

# **MONDAY FAITH BUILDING STARTS WITH US**

**Welcome Monday Families and Catechists**



# CONNECTING WITH FAMILIES

- Email is the first means of reaching families, so please let the office know when an email address changes.
- Phone. We call periodically, including when classes are cancelled on short notice. Please insure faith formation has all new/changed phone numbers, including those of emergency contacts.
- Text to 716-812-8063. Please introduce yourself so I know with whom I'm texting.
- Go to SSPP parish website, choose Faith Formation link at top of the home page, scroll down Faith Formation page.
- Link to Faith Formation Web Page: <https://sspphamburg.org/faith-formation>
- What Faith Formation no longer uses: physical mail, which has become too expensive and labor intensive.



# WEATHER!

- When the weather is bad, Saints Peter and Paul Faith Formation uses TV-channels 2, 4, & 7 and radio WBEN 930AM to announce class cancellations.
- Cancellation announcements will be made by 5 am on the day of morning classes.
- If morning classes are cancelled, evening classes on that same day are cancelled as well.
- If Hamburg cancels after school activities, evening Faith Formation is automatically cancelled. This policy applies particularly to Monday evening classes. Even if the Faith Formation closing notice isn't posted promptly, go with the Hamburg closing.
- Email notifications are also used. Please make sure all updated email addresses on are file with Faith Formation.
- **Please do not call the rectory!**



# DISMISSAL & LATE PICK UPS

- All students are dismissed from the front doors (or the main entrance) of the school, located on Pine St.
- Cars enter & exit using the driveway to parking lot 2 (the Pine Street lot).
- Drop offs are at the Pine Street doors to the school. Please do not drop students off in the parking lot.
- Parents are asked to come to the school doors to pick up students after classes.
- Catechists will walk their classes to the front door.
- If a parent is delayed in picking up a student, that student will be waiting in the Faith Formation office, room 102 and parents will need to come into the building for late pick ups.



# EARLY DISMISSAL & CARPOOLING

## Early Dismissal

- While early dismissal is allowed, the strong preference is that students are present for the entire class.
- Early Dismissal...
  - interrupts learning and the faith formation experience. Catechists and students gather together two hours a week for faith sharing.
  - is a disruption to the rest of the class and the catechist.
- If early dismissal for a student is needed...
  - notification is required before class starts via a note or an email.
  - notification before class allows the list of early dismissals to be shared with catechists beforehand so students will be ready when parents arrive.
- Early dismissal students must be picked up in the Faith Formation office in room 102.
  - Parent or guardian must sign their child out upon pick up.
  - **No pick ups of early dismissal students from classrooms.**

## Carpooling

- Any parent picking up a child other than their own needs a written, signed note from the child's parent or guardian.
- It is Faith Formation policy that we do not release children to anyone other than the child's parents without written and signed authorization.



# MEDICAL SITUATIONS

- Every family is asked to provide three emergency contact numbers on registration forms.
- Faith Formation staff first try to reach parents or guardians using all the family phone numbers provided.
- Then we try emergency contacts in the order they are given on registration forms.
- Children who are sick and waiting for parent pick up will be in the Faith Formation office, room 102.
- In case of injury or accident, if the situation seems less urgent, parents, guardians or emergency contacts will be called for pick up.
- For very urgent situations, Faith Formation staff will call emergency services.
- Faith Formation staff and catechists do not administer medicine or medical treatment.



# SPECIAL SITUATIONS

## PLEASE LET FAITH FORMATION KNOW ABOUT....

- Physical accommodations.
- Allergies.
- Learning needs.
- Emotional considerations.
- Changes or challenges with the family schedule. We can usually work something out.
- Family changes, such as new siblings or the death of a relative.
- Family arrangements, such as custody arrangements or any other legal situation about which you believe we should be aware.



