

**ST. JOSEPH
PARISH
SCHOOL
OF
RELIGION**

**FAMILY
HANDBOOK**

2010-11



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PSR ADVISORY BOARD

President:	Kristin Crayton	Ex Officio members:	Fr. Thomas Santen
Vice President:			Michelle Foster
Secretary:			Fran Nieburg
Members:	Cecilia Ogle Laurie Thier Nancy Hogan Mary Kay Lofgren Maureen Robinson Mary Beth Roy Grace Rotermund Kelly Keller		

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Curriculum Guide

Provided on-line at <http://www.stjoemanchester.org/psrdoc/psrcurriculumguide.htm>

PREFACE

Welcome to St. Joseph Parish School of Religion. This family handbook is designed to provide you with the philosophy, policies and procedures of the PSR. It also contains general information that you may find helpful. All policies and procedures are developed in order to promote Catholic Christian teachings and values, to foster a positive learning environment and to ensure student safety. Families are asked to review this handbook together and to keep it as a reference throughout the year.

The ministry of the PSR is to provide formal religious education of our Catholic faith and to nurture a growing relationship with God: Father who loves and creates us, Jesus our brother and Savior, and Holy Spirit who breathes in us the fire of faith. This ministry is extended not only to the children enrolled in this program, but to their families as well. Vatican II reinforced families as the first and foremost experience of the Church community for children. It is in the family (the Domestic Church) that children come to experience faith as a lived response to the presence of God in their lives. It is in the experience of everyday family life that children see and imitate a desire to continue in relationship with Jesus and his Church. Therefore, St. Joseph PSR is dedicated to providing resources and opportunities for families with open houses, regular parent communication, from both the CRE and catechists, parent meetings for sacramental preparation and an open door policy for all comments and concerns. Parents are welcomed and encouraged to meet with me for any further support they may need. The PSR Office is located in the administrative office section of the school building.

Michelle Foster



***“I am the way, and the truth,
and the life; no one comes to
the Father but through me.”***

(John 14:6)

THE PHILOSOPHY OF ST. JOSEPH PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

We believe

Jesus is the reason for our existence. We believe that the Gospel message is central to the integration of religious truths and values with our lived life experiences.

We believe

that the primary responsibility for the faith formation of the child resides within his or her family group. We also believe the total religious education of the child is more effective when family, parish community and the parish religious education program have the same vision, speak the same language and are jointly committed to seeking the Kingdom of God. We call our children and their parents to seek the Kingdom of God through attention to **WORD, WORSHIP, SERVICE AND COMMUNITY**. Through the experience of liturgical catechesis (word/worship) and socialization (service/community) we assist both children and parents as they seek Jesus in the everyday experiences of their lives.

MISSION STATEMENT

Believing in and relying on the love and guidance of God; Father, Son and Spirit, St. Joseph Parish School of Religion joyfully proclaims the good news of Jesus Christ. Our mission is to promote and encourage a life-long relationship with Christ and the Catholic Church.

We welcome all, as Jesus would, adapting to meet each individual's needs, learning styles and faith experiences. We strive to fulfill this mission in partnership with parents. We affirm and support parents as they guide their children to a fuller knowledge, understanding and participation in the sacraments, prayer, worship, stewardship and community life of the Catholic Church and of St. Joseph parish.

Through our joyous faith sharing, families are brought together to share in the life-long opportunities to know God, share the message of Jesus and to help each young person to discover what it means in his/her life to live in a unique personal relationship with the Lord and his Church.

We pray for God's grace, Christ's love and the gifts of the Holy Spirit to accomplish this mission.

ADMISSIONS & REGISTRATION

St. Joseph Parish School of Religion is open to all registered families of St. Joseph Parish whose children either attends public schools or are home schooled. **Families must be registered in the parish before enrolling their children in the Parish School of Religion.** Exceptions can only be made if the non-registered family acquires a letter of permission from their parish priest or Coordinator of Parish School of Religion.

