

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. **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.

Middle School Youth Group- Meets at SSJP in the Cardinal DiNardo Center from 4:00-5:15 PM on Sunday afternoon, 1/month. Spring dates: January 15, February 19, March 18, April 15 & May 20 (1 credit given for gatherings in January, February, March, and April.)

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

This is sponsored by the Diocese. This event does not replace CVOL 8. Event will be held at Seton LaSalle High School. For more information and to register go to <http://www.silverringthing.com>. Note: Transportation will not be provided from the Parish. Parents must attend with their child. (2 credits)

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, Must Attend with a Parent, 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 3- Sunday, March 4, 2012 - Diocesan NET Retreat at Gilmary Retreat Center - For Grades 7 & 8 ONLY

This overnight retreat cost \$80 and registrations are due by February 27, 2012. This retreat will provide participants with a more intense retreat experience by taking them out of their regular environment and helping them to think more seriously about their relationship with God. The overall theme of the retreat is "Made to Be". For more details or for registration form, contact Krissy Brown at X228. (3 Credits)

Thursday, March 8 - Parish NET Retreat at St. John Neumann, 9:00am-3:00pm

This retreat is for all Middle School Students (Grades 6-8) from both Sts. John and Paul and St. John Neumann. More details to come! (2 Credits)

Friday, March 23 Catholic Vision of Love Retreat at SSJP, Grade 8, 9 AM-3 PM

Students must pre-register. Contact Kathy at X236 (2 credits)

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. (1 credit)

Saturdays - 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. Chaperones needed. Students must pre-register. Dates: 1/21/12, 2/18/12, 3/17/12, 4/21/12 (1 credit)

Angels' Place in Brookline, Swissvale, or North Side-Please consider volunteering (student/parent team) at one of their three locations. They need help with organizing donations, gardening/weeding, cleaning/cooking, filing/sorting. Arrange a day/time that works for your family and one of the locations above. www.angelsplaceph.org (1 credit for every 2 hours of service)

Additional Faith Builder Opportunities

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)

Review videos for our Parish Library- We have a number of videos for our weekly Faith Formation classes that need to be watched and reviewed, This will help the catechists know the quality (how many stars?) and the audience (what grade level it is appropriate for). You will earn one credit for every 90 minutes (or so) of work. To volunteer for this project please contact Kathy at X236. (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 in the spring of 2012. (5 credits, must still complete CVOL)

Vacation Bible School Volunteer-If you assisted 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-Advent-12/20/11 @ 7:00 PM Lent Date 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)