# CLASSROOM DECORUM

- The goal is for everyone to have a positive, enjoyable classtime.
- The best way to achieve classroom decorum is for parents to chat with their students about it in advance.
- Frame conversation in terms of respect for catechists and classmates.
- Catechists are all volunteers from this parish. They deserve all our respect and gratitude. Catechists are in charge of classrooms while teaching.
- Cell phones. Use during class is not allowed and catechists may choose to collect cell phones from students before class and return them at the end of class.
- Students may not leave the building during class.
- We share classrooms with school teachers and students. Please, let's be the best of good citizens.





# CHANGES ON THE HORIZON

- Gradual modification of Monday format to activity-based, with volunteers from families to help prepare and present activities.
- Would like parent thoughts now.
- Classroom option will remain for Sunday.
- Surveys have been used in the past and were very helpful. We'll use them again.
- Focus group for more detailed planning. Would you like to participate in focus group?



# WHY WE'RE HERE

- Sharing and strengthening faith.
- Learning about our Catholic identity.
- Moral formation.
- Live the Beatitudes, service to others.
- Support and affirm you as parents.



# FAITH SHARING

- Share faith as a community
- Express faith through community service to others \*

- Prayer life and attending Mass \*

\* A note about community service and Mass reflection sheets.

## Service Hours

NAME	DATE
LOCATION _____	HOURS _____
SUPERVISOR NAME _____	SIGNATURE _____
WHOM DID YOU SERVE? _____	
_____	
HOW DID YOU SERVE? _____	
_____	
IN WHAT WAYS DID YOU GET TO BE CHRIST TO THOSE YOU SERVED? _____	
_____	
IN WHAT WAYS DID YOU SEE CHRIST IN THOSE YOU SERVED? _____	
_____	

## Mass Reflection

*"The Mass is the most perfect form of prayer!"*  
— Pope Paul VI

NAME	MONTH		
DATE _____	TIME _____	CHURCH _____	HOMELIST _____
HOW ARE THE SCRIPTURES RELEVANT IN MY LIFE? _____			
_____			
_____			
DATE _____	TIME _____	CHURCH _____	HOMELIST _____
HOW ARE THE SCRIPTURES RELEVANT IN MY LIFE? _____			
_____			
_____			
DATE _____	TIME _____	CHURCH _____	HOMELIST _____
HOW ARE THE SCRIPTURES RELEVANT IN MY LIFE? _____			
_____			
_____			



# MORE ON COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Service is a tenet of Catholic Social Teaching and has biblical roots. It's also a way to meet others, enjoy new experiences, and form a sense of community. Most of the work done at a parish is done by volunteers! Community service for youth helps families see how a parish works.
- Service for faith formation is parish-focused. That means it is one of these things: part of a parish ministry, on the parish campus, or an activity the parish sponsors or organizes. Parish-focused service doesn't require every activity to take place here at SSPP.
- Middle school students perform ten hours of service yearly.
- There are many ways to find out about community service opportunities. This calendar is only one way. Watch for emails from Sarah. Read the bulletin – it's available online, on the parish website, even if you aren't at mass. Would families like the bulletin emailed to them weekly? Make a regular commitment to a ministry (altar servers, catechist helpers, youth choir, greeters).
- Please turn in service sheets by the end of the faith formation class year (June 30). Turning them in as you complete your service is even better. If you would like to use service at SSPP for school, NHS, Scouts, please let us know, we are happy to sign off for you.
- All service opportunities on this calendar are by sign up to [faith-formation@sspphamburg.org](mailto:faith-formation@sspphamburg.org) Often activities have limits on the number of participants and some are family (parent/child) opportunities.



# CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY SERVICE THROUGH FAITH FORMATION

## ○ September

- Saturday Sept 29 Family Community Service @ 9 am - noon, Hamburg Sanctuary clean up with SSPP Care for Creation Committee.

## ○ October

- Monday Oct 9 Columbus Day - Community Service at Response to Love @ 9 - noon.
- Saturday Oct 27 class grades 1-5 @ 9 am – 11 am. Care for Creation activity day in Cafeteria. Community service opportunity.
- Sunday Oct 28 class grades 1-5 @ 10:15 am – noon. Care for Creation activity day in Cafeteria. Community service opportunity.

