

Faith Builder Opportunities '08-'09

Students participating in a Summer Program (on-site or at a home-site) and the Middle School Home Study Program are **required** to earn **five Faith Builder credits each year**. These credits may be earned through special events that are designed to build community spirit, renew enthusiasm, delight the senses, help everyone feel closer to God, and educate all participants. Students participating in weekly Faith Formation are most welcome, but are not required, to participate in these middle school events. A list of substitution events is also available. **Parents must report student's attendance** at these events to: faithbuilders@stsjohnandpaul.org so that proper credit will be received. To register for any of these events, contact Kathy at kmasters@stsjohnandpaul.org or 724-935-2104 X36.

Sundays - Mass at St. John Neumann with Verland Residents 9:30-11:15 AM

Verland is a non-profit family of person-centered, community homes and services supporting over 225 people with mental retardation, many of whom have multiple physical challenges. It is located near Sewickley, and a number of their residents attend Mass at SJN two Sundays per month. Although they are accompanied by professionally trained staff members, they greatly appreciate being joined by others for Mass and for light refreshments immediately following Mass. Students must pre-register and be accompanied by a parent. Available dates are: 9/7, 9/21, 10/5, 10/19, 11/2, 11/16, 11/30, 12/14, 12/28 1/11, 1/25, 2/8, 2/22 (1 credit)

Monday Evening, September 29 or March 30 - Vincentian Home Wheelchair Dance

6:30-8:30 PM Vincentian Home (located off McKnight Road) holds monthly wheelchair dances for their residents. Students assist residents in getting to/from the event, help them dance to the music, and serve refreshments. Drivers/chaperones needed. Students must pre-register. (1 credit)

Sunday, October 19th "What's My Line?" 1:30-3:30 PM

Come and learn about a variety of vocations...you'll hear from a seminarian, a nun, a newly married couple, and more! (1 credit)

Friday or Saturday, November 7 or 8 "Middle School Faith Rally" 7 PM

Cooper Ray is a dynamic speaker and musician who shares his faith with honesty and passion through story, humor and audience participation. This rally will be held at Seton LaSalle High School on Friday Night and at St. Fedelis Parish in Butler on Saturday. Students must pre-register. (2 credits)

Friday, November 21 Catholic Vision of Love Retreat, Grade 6, 9 AM-3 PM (2 credits)

Friday, January 23 Catholic Vision of Love Retreat, Grade 7, 9 AM-3 PM (2 credits)

Friday, February 27th Catholic Vision of Love Retreat, Grade 8, 9 AM-3 PM (2 credits)

Sunday, February 8, 2008 Lovewalk for the Poor, 2 PM Mass with Bishop Zubik

Mass will be at Sacred Heart Parish. Details on the Lovewalk will be announced closer to the date.

Saturday, February 21 "Sensational Service" 1:00-5:00 PM

Each participant reaches out to serve others for the afternoon (details will be available closer to the event, past projects have included: running bingo games at Nursing Homes, helping out at a St. Vincent DePaul Store, making kits for Children's Hospital, Communion Calls, etc.). (2 credits)

Substitution Faith Builder List

(additional events will be added to this list over the course of the year)

Attendance at a Triduum Liturgy (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Vigil) (1 credit each)

Volunteer as a baby-sitter in the Nursery -Contact Jeannette Echevarria @ 724-940-9475 (1 credit-must volunteer at least 3 times)

Altar Server Ministry - Contact Phyllis at X 26 for training (*servers needed for Sat 7 PM and Sun 7:30 AM*) (1 credit).

Seraphim Singers - Middle School Choir (includes attending all rehearsals and singing at the scheduled Masses). Contact Adele Scherer at X32. (max 2 credits)

Participation as an actor in Living Stations- This involves practices on all Sunday afternoons in Lent, plus three evening performances on a Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday evening, Contact Kathy Kross @ 724-935-8227 (5 credits)

Assist in a weekly Faith Formation Class-If you assist in a weekly classroom for the year will receive all 5 faith builder credits. Contact Kate at X23.

Assist in a Family Program Formation Class 1/mo-If you assist in a monthly classroom for the year you will receive 2 faith builder credits. Contact Kathy at X36.

Vacation Bible School Volunteer-If you assist with VBS for the week (June/August session) in the Summer of 2008, you will receive 2 faith builder credits. Maximum number of credits that can be earned is THREE (even if you participate in both VBS Programs-we want you to have a "well-rounded" faith builder curriculum!).