Registration begins in April for Early Discounts. Registration must be completed and filed in the Religious Education Office before the child can be admitted to class. The child's baptismal certificate must be on file in the Religious Education Office if the child was not baptized at St. Joseph. If the child was baptized at St. Joseph, the baptismal date must be submitted. **PSR fees are as follows:**

SUNDAY PRE-SCHOOL PSR - Age 3 (by Aug 1 of that school year) through Kindergarten

Please note that the Pre-school and the Parish School of Religion are two separate programs, and so if a family has children in both programs, two separate payments must be made. The fee for the Pre-school must be paid in full at time of registration.

	<u>Sunday Tuition Rates</u>	<u>Early Discount</u> <small>if paid before 5/31 of current year</small>
1 child	85.00	65.00
2 children	145.00	125.00
3+children	200.00	185.00

****This fee includes books and all supplies and is non-refundable.

MONDAY PSR – Grades 1- 8

Registration fees are shown below.

Families who register on or before **May 31, of the current year** are eligible for a **\$ 50.00 discount.**

Families have two payment options:

- 1) Full payment of tuition at time of registration – entitles families to an **additional 10% off fee**
- 2) Automatic withdrawals from your checking or savings account to be paid in four equal installments. **The first installment is due by check upon registration. The September, October, and November payments will be withdrawn from your bank account on the 17th.**

Please note that the Pre-school and the Parish School of Religion are two separate programs, and so if a family has children in both programs, two separate payments must be made.

EARLY REGISTRATION DISCOUNT

*THESE RATES APPLY ONLY IF REGISTRATION IS COMPLETED BEFORE **MAY 31, of current year***

MONDAY TUITION RATES

	Tuition	Installment plan (4 payments)	Paid in full discount (10%)		Early registration discount (\$50 off if pd before 5/31)	Installment plan (4 payments)	Paid in full discount (10%)
1 child	200.00	50.00	180.00		150.00	37.50	135.00
2 children	290.00	72.50	261.00		240.00	60.00	216.00
3+ children	375.00	93.75	337.50		325.00	81.25	292.50

****This fee includes books and supplies. This fee is non-refundable and the first installment is due upon registration.

PSR HOME SCHOOL FEE

	Tuition	If paid after May 31, of current year
1 child	40.00	50.00

2 children	55.00	65.00
3+ children	65.00	75.00

**** This fee includes student books, meetings with CRE and all mailings, etc. This fee is non-refundable and is due upon registration.

PROGRAMS

St. Joseph Parish School of Religion provides both formal religious education and faith growth opportunities for children grades Pre-K through grade 8 who are either enrolled in public school or are home schooled. The PSR follows the Archdiocesan guidelines for Parish School of Religion programs. All policies and procedures flow from these guidelines. They are designed to ensure Catholic education and faith development in safe and positive learning environments. As per these guidelines, St. Joseph PSR meets at least 33 times a year. An annual calendar is available on the St. Joseph website. www.stjoemanchester.org

These are brief overviews of the various programs PSR offers:

Pre-school – Kindergarten This program is offered for all parish children, age 3 (by Aug 1 of current year) through Kindergarten. These sessions meet on Sunday morning, from 9:00-10:00. The focus of this program is to familiarize the children with very basic terminology, concept of being created and loved by God, and the Church year. Age-appropriate prayer services are held throughout the year. The text series is Faith First, RCL.

Grade 1 – 8 This is a classroom-structured formal religious education program. It is held on Monday evening from 4:30 – 5:45 p.m. OR 6:15 - 7:30 p.m. in St. Joseph School building. These classes also provide various liturgies and reconciliation services, which all students are expected to attend. (See calendar for dates.) These classes meet a minimum of 33 weeks. The textbook series used are Grades 1-6 use RCL (Resources for Christian Living), Faith First series, Legacy Parish edition, copyright 2006. Grades 7 & 8 use Call to Faith, Harcourt, Brown & ROA, copyright 2002.

Special Needs Classes/Program - It is our desire to provide quality religious education, sacramental preparation and a living faith for children with special learning needs. These classes are held only during our Monday 6:15 p.m. session. We have a high ratio of teacher/helpers to students and work with parents to help the children benefit in the best possible way during faith formation in PSR. Our primary goal is for children to know that God loves them.

