

ST. PIUS X CATHOLIC CHURCH
Parish School of Religion
Program Handbook
2011-2012



Pope St. Pius X

348 Dudley Road
Edgewood, KY 41017
(859) 341-4900
Fax (859) 578-8597
www.stpiusx.com

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Table of Contents	Page 2
Welcome	3
Diocesan Statement of Purpose	4
St. Pius X Mission Statement	4-5
Objectives	5
Religious Education Personnel	6
Religious Education Catechists	7
Parish School of Religion - Calendar (2011-2012)	8-9
Important Dates for the Sacraments of Initiation	10
Admission	11
Finances	12
Attendance/Absences	12-13
Tardiness	13
Participation	13
Arrival & Dismissal Procedures	13-14
Cancellation of Classes	14
Policy of Sacrament of Initiation	14-15
Home Schooling	15
Homework	15-16
Student Evaluation	16
Supplies	16
Discipline Policy	16-19
Gum	20
Dress Code	20
Announcements	20
Changes in emergency contact number or information	20
VIRTUS	20-21
Safety, Medical Conditions, Exits, RE Resource Room	21
Program Activities	22
Service Hours	22
Religious Education Curriculum	23
Responsibilities for Program Participants	23-24
Sacramental Obligations	24-25
Fundamentals of the Faith	25
Which prayers should my child know in each grade?	26
Prayers	27-34
INDEX	35-37

8/1/2011

PSR Parents & Guardians,

Welcome to the Parish School of Religion Program at St. Pius X Catholic Church!

What a profound step you took when you had your child baptized. You accepted the obligation of nurturing your child in the practice of the faith and preparing your child for the sacraments so that he or she could truly experience the life of the Church and a relationship with Jesus Christ. We in the Religious Education Office of St. Pius are here to help you reach that goal, and are humbled by your willingness to share this task with us. There is nothing more important than the heart and soul of your child, and we want to bring these to maturity in Christ Jesus.

You are a living witness of Christ. We admire the time you spend each week with your children talking about God, Catholicism and Christianity. Your participation with your children in their spiritual formation at home is **the most** important element of religious education. It is an essential to your child's growth and development in the Catholic faith that you as the parent or guardian lay the life of faith at home. The effectiveness of the religious education process radically depends upon this.

Our children gather on Monday evenings for classes. We have observed over the years that there is a quantitative difference between children who faithfully attend both Mass and Religious Education class and those that do not.

The partnership between parents and religious education staff require ongoing communication and collaboration. In the formal classes of instruction we, we focus on the skills and knowledge that each child needs to grow and mature on the practice of the Catholic faith.

We want each child to have a lifelong relationship with God, categorized by a lifelong pattern of vigorous sacramental life, prayer and Christian service. We want our children to grow in their understanding of the Catholic faith. This partnership of home life and our parish religious education program is crucial. This process involves, families, priests, professionals, volunteer staff members. It involves so many lay leaders who share the Christian message with our parish community. It involves the entire parish who prays for the Spirit to bless our efforts given in love. We look forward to working with you and forming a strong partnership with all parents and guardians of our children.

We hope this handbook will give you the information you need regarding your child's religious education and sacramental preparation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. You can call me (341-4900, ext. 113) or email me at (CNewman@stpiusx.com). Please pray for all of us – the priests, the catechists, the children, the parents, the volunteers and everyone else involved – as we work together to do the Lord's will this year.

Your children are truly blessed that you desire to share with them not only life but faith, as all too many of their peers are formed in away that neglects their spirituality. We realize how extraordinarily difficult and challenging your job as parents is! We are delighted to join with our volunteer catechists and their assistants to support you. God bless you.

In Christ,

Christine Newman, *Director of Religious Education*

Introduction

We welcome you, parents and students, to the **PSR** Program sponsored by St. Pius X Parish. The abbreviation **PSR** stands for "**P**arish **S**chool of **R**eligion". The **PSR** Program presents the basic tenets of the Catholic faith to students enrolled in grades 1-8. It follows the guidelines set

forth by the Diocese of Covington. The Program is led by and is under the direction of the Director of Religious Education (DRE).

Diocesan Statement of Purpose

The Diocesan Office of Catechesis and Formation has as its function:

-the "promotion of the Christian faith in its entirety and in its authenticity, in accordance with the Church's understanding" (GDC). Its goals are:

- To empower people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today.
- To draw people to responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the Catholic faith community.
- To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each person.