## ○ November

- Monday Nov 12 Veterans Day - Community Service at Response to Love @ 9 - noon.
- Saturday Nov 17 Joint YM/FF Poinsettia Sale ordering begins, for community service visits to residents of Elderwood Lakewood and Elderwood Rosewood assisted living and nursing home.
- Sunday Nov 18 Joint YM/FF Poinsettia Sale ordering begins, for community service visits to residents of Elderwood Lakewood and Elderwood Rosewood assisted living and nursing home.
- Friday Nov 23 Community Service at Elderwood Rosewood.
- Monday Nov 26 Last day to order poinsettias for Elderwood community service visits.

## ○ December

- Saturday Dec 1 Joint YM/FF Poinsettia Sale pick up for community service visits to residents of Elderwood Lakewood and Elderwood Rosewood assisted living and nursing home.
- Sunday Dec 2 Joint YM/FF Poinsettia Sale pick up for community service visits to residents of Elderwood Lakewood and Elderwood Rosewood assisted living and nursing home.
- Saturday Dec 1 Community service caroling at Creek Bend Heights @ 10:30 and community service caroling, tree decorating, gift wrapping at Elderwood Rosewood @ 11:30 to 1 pm.
- During Christmas break community service at Harvest House, date TBD.
- Saturday Dec 29 Three Kings Pageant in Church @ 2 and party in gym @ 2:30, community service as stage crew, ushers and helping serve at party.

## ○ January

- Monday Jan 21 Martin Luther King Day Community Service at Response To Love and/or Elderwood Rosewood.

## ○ February

- Monday Feb 18 Presidents Day Community Service at Elderwood Rosewood.

## ○ March

- Wednesday March 20 Community Service usher at First Penance @ 6:30 pm.