Home Study The option of Home Study is provided for those who wish to provide formal religious education within the family context. Families meet with the PSR Coordinator several times throughout the year. The Home Study option is also available for families whose children cannot learn in a classroom setting. Information about this program is available from the coordinator upon request. In order to assure that the Home Study program remains a worthwhile venture and that quality religious education takes place, we expect that families who choose this option to take seriously the commitment of sharing their faith with their children. Confidential parish grants are available to cover the full cost of tuition therefore this option is not to be used based on financial considerations. Families in the Home Study are part of the PSR Program. You are invited and encouraged to take part in the Liturgies, Reconciliation Services and all other PSR events and family events. Enrollment into the Home Study Program includes: textbooks and home study guides; scheduled prayer and progress meetings; monthly PSR Family Newsletter and all PSR communications; support and resource for families choosing this option. Home study families with children preparing to celebrate sacraments are responsible for the catechesis (religious education) of their children. These families are expected to participate in extracurricular activities offered for all children and families preparing for their sacrament.

Parents/Families Opportunities are offered throughout the year for parents and families to grow in faith, knowledge and experience. Watch the *PSR Family Newsletter* for information.

Sacramental Programs

Children who are not baptized are to be enrolled in RCIC, and children who are baptized, but have had no prior religious education will be enrolled into the appropriate grade level and will be enrolled in RCIC to provide them with appropriate material necessary for them to prepare the child for the reception of sacraments. PSR partners with parents in the preparation of their children for the sacraments.

An integral part of the Sacramental program is meetings for parents. These meetings give us an opportunity to focus on the meaning and power of these sacraments. **AT LEAST ONE PARENT IS REQUIRED TO ATTEND THESE MEETINGS.** Parental involvement is further encouraged through a variety of activities, which are described at the meetings. Regular attendance at Mass is a concrete way of living out our commitment to worship with our parish faith community. Therefore, regular attendance at Mass, as well as PSR classes, is a vital necessity for the children who are being led to fuller participation in the Church life, especially through the reception of First Communion.

First Reconciliation and Eucharist Preparation for the reception of the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist occurs in the second grade. This preparation is the core of the first and second grade curriculums, which will include a retreat for both first, Forgiveness Festival, and second, First Communion Retreat. The sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated in the winter, and First Eucharist is celebrated during the Easter season. Sacraments are by their very nature parish celebrations so children from both St. Joseph School and St. Joseph PSR will celebrate the reception of these sacraments together.

All children must have celebrated the sacrament of Baptism prior to celebrating First Eucharist. If the child was not baptized at St. Joseph Parish in Manchester, then the child's baptismal certificate **MUST** be on file in the Religious Education Office.

Confirmation The sacrament of Confirmation is celebrated in the fall of eighth grade. Confirmation preparation is two years, beginning in 7th grade. Retreats and service opportunities are an integral part of the Confirmation preparation which you can be informed of in the Parents Newsletter. Catechesis on the sacrament is done in the 7th grade with a review in fall of eighth grade.

PROGRAM GUIDELINES AND EXPECTATIONS

Absenteeism - Regular class attendance is strongly encouraged. A record of attendance will be kept on file during the child's enrollment. Frequent absences make it difficult for children to master the material designated for that grade level. Parents are asked to contact the teacher if there have been frequent absences (two or three consecutive absences due to illness) so that the parent can supplement at home what has been lost from the classes missed. Work missed during absence is responsibility of parents to contact PSR catechists for make up work for their child.

If a child is to be absent, the parent must call the PSR office at 391-1404, by 3pm of that day.

Tardiness - Our time together at PSR consists of 75 minutes a week for a minimum of 33 weeks. Therefore, it is imperative that students are prepared for class on time. A child will be marked tardy if he/she arrives after the 6:15 bell. Records will be kept by teachers and reported

to the CRE. Excessive tardiness will result in contact with parents to determine the situation. Any student arriving tardy must go to the office first to pick up a tardy slip to be accepted into class.

Field Trips - Field trips that add meaning to the program must be approved by CRE. Student must have returned sign consent forms before attending any field trip.

Early Dismissal - Early dismissal of a child will be permitted ONLY after checking in with the office and completion of Early Dismissal Form. Parents, or the designated adult, may then go to the classroom for the child. Children will not be dismissed from class without an adult. Notification to the Religious Education Office should be made if a child is withdrawing from the program.