St. Pius X Parish Mission Statement

St. Pius X is a caring community striving to bring the reality of Christ's presence to all. The Mission of St. Pius X Parish is:

- ✚ To gather as the body of Christ to worship with one another in prayer, liturgy and Sacraments;
- ✚ To continually renew our faith as we grow to understand its significance in our daily Christian life;
- ✚ To provide a program of total Catholic education to all members of our parish and community at large;
- ✚ To give our time, talent, and treasure to benefit our parish, community, diocese and the world;
- ✚ To live the gospel of Jesus as Catholic individuals who welcome, support and love one another with positive attitudes.

To achieve these goals set forth in the parish mission statement, the **PSR** Program has developed the following:

The St. Pius X **PSR** Program is available to assist parents in presenting the Catholic faith to both elementary age students. Catechesis of the Church's teachings begins with a simple overview of the Christian message. As the children mature, more details are added to this basic framework so that each student can arrive at a deeper understanding and appreciation of the Christian message as a way of life. Parents lay the foundation for this work by both their example in everyday life as well as their participation in the faith lives of their children from birth onward.

Pope Paul VI in his letter on evangelization says that any faith community by its very nature is an evangelizing community – a community that indeed is carrying on the mission of Jesus – and now the Church.

Objectives

1. To provide instruction in Catholic doctrine & morals for students in grades 1 through 8 who do not attend a parochial school.
2. To provide an environment supportive of religious values.
3. To form students in the practice of prayer & the practice of virtue
4. To assist parents as the primary educators of their children in promoting Catholic attitudes, values and practices in their children.
5. To provide an environment of acceptance where Catholic doctrine is taught and discussed.
6. To allow parents the opportunity to be active participants in the faith lives of their children.
7. To prepare students in 2nd and 8th grade to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation , Holy Eucharist and Confirmation.



Parish Religious Education Personnel

Pastor

Fr. Thomas Robbins
341-4900 Ext 123
TRobbins@stpiusx.com

Pastoral Associate

Fr. Baiju Kidaagen
341-4900 Ext 134
BKidaagen@stpiusx.com

The Religious Education staff believes that the **PSR** Program will offer the catechists, our young people and young adults' wonderful opportunities to expand their faith horizons and achieve a more comprehensive understanding of the church's teachings and of their own spirituality.

Guided by the Holy Spirit, we look forward to a new catechetical year that we pray will enhance and enlighten the spiritual life of our St. Pius X Catholic faith community.



Religious Education Catechists

2011-2012

First Grade:

Ms. Nancy Roether / Mrs. Julie Wolking

Second Grade:

Mrs. Linda Baynum

Mrs. Jackie Kriege

Third Grade: Mrs. Jeanine Kalker / Mrs. Brenda Daulton

Fourth Grade: Mrs. Jeanne Oleynik
Ms. Jennifer Gentry

Fifth Grade: Mr. Jeff Slater
Mrs. Jennifer Slusher / Mrs. Lois Post

Sixth Grade: Ms. Carolyn Bitzer / Mrs. Noreen Seiter
Mr. Keith Morgeson

Seventh Grade: Mr. Jim Klosterman
Mrs. Beth Wulfeck

Eighth Grade: Mr. Bill Schult
Mrs. Miki Beier / Ms. Jenny Eskridge



Parish School of Religion Program Calendar 2011-2012 1st Semester

August 29: Opening Dinner followed by Mass & First Class

September 5: NO CLASS (Labor Day)

12: Class

19: Class

26: Class

October 3: ROSARY in Church followed by Class

10: Class

17: NO CLASS

24: Class
31: NO CLASS

November 7: NO CLASS
14: Class
21: Class
28: Class

December 5: Class & Reconciliation Gr. 3-8
12: Class
19: NO REGULAR CLASS - PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES
26: NO CLASS (Christmas Break)



Parish School of Religion Program Calendar 2011-2012 Second Semester

January 2: Class
9: Class
16: NO CLASS (Martin Luther King, Jr. Day)
23: NO CLASS - Diocesan Day of Prayer for Life
30: Class

February 6: Class
13: Class
20: NO CLASS (Presidents Day)
27: Class

March	5:	Class & STATIONS OF THE CROSS
	12:	Class
	19:	Class & Reconciliation Gr. 3-8
	26:	Class
April	2:	NO CLASS (Spring Break)
	9:	NO CLASS (Easter Monday)
	16:	Class
	23:	Class & Reconciliation Gr. 2
	30:	Class
May	7:	Class & May Crowning
	14:	Class
	21:	Closing Dinner, Mass & Awards Ceremony