## ○ April

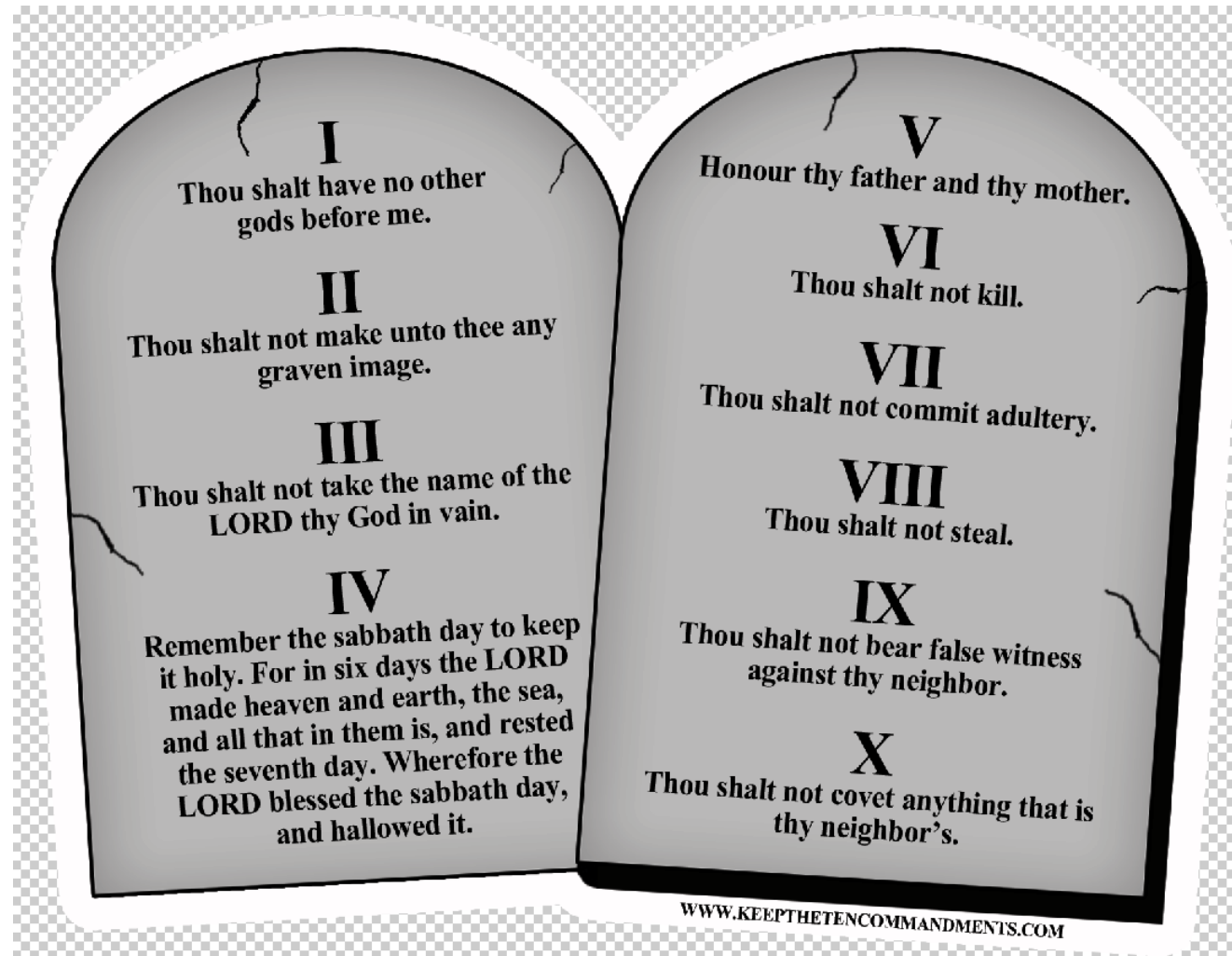
- During Holy Week and Spring Break Community Service dates TBD. Locations include South Buffalo Community Table, Response to Love, Harvest House, Habitat for Humanity.
- Saturday April 20 Community Service Easter Egg Hunt/Ice Cream Social at Elderwood Rosewood.
- Wednesday April 24 Community Service weed and mulch parish grounds, runs through remainder of April.

## ○ May

- Saturday May 11 Mothers Day hanging basket sale before and after 4 pm mass. Community service opportunity.
- Sunday May 12 Mothers Day hanging basket sale before and after all masses (7:30 am, 9:15 am, 10:45 am, 12:15 pm, 5 pm) Community service opportunity.



# MORAL FORMATION



# LIVE THE BEATITUDES

**Blessed are the poor in spirit,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are they who mourn,  
for they shall be comforted.**

**Blessed are the meek,  
for they shall inherit the earth.**

**Blessed are they who hunger and  
thirst for righteousness,  
for they shall be satisfied.**

**Gospel of St. Matthew 5:3-10**

**Blessed are the merciful,  
for they shall obtain mercy.**

**Blessed are the pure of heart,  
for they shall see God.**

**Blessed are the peacemakers,  
for they shall be called children of God.**

**Blessed are they who are persecuted for  
the sake of righteousness,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven."**

**Gospel of St. Matthew 5:3-10**



# SUPPORT AND AFFIRM YOU AS PARENTS

- Parents are the first catechist to their children. Can we help you with materials for prayer, devotions or Bible study?
- Family religious involvement benefits teens and adults, and strengthens the whole family.
- We want to help families share their faith and the Gospel. To that end, we want suggestions from you !





# MONDAY FAITH FORMATION TEAM

- Grade 6 – 209
  - Catechist: Kathleen Brown
  - Co-catechist: Robin Ebner
- Combined Grades 7 & 8 – Room 201
  - Catechist: Pat Stanton
  - Co-catechist: Evelyn Grifa



# CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING

We are in need of a catechist for Sunday grade 1; and Sunday morning co-catechists for grades 2, 3, & 4.