Change of Address - Please contact the PSR office if your address, email, and/or your home, work or emergency phone number contact changes during the year.

Supplies - Textbooks, writing instruments, paper, etc. is provided by PSR. Texts and necessary materials are to be brought to each class. In the event that a textbook is lost, a \$25.00 replacement fee will be charged for a replacement book for the student.

Classroom Visitors – All classroom visitors, students or guest speakers, will need to follow procedures. Student visitors in a class must have a waiver/permission slip signed and turned into the PSR office prior to the visit. Guest speakers will need to be previously approved by CRE and will need to sign in at the PSR office prior to going to a classroom.

Classroom Treats - Everyone enjoys treats, especially at birthdays or special occasions. Again, our time here in PSR is limited so, please, if you do wish to bring treats, clear it with your child's catechist first. As per concerns over Hepatitis, the Archdiocese requests that all snacks be pre-packaged. All treats should be as non-messy as possible. Our catechists, who must clean up the room after class, thank you! Please keep any information on food allergies for your child's class in mind when purchasing.

Communication - Open lines of communication are important to the success of the program. Parental questions and concerns are always welcome. Please contact the CRE. All families will receive the monthly PSR Family Newsletter, at the last week of each month via email. Other materials/flyers may come home for parish community activities. Catechists are encouraged to share what is happening in your child's classroom with you. If there is a question, or concern, parents may contact the catechist through the PSR office. Many catechists will give you their email and will do their own classroom communication to parents.

Progress Reports - The Archdiocesan Report card, designed for the use of PSR, is mailed home. Copies are kept in your child's permanent file. If your child applies to a Catholic high school, we will send the school a copy of the permanent file. Students are not graded on their faith, which is a personal relationship with God. Students will be graded on knowledge, participation, behavior and homework.

Emergency Procedures - In case of accident or severe illness 911 will be contacted immediately, and then the child's parent will be notified. If a parent cannot be reached, we will contact the individuals you have listed as your emergency contacts. To expedite contact, please provide cell phone and pager numbers on the student data form and keep them updated with any changes throughout the year. Communicate all changes to the PSR secretary.

Tornado, Earthquake and Fire Drills - In emergencies such as fire or tornado, teachers will give directions for evacuation and/or other safety measures. A fire drill will be conducted once a

year with the catechists practicing tornado and earthquake drills in their classroom on the same date.

Class Cancellations - You will be notified, via computerized phone chain, of any cancellations due to inclement weather. A message will also be left on the PSR answering machine. **DO NOT CALL THE RECTORY.**

DISCIPLINE

In all of our dealings with the children, the overriding virtue binding us together is genuine love, which leads to concern and respect for one another. Our disciplinary policies are in keeping with this virtue.

Catechists will provide general classroom rules to your children. They will discuss these rules thoroughly with the children and assign appropriate consequences. The catechist, with the support of the parents, challenge the young person to grow in the faith and develop a healthy Christian acceptance and respect for self, others and property. If a behavior problem occurs, the catechist will call you to discuss the problem and possible solutions. Your suggestions in terms of what works for your child are always helpful. If this step fails, the child will be sent to the CRE who will arrange for the appropriate intervention. Three interventions with the CRE and the child will be removed from the program for the year and will have to complete the year at home. If the child completes the year's work at home, s/he will be welcome back for the next year of PSR.

It is never the intent to deny religious education to any child, regardless of learning disabilities or disciplinary actions. Rather, the child may be removed from the classroom setting and the parents provided the necessary resources for Home Study.

CHRISTIAN BEHAVIOR

- ◆ We respect others in our parish community.
- ◆ We show good learning behavior and contribute to a good learning and faith-sharing environment.
- ◆ We treat parish property as personal property and in an appropriate manner.
- ◆ We behave in a manner that promotes the safety of self and others.

We state in our philosophy that Jesus is the center of our faith and the center of this Parish School of Religion. Therefore, we also hold that Jesus is the role model that all members of this educational community; administrators, catechists, students and parents, pattern their behavior after. We are bound together, by virtue of our faith, as the Body of Christ. As members of His body, we have certain rights and responsibilities. In order ensure a positive and productive learning and faith-sharing environment, all need to understand and accept these rights and responsibilities.