Important Dates for the Sacraments of Initiation (2011-2012)

First Reconciliation

- OCTOBER 12, 2011
OCTOBER 19^{th***}
Parent Meeting
7 pm
Milligan Hall
- PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE
- RECONCILIATION**
7pm
St. Pius X Church
- BRING LAMBS**

Reception to follow in Milligan Hall

First Eucharist

▪ March 11, 2012	Jesus Day Retreat	2pm – 4 pm	Milligan Hall
▪ March 18, 2012	Jesus Day Retreat	2pm – 4 pm	Milligan Hall
▪ May 1, 2012	First Eucharist Practice	7pm	St. Pius X Church
▪ May 3, 2012	First Eucharist Practice	7pm	St. Pius X Church
▪ May 6, 2012	FIRST EUCHARIST	11:30AM	St. Pius X Church
▪ May 6, 2012	FIRST EUCHARIST	1:30PM	St. Pius X Church
▪ May 7, 2012	May Crowning	7pm	St. Pius Church

Confirmation

- September 28, 2011 Parent Meeting 7pm-9pm Milligan Hall
- October 12, 2011 Registration & Sponsor Forms DUE!!
- October 28-30, 2011 YOUTH 2000 Notre Dame Academy
(Possible Confirmation Retreat)
- November 6, 2011 Candidate / Sponsor Night 7pm-9pm Meet in Church
- December 4, 2011 Confirmation Retreat 1pm – 5pm Milligan Hall
Service Hours Sheets Due (24 hours of service)
- January 10, 2012 Confirmation Practice 7pm St. Pius X Church
- **January 11, 2012 CONFIRMATION 7pm St. Pius X Church**
(Arrive by 6:00pm to meet with the Bishop)

Admission to the Program

The Religious Education Program is available to all families who are registered members of SPX parish with children who do not go to Catholic schools. Families can register for **PSR** by going to the St. Pius X website and completing and returning a registration form and required fee. These forms can also be obtained directly from the Office of Religious Education. During the month of May all students currently registered in **PSR** will receive a packet via their **PSR** classroom for registration in the fall. Please register during the month of May and June so we can plan class size and number of catechists. **Registration forms are due July 1, 2011.** Registration is on a first come first serve basis. After July 1st a waiting list will be available. In order to maintain accurate records, we ask that you fill out all forms completely.

Exceptions to this policy may be made for those who, for a good reason that is beyond their control, cannot attend the **PSR** Program within their own parish. The decision on exceptions will be made by the DRE in consultation with the Pastor of St. Pius X. Two conditions govern acceptance of out of parish students into the St. Pius X **PSR** Program.

1. There must be space available. Acceptance during one year of the Program does not guarantee acceptance the following year. Class space will be given to parishioners of St. Pius X first then to non-parishioners.
2. A letter must be obtained from the Pastor of the child/children stating that he is aware that the child/children are coming to St. Pius X for religion classes and that this arrangement is acceptable to him. According to Diocesan guidelines for reception of the Sacraments, these out of parish students must return to their parishes to receive the Sacraments of Initiation.

If a child is in a grade where a sacrament usually takes place but has not received any previous religious education, that child may have to attend the religious education classes of a previous grade level before receiving the sacrament. It is important that children have a proper knowledge and awareness of the sacraments and any theological concepts related to these sacraments so that they can receive the sacraments with the proper disposition. Please contact the Director of Religious Education if this circumstance applies to you.

Finances (Grades 1-8)

If you are a member of St. Pius X parish, the **PSR** fees are as follows for the 2011-2012 PSR year:

	<u>Active Parishioner</u>	<u>Inactive Parishioner</u>
1 child	\$75.00	\$110.00
2 children	\$115.00	\$185.00
3 children	\$155.00	\$260.00
4 children	\$195.00	\$335.00
	Increments of \$40.00	Increments of \$75.00

This fee is non-refundable.

This fee is charged to help offset the cost of the operation of the **PSR** Program. This fee does not cover all the expenses of the Program. It does, however, help defray the cost of the Program to the parish.

No child will be turned away due to an inability to pay. If you need financial assistance, please contact the Director of Religious Education or the Pastor.

Attendance/Absences

Education in our Faith is an ongoing process, which requires regular class attendance. You only get out what you put in. Classes are nourished by the presence and sharing of each member, therefore regular attendance is essential. It is very important for each student to attend every class session and every activity outside of class that is related to his or her religious education (e.g., retreats, practices, service projects, etc.).

