

# St. Peter's Catholic Church

P.O. BOX 353 • PARK RAPIDS, MINNESOTA 56470-0353

PARISH OFFICE: 218-732-5142

PARISH LOCATION: 305 W. 5TH ST.

August 24, 2023

Dear Parents of students grades 7-11,

**Wednesday, September 13 is the family kick off for our evening Faith Formation Classes. Parents, please come with your student(s) at 7PM and meet in the church. We will have a meeting to discuss this next year and introduce the catechists that will be leading your student(s).**

My hope is to have the youth room open at 4PM on Wednesdays. I will be able to let you know on September 13 if this is going to work. Students would have a place to be from after school until class begins. Parents, once your student is here they will not be allowed to leave the building without your permission. We can play games, work on homework and just hang out. The main thing we would need to make this happen is a couple of adults willing to commit to being here. Let me know if you are interested in helping or if your students would like to come early.

On September 20 we will begin serving dinner from 6:00-6:30 for students and catechists. Many students are in after school activities and there isn't much time in between to eat before class begins. I would like to offer something a bit more nutritious than fast food. Class time remains the same as last year, 7:00pm - 8:30pm. It didn't work to change it this year to an earlier time. I would like to revisit the possibility of switching class time next year to begin at 6:30.

Adoration will be happening again during our class time in the church beginning on October 4. Parents, and others, are encouraged to come to Adoration any time from 6:00pm until we are done with class. God wants to spend time with us. I hope that we will take the time to spend with Him. Our classes will have opportunities to go to Adoration during our evenings as well. If you would like to commit to coming for an hour let Deacon John know in the office.

I want to affirm all of you parents! Your children are amazing young people. Your love and concern for your family is felt and seen. You are the first teachers and most important teachers to your children. I pray that you will lead and encourage your children in their faith journey. Your example of this is one of the most important gifts you can share with your family. Life here on earth is only a small part of our forever. My prayer is that we can all work towards bringing each other to heaven.

Enclosed you will find a registration form(s) for classes for grades 7-11. A separate letter is being sent for students in grades 1-6.

**There is a \$20 fee per student which covers a portion of the expense of educational materials. If you are unable to afford the registration fee, please talk to me, your children will not be turned away! Return the registration form(s) and fee by September 6, so we can plan for your student(s) to be here. You may drop forms off in the collection basket at Mass, put them in the mail: attention Annette, or bring them to the office between 9:00 and 4:00 Monday through Thursday. All students must be registered even if they have attended in previous years, updated registration forms need to be on file every year.**

**The Remind app is the fastest form of communication we have. This is the communication I will use to let you know most announcements. Your communication to me through this app is only to me and not the group. Sign up for the "Wednesday evening group" by going to your web browser on your smart phone and type [rmd.at/b4d9d7](https://rmd.at/b4d9d7) then follow the instructions to sign up and download the mobile app. I would like your student to sign up as well. (If you signed up last year you are still in the system.) Emailing and text messaging are also ways we may use to get information out, please include a parent cell number and email, along with your student's, so we can group messages to parents as well.**

If your family is not officially registered with St. Peter's or St. Mary's, please call or stop by and we will help you register.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please stop by and see me or Father Joe.

I am excited to start the new school year with all of you!

See other side for exciting event information!