Rights and Responsibilities

I have the right to a formal religious education and to learn about Jesus and His Catholic Church. **THEREFORE...**I have the responsibility to come prepared to learn about Jesus and His Church.

I have the right to be treated with dignity and respect. **THEREFORE...**I have the responsibility to treat others with dignity and respect.

I have the right to be the unique individual God had created. **THEREFORE...**I have the responsibility to be considerate and kind to others, as unique individuals God has created.

I have the right to be safe while attending the Parish School of Religion. **THEREFORE...**I have the responsibility to make this school safe

I have the right to expect personal property to be safe. **THEREFORE...**I have the responsibility to not take or destroy the property of others.

I have the right to utilize parish property. **THEREFORE...**I have the responsibility not to damage or misuse parish property.

I have the right to hear and be heard. **THEREFORE...**I have the responsibility to maintain a peaceful environment.

Expected Behaviors - Based on this code, students are expected to exhibit the following behaviors:

In Church, students will

- ◆ Enter and exit quietly
- ◆ Participate in the Liturgy or Prayer Service
- ◆ Display reverent behavior at all times
- ◆ Are attentive and courteous

In the Classroom, students will

- ◆ Show respect for teachers, aides and classmates
- ◆ Are prompt and prepared for class
- ◆ Follow classroom directions and rules.
- ◆ Are respectful of property belonging to parish and others.

In the hallways, students will

- ◆ Walk to their destination
- ◆ Maintain order so as not to disturb others
- ◆ Refrain from sliding on banisters

Consequences - Students are responsible for their own behavior, their own choices. Should they make an inappropriate choice, consequences will include, but are not limited to; name on

the board, phone calls home by catechist, visiting the Office, phone calls home by Coordinator, conferences with parents, students, catechist and Coordinator.

Dress Code

“Students are expected to present a proper and appropriate appearance and dress in a manner with will not disrupt the educational process. Students’ health, safety and modesty are always factors used in establishing dress guidelines. For reasons of health and safety shoes must be worn at all times. Items of clothing promoting and/or displaying illegal drugs, alcoholic beverages, tobacco, narcotics, profanity, weapons, or any other design considered to be prejudicial to the good order within the school of religion are prohibited. Midriiffs, tank tops, halters, short skirts, short shorts, and sagging pants are not appropriate for the religion classroom setting. Hats, caps, bandanas, scarves, coats, and sunglasses may not be worn in the building. Any roller shoes are not to be worn on the school premises. A catechist or administrator may determine a student’s attire to be inappropriate, and consequences may result.”

(Policy formed by PSR Parent Advisory Board and Administration 2006)

Program Safety Information

The safety of children is paramount. It is the responsibility of the PSR to establish procedures to ensure the safety of all students the entire time they are on parish property. All procedures that are established are for the safety of every child, which is our first and foremost concern. A particular challenge of evening PSR is arrival and dismissal, especially in terms of darkness and traffic safety patterns.

Security Procedure - Building security has become critically important in light of incidents throughout the country. For the safety of the children, only the office and gym doors will be open during Sunday morning sessions. On Monday evening, the gym door will be locked promptly at 6:30 and the only means of entry will be through the main entrance, marked with a “3”.

Safety Calls - For the safety of every child we will make safety calls to home for every absence to make sure every student is accounted for. THEREFORE, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT EVERY PARENT CALLS IN THEIR ABSENT CHILD SO AS TO MAKE THIS LIGHT WORK FOR OUR PARENT VOLUNTEERS! We will leave a message on a machine or talk to a parent for each absent child.

Weapon Policy - In order to provide a safe environment, the carrying or possession of any type of firearm or other dangerous weapon on the premises of St Joseph Church and/or St. Joseph School/PSR is strictly prohibited. This prohibition expressly includes those persons licensed to carry concealed firearms.

Violence Policy - St. Joseph PSR will provide a safe learning environment for all students, catechists, families and volunteers. We hold that Jesus is the center of all we teach and act. We, therefore, believe that all persons are to be treated with respect in accordance to the gospel values taught and modeled by Jesus.