The number of classes per year is regulated by the Diocesan Office of Catechesis & Formation. A calendar is set up to reflect this requirement. No classes are scheduled on holidays. Likewise,

no classes are scheduled on Holy Days of Obligation so that families can attend the evening liturgy together.

If a student cannot attend a scheduled class, a parent/guardian is asked to call the Office of Religious Education (341-4900 ext. 113) some time **during the day** to inform the Religious Education office of the impending absence.

If a student is ill or for some good reason misses a class, a postcard listing the lesson for the evening will be mailed to the family. Parent and student should work together on the missed lesson and the postcard with parent signature should be returned for the next class session. By cooperating with this policy, an absence would be considered “excused” and would not count as a missed class. It is important to keep in mind that although parents are the primary educators of their children, it is for the group interaction and faith sharing that students attend St. Pius X **PSR**. When the postcards are not returned, these absences will be labeled “unexcused”.

Any student who accumulates 3 or more “unexcused” absences in one Program year will not be promoted to the next grade. A student must complete one grade level before being enrolled in the next grade level. Students who are preparing to receive Sacraments who have any unexcused absences will be asked to prepare for the Sacrament the following year. More than 5 absences unexcused or not, will prevent a student from moving on to the next level.

Tardiness

Tardiness is always disruptive and problematic, since it almost always interrupts and delays the catechist’s lesson plan and is a distraction to others. In addition it is usually embarrassing for the tardy child. Parents are asked to see that their child (ren) arrive for class **ON TIME** and prepared for class. If a student arrives late for class, they are to enter through the front door of the school. They are to go to the room adjacent to the Church Office to receive a Tardy Slip. No student should be admitted to class without a Tardy Slip. Younger children can wait in the foyer of the Church Office until they can be taken to their class by the DRE or parent volunteer.

Participation

Students should bring their book to each and every class and complete assignments given by the catechist. Written assignments should be reviewed and signed by a parent. Parents are asked to spend some time each week reviewing the lesson covered in class.

Arrival & Dismissal Procedures

All classes will be held in the school. We will begin in church so please drop-off your child at the main door of the church.

Students can leave the building through the main doors in the front of school or the side door located on the lower level near the 1st & 2nd grade classrooms. Parents are free to come to the classroom to pick up their child once class is over.

All students are urged to keep the classrooms neat and orderly, and to only use the materials that are theirs. Out of courtesy please do not disturb anything that belongs to the St. Pius School students.

Students who arrive late for class may only enter through the front door of the school. They are to go to the room adjacent to the Church Office to receive a tardy slip. No student should be admitted to class without a tardy slip. Younger children can wait in the foyer of the Church Office until they can be taken to their class by the CRE or DRE or parent volunteer

Cancellation of Classes

When it becomes necessary to cancel **PSR** for inclement weather, we will follow **Kenton County EVENING schedule**. If Kenton County functions **FOR THAT EVENING** are cancelled (for a Snow Emergency, etc.) we will **not** hold **PSR** class that night. If all Kenton County functions are **not** cancelled for that evening we **will** hold **PSR** class that night. You can also check the parish website www.stpiusx.com. Additionally, we will make an announcement over the local radio and television stations.

**** Note: We will NOT follow Kenton County Schools. If Kenton County Schools are cancelled for the day that does NOT mean PSR will be cancelled that night.**

Unfortunately we do not have the financial ability to utilize the Community Safe phone calling system.

If a parent feels it is too hazardous to attempt getting to **PSR**, they should not make the attempt. However, absences from **PSR** will be recorded as absences in the attendance register.

Policy for Reception of Sacraments of Initiation

The Catholic Church is a sacramental church with participation in the sacraments crucial to our faith life. Children receive the sacraments during religious education years: Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation. Penance and Eucharist are usually received in the second grade after proper preparation and parental participation. The Grade One curriculum is required before entering the Grade Two curriculum, for First Penance and First Eucharist.

The Grade 6 and Grade 7 curriculum is required before entering the 8th grade Confirmation program. The goal of the Confirmation program is to help those who participate in it to deepen their personal relationship with God, to develop their sense of belonging in a living

Christian community, and to personally ratify their membership in the Catholic Church. It is assumed that the process of confirming the faith has been ongoing in their lives and that it will continue to be renewed long after they have completed the program.

