

Faith Builder Opportunities '11-'12

Students participating in Summer Program 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 X236.

Thursday, July 14 God, Sex, and the Meaning of Life Event, 7:00 PM (1 credit)

Bill Donaghy, from the Theology of the Body Institute, will be in the Upper Hall of the Cardinal DiNardo Center for this special presentation. **The event is open to students in grade 9-12 and adults. Parents/grandparents/guardians can earn ONE FAITH BUILDER CREDIT for their middle school child by attending this presentation.** Pre-registration is required. Additional details are available on the parish website. To register contact Krissy on X228.

Wednesday, August 24 Catholic Vision of Love Retreat, Grade 6, 9 AM-3 PM (2 credits)

Friday, October 21 Catholic Vision of Love Retreat, Grade 7, 9 AM-3 PM (2 credits)

Friday, March 23 Catholic Vision of Love Retreat, Grade 8, 9 AM-3 PM (2 credits)

Saturday, November 5 "Middle School Faith Rally" St. Ferdinand's in Cranberry

The Faith Rally is designed for middle school students (Grades 6-8) and their parents. More detailed promotional materials will be available later this summer. Students must pre-register. Contact Kathy at X236. (2 credits)

Silver Ring Thing, Open to 8th graders only Date: January 13, 2012

This is sponsored by the Diocese. More details will be posted once they are available. This event does not replace CVOL 8. Event will be held at Seton LaSalle High School. (2 credits)

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Bingo at Pristine Pines Nursing Home (Wexford location near Wexford Elementary and CVS) Come and run the Bingo game! You can be the "Caller", and the "Prize Patrol". They are looking for help on any evening at 6:30 PM or a Saturday/Sunday at 9:15 AM, 2 PM, or 6:30 PM. Student must be accompanied by a parent (only 1 student/parent team needed per Bingo game). Student must pre-register. (1 credit)

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 posted in September. (1 credit)

Saturdays, dates TBD - Bingo at Vincentian Regency Nursing Home (near Passavant Hospital) 1:00-3:00 PM Come and help run the monthly Bingo games! You might volunteer to be the "Caller", the "Prize Patrol", or assist a resident while he/she plays the game. Future dates to be announced. Chaperones needed. Students must pre-register. (1 credit)

Teaching Mass @ SSJP- Monday, January 16, 2012 (Martin Luther King Day), 9 AM (1 credit)

March for Life-Monday, January 23, 2012, Washington, DC (bus from SSJP, 3 credits)

Sunday, February 13, 2012 Lovewalk for the Poor, 2:00 PM

Mass will be at Sacred Heart Parish in Shadyside. After Mass walkers carry food, clothing, and baby items to a local institution in need of them. Additional details on the Lovewalk will be announced closer to the date. (2 credits)

Saturday, March 17, 2012 "Sensational Service" 12:30-6:00 PM (includes Mass)

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 pillows for soldiers, creating unique b-day cards for Angel Tree Kids, etc.). (2 credits)

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Additional Faith Builder Opportunities

Assist in a weekly Faith Formation Class-If you assist in a weekly classroom for the year you will receive 5 faith builder credits (must still complete CVOL). Contact Kathy at X236.

Assist in a Family Program Formation Class 1/mo-If you assist in a monthly classroom for the year (Sundays, 11 AM-11:50 AM, October-March) you will receive 2 faith builder credits. Contact Kathy at X236.

Catholic Vision of Love Home Study Curriculum- Available online on the parish website. Must be completed with a parent. Review test submitted to Kathy for credit (must score above 80%). 1 credit given after completed, one additional credit may be earned if student goes to confession after completing the course.

First Friday Mass and Adoration- Come to 8 PM Mass on the first Friday of any month and stay for at least 30 minutes of Adoration (the Blessed Sacrament is exposed throughout the night every first Friday of the month following Mass). (1 credit)

Volunteer as a baby-sitter in the Nursery -Parent must accompany their middle schooler for one training session (in the Nursery) before you are scheduled.. Volunteers needed to help with child care during the 5 PM Mass on Saturday or the 9 AM or 11 AM Mass on Sunday. (Note: you are needed in the Nursery for the entire hour and will not be able to participate in Mass during this time). Contact Bonnie Dollin, Nursery Coordinator, @ 724-935-2104 X230 (1 credit-must volunteer at least 2 times, must pre-register to receive training and scheduled work days. May earn a total of 2 credits for assisting four times in the Nursery.)

Altar Server Ministry - Contact Deacon Tom Lopus X 226 for training (1 credit for the year-must serve regularly).

Seraphim Singers - Middle School Choir (includes attending all rehearsals and singing at the scheduled Masses). Contact Adele Scherer at X232. (max 2 credits)

Middle School Musician for Mass-Contact Adele Scherer at X232 to schedule an audition. (max 3 credits).

Participation as an actor in Living Nativity- This involves practices on all scheduled dates, plus the performance, Contact: TBD (5 credits, must still complete CVOL)

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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 in the spring of 2012. (5 credits, must still complete CVOL)

Vacation Bible School Volunteer-If you assist with VBS or Maranatha for the week (June 2011) you will receive 2 faith builder credits. Maximum number of credits that can be earned through VBS is THREE (even if you participate in both VBS Programs-we want you to have a "well-rounded" faith builder curriculum.)

Parish Penance Service in Advent and Lent-Dates TBD (1 credit each)

Confession-Go to confession, available every Saturday from 4:00-4:30 PM (1 credit)

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