Violence is contrary to the gospel values that we revere and will not be tolerated. Violence is defined as words, gestures, and actions that result in or have the potential to result in, hurt, threat or injury. Violence includes threats of injury, harassment, assault, possession and/or use of a weapon; and theft or vandalism of property.

Anyone who brings a weapon, or makes threats of a weapon will be reported to local law enforcement. Parents will also be notified. A weapon is defined as any object either designed for causing harm (i.e. firearms, knives) or any object capable of harm that is being used, or threatened to be used in a harmful manner.

Anyone acting in a violent manner, or making threats of a violent nature will face immediate consequences ranging from parent conferences to class suspension (the option of home study would be offered so that a child is not totally removed from religious education). The exact consequences will be determined by the administration and based on the nature and frequency of the offense. *(Passed by Advisory Board 2/20/05)*

Harassment Policy - St. Joseph PSR will maintain an environment that is free from harassment. Harassment demeans an individual and is contrary to the gospel message that Jesus taught and modeled.

Harassment is defined as any unwanted and unwelcome behavior that interferes with a student or catechist's performance or creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive learning environment. Harassment includes physical, visual and sexual forms of behavior or possession of like materials.

Consequences will be determined by the administration in accord with local legal and mental health professions recommendations, along with parental notification and involvement. The nature and frequency of the offense also determines consequences. *(Passed by Advisory Board 2/20/05)*

Communicable Disease Policy - St. Joseph Parish School of Religion will follow the recommended policies and procedures on communicable diseases as established by the Missouri Department of Health, aware of our identity as a Catholic institution and obligation to both common and individual welfare of its students and personnel. *(Passed by Advisory Board 2/02/05)*

Drop Off/ Dismissal Procedures -- Sunday Morning Classes

Arriving children are brought to the classroom by parents. Only the doors by the main entrance, marked with "3", will be open. Children are not to be left in classroom unattended. Children are to be picked up by parents at their classroom door. Students will not be dismissed unless in the care of an adult.

Drop Off/ Dismissal Procedures – Monday Evening Classes

Arriving children are to enter the building by either the main entrance, or the cafeteria entrance (on parking lot). Students who attend class in the rectory basement must be watched by the parent to enter the building for safety. The cafeteria doors are locked for security purposes at 4:45 and 6:30, so if your child is tardy, he/she must enter through the main entrance and proceed first to the office to pick up tardy slip. Students will be directed to the gym until the beginning bell— no student should be in a classroom unattended.

We have established a parking lot procedure for Monday Evening classes. With an enrollment of several hundred students it is imperative that each parent follows a safe and orderly dismissal procedure. In order to accomplish this, and to insure the safety of our children the following procedures have been adopted. Parents will be assigned to assist with dismissal. A calendar will be given at the beginning of the year and reminder telephone calls will be made.

If you are unable to work your assigned time you can trade with another family through the PSR office.

1. Parent volunteers will help supervise dismissal. No students are involved. Arrive at 15 minutes before dismissal bell.
2. ALL traffic must enter the parking lot from the North Entrance **ONLY** (the one-way entrance north of the church). There will be no parking allowed on these north entrance parking spaces.
3. **There will be no parking allowed on St. Joseph Lane.** The Manchester Police can ticket violators.
4. Please use the diagram (on page 14) to determine where you are to park. There are several locations that are designated for NO PARKING.
5. At 5 minutes before dismissal bell **FLAGS WILL GO UP** and the traffic on all entrances will be **STOPPED** so that the children can be dismissed.
6. **TO ENSURE TOTAL SAFETY, IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT NO TRAFFIC MOVES BEFORE THE FLAGS GO DOWN.**
7. We encourage you to turn off your engines and stand outside your car so that your children can find you. Please do not come and crowd the entrance or the lobby area of the school, this impedes the procedure and makes it hard for children to find you!