Requirements for reception of each of the Sacraments of Initiation are presented in the Diocesan Handbook entitled, Initiation and Reconciliation. These requirements are quite basic and are upheld by the parish Board of Total Catholic Education. (BOTCE)

The primary goal of sacrament preparations is to provide understanding and acceptance of the concepts related to each of the individual sacraments. The following guidelines are an excerpt from this handbook:

1. One and one half consecutive academic years directly prior to the reception of a sacrament with regular class attendance is required or its equivalent.
2. Active participation in the Church community, including regular attendance at Sunday liturgy.
3. Students who are not within St. Pius X's parish boundaries who are attending **PSR** classes at St. Pius are to receive the Sacraments of Initiation in their home parish.

Home Schooling

A home study catechetical program is one in which the children of the family are instructed in faith at home by their own parents. Any request for a home study program that replaces attendance at the parish catechetical program (**PSR**) should be directed and approved by the DRE. A specific Home Study Teachers Manual, Textbook and materials are to be used and will be issued by the DRE. Diocesan guidelines for the Catechist must be followed and book must be taught in its entirety. Every 60 days the DRE will hold an accountability session with those students to evaluate progress. This accountability will be a unit test of material to that point of the year. Workbooks will be reviewed at that time as well. Completed workbooks must be turned in each quarter and reviewed by the DRE in order for the student to get credit for the year.

Homework

The policy of assigning homework to our students sits so that what is covered on class will be thought about or acted upon during the week. It is hoped that this can serve as a chance for parents to become more aware of and then discuss with each child what he or she is learning in class. All students are responsible for the homework assigned to them by their catechist for successful completion of the year.

Books must be brought back to class each week!

Should a student lose his/her textbook a \$20 replacement fee will be assessed.

Student Evaluation

We encourage communication between teachers and parents throughout the entire year. A face to face Parent-Teacher conference is scheduled halfway through the year to provide a more concrete evaluation of each student. If parents have a concern at any time, they should first contact the teacher and then if there is still some question, the DRE.

Supplies

Each **PSR** classroom has a limited number of extra pencils, pens, folders, loose-leaf paper, and art supplies should you child forget his/her supplies. Your child may want a book bag or tote for when he/she takes home important papers and religion book.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS & DISCIPLINE POLICY

Behavior Expectations

At St. Pius X, it is believed that discipline is the fostering of respect and self-control in students. This is a shared responsibility of parents, catechist and students. Obedience and self-control should be a continuation of the respect for oneself and others as practiced in the home.

PSR is a place where students come to learn about their faith. To promote a Christian atmosphere in which students respect the rights of each other and accept each individual as a person of worth, so that everyone can achieve & learn to their greatest capacity, and also are motivated to do so. This freedom should be extended to all phases of PSR.

General Behavior

- ❖ *Respect for the environment, the facility and others*
 - ❖ *Attentive to the lesson and participation therein*
 - ❖ *Self Control in words and actions*
 - ❖ *Respect for the belongings of others.*
 - ❖ *Appropriate behavior in church*
 - ❖ *Active participation in the mass.*
 - ❖ *Focus upon the teaching of Christ not on toys, candy or other homework.*
-
- Students should be quiet in the church, hallways, restrooms and in moving to and from their classroom each week, in consideration of other students and catechist who are studying , teaching and working in other classrooms.
 - Students should walk, not run in the church and school building. That includes hallways and stairways. Please stay to the right on stairways.

- Concrete walkways are to be used at all times when entering or leaving the building.
- Students may not chew gum in the church or on school premises.
- Students should not disturb items that are kept within each classroom. Students should not go into any of the desks or touch anything on the desks. They should not touch anything on the teacher's desk or other teacher areas. Other students use these desks and PSR students should show respect and consideration. Students are to keep areas clean, including church, classrooms and restrooms.
- The only phone the students may use during PSR class is the PSR office telephone, and it should only be used in important situations.
- No food or candy or drinks are permitted in classrooms except under the direct supervision or direction of the teachers. Food and drinks are never permitted in stairways.
- Students may not bring electronic devices to school, including cell phones. If a student is found with an electronic device, it will be taken away and the parents will be asked to pick it up from the DRE. Further offenses will result in the devices being kept for an extended period of time.
- Students may not bring toys to PSR.
- Students are to be respectful of themselves, other students, administration, catechist, and volunteers at all times. Talking back will not be tolerated.
- Bullying of any kind will not be tolerated.

Specific Behavior

Church:

Students should recognize that they are in the house of God and enter and leave quietly and respectfully. Students should take an active part in the Liturgy, sharing in the prayers and singing reverently and respectfully.

