other activities. The financial commitment for each student is determined by the amount of time the student participates in fund raising. During the Mission Trip students will work on projects at nursing homes, Convents, private homes, food distribution centers, homeless shelters, daycare centers and wherever work is needed. Students will do painting, repair work, yard work, maintenance, childcare, etc. Students attend morning and evening high energy programs that consist of prayer, worship, singing, laughter, spiritual/personal testimony, skits, reflection, Reconciliation, Eucharist, adoration, daily Mass and youth friendly activities which involve students getting on stage. This is a week-long life changing experience with students getting a deeper faith and wanting to know more about our amazing God!

Service Hours for Confirmation are to be accumulated starting in 9th grade. Twenty hours of service are to be acquired prior to Confirmation. An information sheet and record form will be given to each student at the beginning of each year.

NCYC: National Catholic Youth Conference is sponsored by the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry and is held every two years. Catholic High School students from all across the United States come together as they celebrate their faith through song, story, humor, liturgy and just being together. Many of the top Catholic singers, storytellers and comedians will be at NCYC which will be held November 19-21, 2009 in Kansas City, Missouri, with the theme "Christ Reigns."

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Knights of Columbus, Ladies Guild, Parish Council and parish individuals will provide scholarship award(s) for qualified applicant(s). The amount will be determined each year as the financial status permits. The qualifications required for this program shall be as follows:

1. A graduating high school senior.
2. A confirmed member of Saint Peter's parish.
3. An attendee of St. Peter's religious education classes for graduating high school seniors.
4. Emphasis placed on:
 - Christian living
 - Class attendance
 - St. Peter's Parish activities

Applications for the Scholarship Award will be screened and award(s) determined by the above said committee.

The recipients of the Scholarship Award will be announced at the Graduation luncheon on Sunday, May 23, 2010.

The monies contributed shall be used by the recipients as deemed necessary for any school or training fees (for example: books, tuition, etc.). The check will be sent to the appropriate school or the recipient will be given the check after the committee receives the receipts from tuition, purchase of books, etc. as verification of payment.

Application forms will be distributed at the January 24, 2010 Religious Education class at Saint Peter's and must be submitted by the applicant no later than March 16, 2010.

***ENCOURAGE YOUR YOUTH TO BE ACTIVE AND PARTICIPATE
IN ALL PROGRAMS AT SAINT PETERS***