

SAINTS PETER & PAUL FAITH FORMATION

434 High Street
Ionia, MI 48846
616-527-3575

Direct email: vbooth@ssppcatholic.com

FAITH FORMATION CENTER HOURS

Monday – Friday 8:30 am-3:00 pm.
Or by appointment

SSPP FAITH FORMATION FACULTY

Rev. Thomas Boufford Pastor

Mrs. Vanessa Booth DRE /Youth Ministry/Pastoral Minister

CATECHISTS

Diane Grummet	Welcome to the Lord's table
Sharon VanEtt	Welcome to the Lord's table
Julie Kubiak	Seedlings
Shannon Andrews	Seedlings
Carol Helmer	First Grade
Karen Meyers	First Grade
Amy Pung	Second Grade
Kara Griffith	Second Grade
Dave Blundy	Third & Fourth Grade
	Third & Fourth Grade
Adriana Bailey	Fifth Grade
Lori Bonn	Sixth & Seventh Grade
Yvonne Meyers	Sixth & Seventh Grade
Patricia Martinez	Confirmation Preparation
Hank Knoop	Confirmation Preparation
Alison Hemenway	Confirmation & High School
Kevin Booth	High School

SAINTS PETER & PAUL FAITH FORMATION

ROLE OF THE PARENTS

Parents are called by God to be both teachers and examples of faith. The religious education of our children begins at home because it is at home that they learn about life and love. Indeed, home is often referred to as the “domestic church” because what is learned in church will be internalized only if it is lived at home.

In his letter to families, Pope John Paul II wrote: “Parents are the first and most important educators of their children, and they also possess a fundamental competence in this area; they are educators because they are parents.”

Pope John Paul II

SAINTS PETER & PAUL FAITH FORMATION

MISSION OF THE CATECHIST

The Catechist facilitates the process of faith formation first by echoing the word of God in his or her own life, and second by helping others to do the same.

Each Catechist is important because he or she is a living example dedicated to sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in a classroom setting.

The Catechist learns and grows with adults, families, adolescents, and children, passing on a lived faith.

“The Church awakens and discerns this divine vocation and confers the mission to catechize. The Lord Jesus invites men and women, in a special way, to follow him, teacher and formator of disciples”

(GDC 231)

Catechetical Process involves four steps:

1. *Engaging* the life experiences of the participants
2. *Exploring* the concepts to be taught (Scripture and Tradition)
3. *Reflecting* and integrating the concepts with the lived experience
4. *Responding* with a new way of living

St. Ignatius of Loyola described this as entering through their door but leaving through your door.

SAINTS PETER & PAUL FAITH FORMATION

MINISTERIAL PROGRAM

Catechesis

Catechesis is sharing the whole message of Christianity, the good news of the gospel, with others. It is centered on Jesus Christ and is aimed at all members of the church—adults, youth, children—to deepen and mature their faith. It is much more than instruction about Catholic Christian beliefs; it is also a sharing of personal faith by committed Christians.

Retreat/Days of Reflection

A retreat is a period of time used to step away from the routine activities of life. Many areas of enrichment can be found during a retreat, such as a deepening of prayer, a sense of belonging in the community, interaction with peers, and informal celebrations of the sacraments.

Leadership Formation

We are committed to offer effective ways to help the catechetical ministry thrive through the formation of its leaders. A series of workshops and training sessions will be held each year offering opportunity for personal growth within, but not limited to, the four dimensions:
The Catechist, The Content, The Learner, and The Methods.

Mission Outreach

Students will be encouraged to be actively involved in living the Catholic faith based on the principles of justice and Christian love and service. Students at each grade level will have opportunities to use their talents and gifts to be of service to others within our community and beyond.

Fellowship

Opportunities for activities and fellowship will be offered throughout the year to encourage participation and a sense of belonging to the parish community.

Worship

Students will be taught age appropriate lessons on understanding the Mass. Families presumed active members of Saints Peter and Paul should attend Mass every weekend and holy day of obligation.

SAINTS PETER & PAUL FAITH FORMATION

POLICIES

Faith Formation Student Responsibilities

A class schedule is given to every family allowing adequate notice of all classes and retreats. Students must attend class, come prepared with appropriate materials (folders, handouts, text) and observe the catechist's classroom policies regarding behavior. The following behaviors will not be tolerated: open defiance or disrespect of any catechist, destruction of property, vulgar words or offensive language, verbal or physical fighting.

Students are expected to do written work, listen attentively, ask/answer questions, and participate fully in activities.

We follow the same guidelines as the public school in regards to good hygiene. Students should not come to class if they have signs of lice or any contagious disease.