Announcements:

Whenever an announcement is being made, students should stop what they are doing, become silent, pay attention and wait until the announcements are complete before resuming their normal activities.

Care of Property:

PSR students are to bring Religion Books each week to class. It is unacceptable to damage, or mar Religion Books or Bibles in any way.

Building & Grounds:

PSR students should care for the building and grounds by picking up litter and disposing of it in the proper containers. Students should show respect for all property which would include school, church, hallways, stairways, building, furniture, parked cars, and personal belongings of others. Any damage to property, whether accidental or on purpose, should be reported to the DRE immediately. Students will be held responsible for any damage they cause and will be required to pay for the replacement or repair of the property.

Discipline Policy

St. Pius PSR catechists are volunteering their time and effort for the benefit of our children. They have a very limited amount of time in which to teach their lessons. Proper conduct, respect and consideration are expected.

The following policy is proved so that all individuals involved in PSR may be respected and valued:

1. The catechist will let the student know immediately that the behavior is unacceptable. This constitutes a **warning**.
2. If the discipline problem continues, the catechist will send the student to the PSR Office and give the student a **Discipline Referral Form**. This will allow the catechist to remove the student from the situation. The DRE will discuss the situation with the student. This form will be used to inform parents of the specifics of the situation involving their child and to give the student the opportunity to reflect on his/her behavior. Additionally, the parent will be called and informed of the situation. The student will remain in the DRE's office for the remainder of the PSR class time for that evening. The signed **Discipline Referral Form and a written apology** must be received in order for the student to return to class the next week.
3. If this is not effective and the student is repeatedly sent down to the PSR office with **Discipline Referral Forms** (3 or more times) the parents will be called to pick up the student. The student cannot return to the class until a meeting between the parents, student, catechist and DRE has been held and all mutually agree on a plan for behavior improvement.
4. If after the above meeting has taken place and the student is sent to the office again, the DRE will call the parents to pick up the student. The student will be suspended from the program. It will be up to the discretion of the pastor if the student returns to the program; is asked to leave the program and begin again next year; or the student may return to the program only if a parent accompanies the student in the class for the remainder of the year. All lessons missed while the student is on suspension must be made up before a student can be readmitted to the Program.

As part of the normal registration packet, families are asked to sign a covenant agreement stating they have read, understand and agree to abide by this policy.

This discipline plan is an organized way of maintain an appropriate learning environment. It is based on the idea of mutual respect, and designed to help students understand that they are responsible for their actions.

More serious behavior will be dealt with appropriately. Such as:

- Blatant disrespect towards catechist, volunteers, staff or other students
- Inappropriate language (written or verbal) or gestures
- Continual disruptive behavior
- Damaging/stealing of school or personal property
- Cheating or lying
- Hitting another student
- Possession or use of drugs alcohol or tobacco on school grounds
- Violence towards students
- Any action threatening the safety of self and/or others
- Use of obscenities
- Bullying
- Disrespect or insubordination towards teachers, staff or volunteers
- Vandalism

Gum

There is no gum chewing permitted on the premises.

Dress Code

Students should come to class dressed in a manner that promotes a positive climate in the classroom and that does not distract from the central mission of focusing themselves on the teaching of Christ. It is a matter of respect that hats are not worn in any of the buildings on the St. Pius X campus.

Announcements

Parents should consult the Sunday Bulletin, Monthly PSR Newsletter, and the parish website www.stpiusx.com for general information regarding the Religious Education Program. Although written or e-mail communication reflecting changes in the program calendar or

special upcoming event is sent home with the students. Additionally, there is a **PSR** Bulletin board in the Parish Meeting Room hallway adjacent to the church.

Changes in emergency contact number or information

Sometime it is necessary to contact a family because of an emergency situation which arises during class time. It is very important that we have the most accurate information. Please be sure to provide us with any changes in home information. We must be able to reach you in the event of an emergency.

VIRTUS

We are committed to the safety of your child and upholding his or her dignity as a human person and a child of God. All of the catechists and volunteers in the **PSR** Program have received VIRTUS training.

Our Parish Virtus Coordinator is Debbie Leuthner & can be reached at Dleuthner@stpiousx.com or 341-4900 ext 120.

For more information on what the Diocese of Covington is doing to protect your child, see the website <http://home.catholicweb.com/covingtondiocese/index.cfm>

You may also contact the Anita Geiger on the diocesan level, by phone (392-1565) or email (Ageiger@covintondicoese.org).