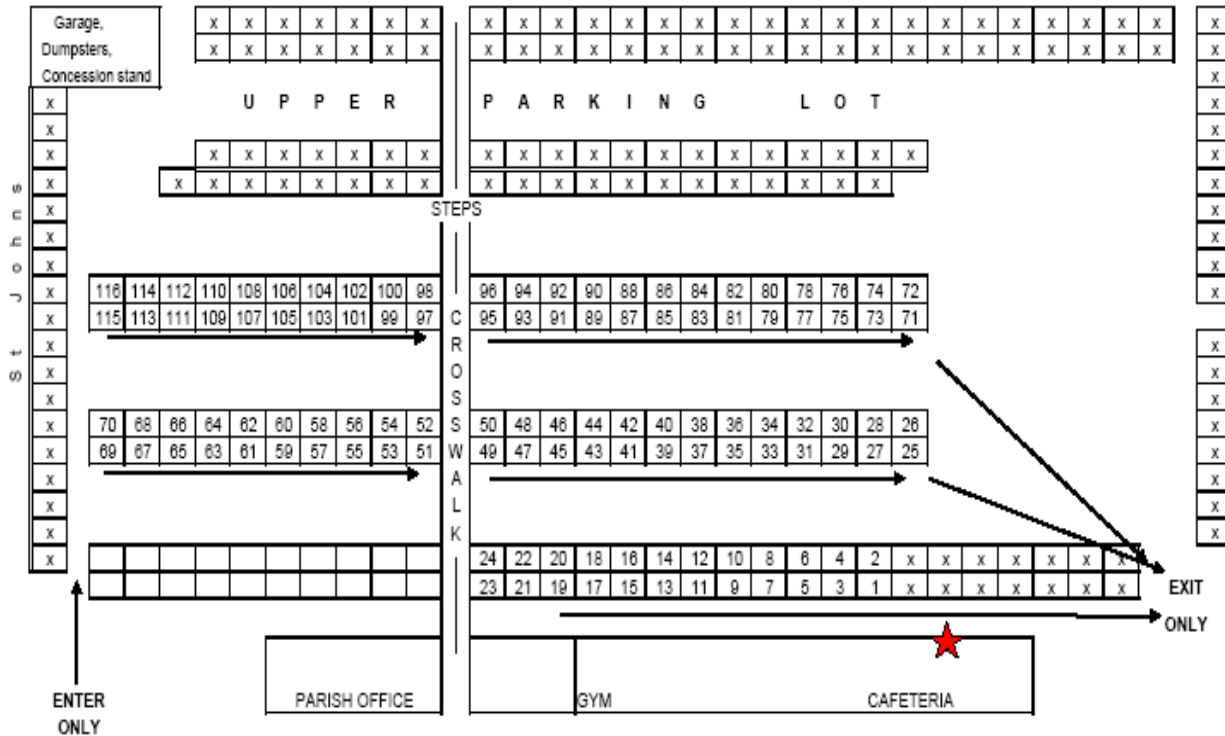
DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN - PSR rings the dismissal bell at 5:45 and 7:30. The 1st and 2nd grade catechists will take their time so that the littlest students will be coming out last. All students will exit the Gym Lobby entrance doors (designated on map with a star).

*** For safety's sake - No child will be permitted to walk to another destination to meet their ride (there are no crossing guards). **ANY PARENT WHO IS LATE FOR PICK UP, YOUR CHILD WILL BE ESCORTED TO THE OFFICE.** You can come there to pick them up.

PARKING LOT DISMISSAL-LEAVING LOT

1. When all are safe inside cars, flags will go down (except for entrance) and cars will move forward and left to the St. Joseph Lane exit. **NO ONE IS TO EXIT ANY OTHER EXITS.**
2. All traffic will move forward and down the lanes of the lot and out of the lot (paying attention to arrows for flow of exiting). Please park accordingly – **THERE IS NO BACKING UP.** Please see diagram for further explanation (page 14).
3. After all cars have exited, the entrance will be opened for late arrivals to park and pick-up their children.

LET'S MAKE THIS WORK FOR THE SAFETY OF ALL OUR CHILDREN!



PARKING LOT DISMISSAL PLAN

PLEASE FOLLOW ALL INSTRUCTIONS

X - INDICATES NO PARKING AREAS

STAR - INDICATES CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL EXIT LOCATION

STEWARDSHIP

St. Joseph PSR relies heavily on the stewardship of parents and parishioners to serve as catechists, aides, PSR Advisory Board members, safety patrol and various other support areas.