Discipline Policy

The primary concern of the Faith Formation Center is to provide an atmosphere conducive to learning about our faith for ALL of our students. Actual time spent in class is very limited, so the following discipline policy will be enforced. Inappropriate behavior will result in these consequences:

1. The student will be given a warning from the Catechist.
2. The student will be removed from the classroom to do lessons with the Coordinator of Faith Formation.
3. If the student needs to be removed from the classroom a second time, the student will call the parents to let them know why they have been removed from the classroom. A conference will need to be scheduled between the parents and the Coordinator before the child will be allowed to return to class.

Field Trip Policy

A signed parent permission form will be required from students planning to attend activities not located at SS. Peter & Paul. The Coordinator of Faith Formation or the Catechist planning the activity will assume full supervision responsibility for the duration of the activity.

Attendance Policy

Students must attend class, come prepared, and be on time. If your child will be late or absent, please notify the Catechist or call the Faith Formation Center at 527-3575. It is also important that students are picked up from class on time since many of our catechists attend the 11:00am mass. This policy will help ensure our students' safety.

Attendance is especially important during sacramental years. A series of absences could result in a delay of receiving the sacrament due to lack of commitment and lack of adequate preparation.

Inclement Weather

In the event of inclement weather conditions, cancellations will be announced through the television station: WOOD TV – Channel 8

SAINTS PETER & PAUL FAITH FORMATION

SACRAMENTS

Sacramental Preparation Requirements

Families requesting sacramental preparation must be registered members of Saints Peter & Paul Parish.

Families requesting sacramental preparation must have their child enrolled in religion classes the year prior to, and the year during which the sacrament is to be received. Families requesting sacramental preparation need to attend a minimum of one parent/candidate meeting.

Students must attend scheduled retreats.

Baptism Preparation

To request Baptism for your child, please call Vanessa Booth at 527-3575 to begin the process.

Reconciliation Preparation

Gods Love and Forgiveness Retreat will be offered to our Second Grade students on January 17th and January 19, 2012, in preparation for Reconciliation.

All students in grades 3-12 will received the Sacrament at least one time during class during the seasons of Advent & Lent.

First Eucharist

Preparation for the Sacrament of First Eucharist takes place in grades 1 and 2.

A special retreat day will be held at Saints Peter & Paul School on

Friday, May 3rd, 2013; all students are expected to attend all classes and retreats. Students receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist in the 2nd grade on May 5, 2013.

Confirmation

Preparation for Confirmation is a two year process beginning in the 8th grade.

Candidates are required to attend Sunday morning scheduled classes in addition to the Candidate/Sponsor meetings; please see the yearly calendar for exact dates. **All** candidates are required to attend **all classes and retreats**.

The Confirmation Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of Saint Andrews at 3:00pm on Sunday, October 14th.

SAINTS PETER & PAUL FAITH FORMATION CURRICULUM

Welcome to God's Family (Baptism Preparation for older students)

Sadlier

Our Catholic Faith and We are the Church

Welcome to the Lord's table (First Eucharist & Reconciliation Preparation for older students)

Sadlier

Our Catholic Faith

Our Sunday Visitor

Joy, Joy the Mass: Our Family Celebration

Seedlings (4 & 5 year olds)

Sadlier

We Believe

Our Sunday Visitor Publishing Division

I Am Special

Elementary & Jr. High

Sadlier

We Believe

Jr. High Supplement Material

Harcourt Religion Publishers

Living Our Faith – God, Church, Jesus, Morality

William H. Sadlier, Inc.

Faith and Witness: Creed, Liturgy and Worship, Morality

The Spirit Sets Us Free

High School

Ave Maria Press

Encountering Jesus in the New Testament

Our Catholic Faith: Living What We Believe

Our Sacramental Life: Living and worshipping with Christ

Catholic Essentials: An Overview of the Faith

Sacramental Preparation

Ave Maria Press

Confirmation - Send Out Your Spirit

Confirmation – Filled with the Holy Spirit, they proclaimed the Lord Jesus

Loyola Press

Confirmed in the Spirit

RCL Benziger

Eucharist: We Give Thanks and Praise

Reconciliation

Pauline Books & Media

Jesus Brings Us Life

Pflaum Publishing Group

Together in Jesus – Reconciliation

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN

Liturgy of the Word with Children is a worship experience geared especially for children.

It mirrors the worship experience of the larger community, with a style that is engaging and interactive.

Liturgy of the Word with Children is not formal religious education, nor is it intended to substitute for attendance at religious education sessions. It works as a partner to religious education programs. Both are important for a child's spiritual development, just as continuing faith formation and growth in spirituality is important for adults.

Scheduling Coordinator: Barb Montgomery

Parish Coordinator: Vanessa Booth

Hispanic Mass Coordinator: Sr. Kit Kaiser

Liturgy of the Word for Children is offered during all of the following Masses

5:30 p.m.

Saturday Evening Mass

9:00 or 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Morning Mass

1:00 p.m.

Sunday Hispanic Mass