Finally, you may wish to read the following documents from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and the Diocese of Covington, KY:

- *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*
<http://www.usccb.org/ocyp/faqs.shtml>
- *Diocese of Covington Policies & Procedures for Addressing Sexual Misconduct*
http://home.catholicweb.com/covingtondiocese/files/sexual_misconduct_policies_2007.pdf

Safety

In the event of a fire, tornado or other emergency during **PSR** classes each catechist is instructed in the proper course of action in the event of these emergencies. Students are informed of the procedures to be followed in an emergency.

Medical Conditions

For the safety of your children, please be sure to inform us of any and all medical conditions that might be important for our teachers to know including allergies of any kind, medications, injuries, special treatments, etc... Also unless otherwise parentally informed and approved, only Band-Aid type bandages are allowed to be given in the unlikely event that medical aid is needed. If a child uses an epi-pen a parent must stay in the classroom.

Exits

Students are to leave the building through the main doors in the front of the school or the side door located on the lower level near the 1st & 2nd grade classrooms.

Students who arrive late for class may only enter through the front door of the school. They are to go to the room adjacent to the Church Office to receive a tardy slip. No student should be admitted to class without a tardy slip. Younger children can wait in the foyer of the Church Office until they can be taken to their class by the DRE or parent volunteer.

Religious Education Resource Room

Additional religion materials are available in the Religious Education Resource Room located near the church offices.

Please feel free to browse through the materials there while your children are attending religion classes.

Program Activities

The **PSR** Program helps students grow, not only in knowledge of what their faith involves, but also in the practice and celebration of their faith and in their relationship with a loving God.

Masses and Para liturgies are an integral part of the **PSR** Program. These are listed on the **PSR** calendar for your convenience. Students are expected to actively participate in these prayer opportunities. Parents are also most welcome to actively participate and assist in their planning.

Second grade students prepare for the reception of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Programs are designed for parents of these students to enhance this important step in their in these parent programs is mandatory for those who wish their children to receive these Sacraments at St. Pius X Parish.

Students who have completed the sixth grade have the opportunity to be trained as altar servers. Training sessions are held in the fall & spring of the student's 7th, or 8th grade years.

Students in the **PSR** Program have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation twice during the year. The parish clergy also administer to the needs of the students at various other times during the year.

Students who have completed the seventh grade and who are currently enrolled in the **PSR** Program for eighth grade are eligible to participate in the Confirmation activities and additional classes sponsored by the parish.

Service Hours

PSR students are also required to be active in their community by performing works of service. This is a requirement at all age levels and is one factor in determining readiness for the next grade level. Time commitments for the service program are as follows:

Grade 1 ~ 2 hours	Grade 5 ~ 10 hours
Grade 2 ~ 4 hours	Grade 6 ~ 14 hours
Grade 3 ~ 6 hours	Grade 7 ~ 18 hours
Grade 4 ~ 8 hours	Grade 8 ~ 24 hours*

Service hour forms & guidelines are on the parish website (www.stpiusx.com). Periodically there may be formal **PSR** service projects students can participate in.

All students receiving the sacrament of Confirmation must have all 24 Service Hours turned in by **December 4, 2011.*

Religious Education Curriculum

Curriculum

The (**PSR**) Program uses the *Blest Are We: Faith and Word* Edition series, published by RCL Benziger. This religion series is approved by the Diocesan Office of Catechesis & Formation. Children preparing for the second grade Sacraments also receive additional materials and other books entitled *With Jesus Always*. Children preparing for Confirmation receive additional materials and another book *Spreading and Defending the Faith* Image of God series published by Ignatius Press.

There is a \$20 replacement cost should a student has lose his/her book.

Additional materials such as books and videos are also used to enhance the teaching. Students in grade 4 also receive their own copy of the New American Bible, which they are expected to use from grade 4-8. This Word of God should be kept in good condition and treated with respect. The religion books as well, contain the Word of God so please emphasize with the children the importance of respect and reverence toward these materials. Families will be asked to purchase new Bibles/textbooks that are not well taken

For more information about these religious education materials, see the following links:

<http://blestarewe.com/>

It is very important to this parish that your child receives an education that is faithful to the teachings of the Catholic Church. As such, we only use textbooks and activity books that have been judged by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops to be in conformity with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. As well as the Covington Diocese Office of Catechesis & Formation.