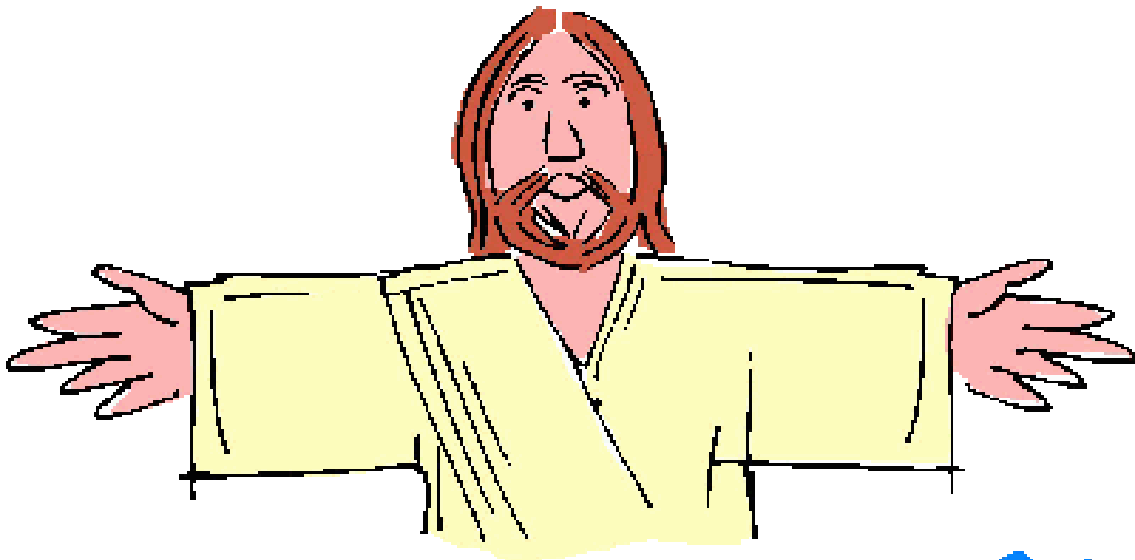
During registration a checklist of volunteer opportunities is provided and parents are asked to choose three areas of stewardship.

All parents are asked to complete the Archdiocesan program, Protecting God's Children, to be allowed to serve PSR on a regular basis.

ADULT RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & FAMILY FAITH OPPORTUNITIES

Our Church constantly reminds us that parents are the primary religious educators of their children. It is in exploring and experiencing our faith in its entirety that we grow in relationship with Christ. In order to provide enrichment we offer several opportunities for families to come together to explore and experience our faith. In order to assist parents in that role, and to assist them in their own faith development, PSR provides the following opportunities:

- Monthly Family Newsletter – includes a family newsletter. This newsletter offers several easy ways to incorporate our Catholic faith and practices into home life.
- 1st and 4th Grade Parent Sessions – more intense partnering for the benefit of our children.
- Family Centered Reconciliation Services – opportunities for our children to see us living our faith everyday.
- PSR Family Nights – nights of religious education that will be done at home in a family context. 2-4 times a year.
- Advent Family Activity – family centered opportunity to strengthen the living of our liturgical seasons.
- PSR AT HOME Family lesson nights – two nights a year that the family will learn a provided lesson to be taught at home. These count in our 33 sessions so they are imperative for each family to complete. Plus they are FUN!
- Parish Activities – watch parish bulletin for many opportunities to celebrate our faith with our children.



WELCOME

A Parent's Prayer



*I free you from my anxiety,
from my personal idea of what constitutes happiness for you.
I trust the spirit of God in you,
to guide you,
to show you the way that is right for you,
your highest good,
the way that means happiness and success for you.*



*I place you longingly in the hands of the Father.
I stand by in faith,
I refrain from imposing my will on you.
You are God's child.*



*You are here to fulfill your own purpose.
As close as I am to you, as much as I love you,
I cannot live your life for you.
Your destiny, your place, your fulfillment
is between you and God.*



*I know that we are one in God
and that as I trust God in my life
and trust him in your life, all will be well!*

AMEN.