Responsibilities for Program Participants

General Responsibilities

Parents:

- Ensure that their children attend classes regularly and on time
- Communicate any special needs or circumstances that may affect their child
- Be an active part of their children's learning and be involved in the classroom at the catechist's request (i.e., *PSR* volunteer, help with special and/or service projects, etc...)
- Ensure that their children attend Sunday Mass regularly

Students:

- Behave in a Christian manner at all times, showing respect and being cooperative with adults and other students
- Come prepared for class with supplies & religion book
- Actively participate in classroom activities and discussions
- Attend class regularly and complete any assignments or homework
- Abide by the Code of Conduct as set forth by these policies
- Attend Sunday Mass regularly

Catechists:

- Provide a loving, Christian learning environment for the children
- Be prepared to teach each lesson
- Teach only what the Catholic Church teaches
- Be a Christian role model
- Communicate regularly with and involve parents in the faith development of their children
- Attend catechist meetings
- Continue training in religious education and the faith
- Attend Sunday Mass regularly

Sacramental Obligations



First Reconciliation:

- Regular attendance in class
- Attendance at parent meeting
- Copy of Baptismal certificate
- Regular attendance at Sunday Mass
- Completed Registration Form
- Attendance at all practices and mini-retreats



First Eucharist:

- Regular attendance in class
- Attendance at parent meeting
- Copy of Baptismal certificate
- Regular attendance at Sunday Mass
- Completed Registration Form
- Attendance at all practices & mini-retreats



Confirmation:

- Regular attendance in class
- Attendance at parent meeting
- Copy of Baptismal certificate
- Completed Registration Form
- Regular attendance at Sunday Mass
- Attendance at YOUTH 2000 or Confirmation Retreat & a one page reflection on the event
- Attendance at Candidate/Sponsor Night
- Attendance at all practices & mini-retreats



Fundamentals of the Faith

There are certain prayers and truths of our faith that every child should know. These are the things that make us Catholic. Most, if not all, of them will be taught in the classroom. But, we need your help. Often times, the best way to memorize something is through repetition. By praying with your children, teaching them the truths of the faith, and helping them to grow spiritually by your daily witness and example, you can help them to truly learn what it means to live and pray as a Catholic.

You are encouraged to take an active role in your child's education by reviewing the following prayers and truths with them. Once they know these basic elements, they will have the means with which to delve deeper into their Catholic faith.

Kindergarten	Sign of the Cross Prayer Before Meals Glory Be	Fifth Grade	Fatima Prayer Mysteries of the Rosary Hail Holy Queen Act of Faith
---------------------	--	--------------------	---

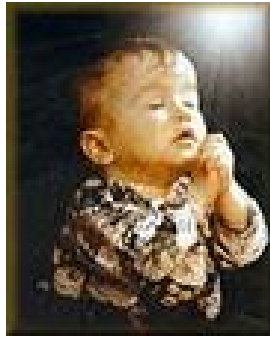


*h
p
y
s
sho
uld
my
chil
d
kno
w
in
eac
h
gra*

de?

First Grade	Our Father Hail Mary Guardian Angel Prayer	Sixth Grade	Corporal Works of Mercy Spiritual Works of Mercy Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel Act of Hope
Second Grade	Act of Contrition Order of Mass Rite of Confession	Seventh Grade	Precepts of the Church Morning Offering Angelus Act of Love
Third Grade	Seven Sacraments Ten Commandments Memorare	Eighth Grade	Fruits of the Holy Spirit Gift of the Holy Spirit Come Holy Spirit Prayer
Fourth Grade	Beatitudes Holy Days of Obligation Apostles Creed		

**Prayer
Guide
lines**

**Sign of the Cross**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Prayer Before Meals

Bless us our Lord, and these, thy gifts, which we are about to receive, from thy bounty, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Our Father

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Guardian Angel Prayer

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here. Ever this day (night), be at my side, to light, to guard, to rule, to guide. Amen.

Act of Contrition

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In His name, my God, have mercy. Amen.

**Order of the Mass*****Opening Rites***

Processional
Greeting
Penitential Rite
Gloria

Liturgy of the Word

1st Reading
Responsorial Psalm
2nd Reading
Gospel

Homily
Profession of Faith (Creed)
Prayers of the Faithful (Petitions)

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts
Eucharistic Prayer
Lord's Prayer
Sign of Peace
Lamb of God
Communion

Concluding Rite

Seven Sacraments

1. Baptism
2. Reconciliation
3. Eucharist
4. Confirmation
5. Marriage
6. Holy Orders
7. Anointing of the Sick

Ten Commandments

1. I am the Lord your God. You shall not have other gods besides me
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath day
4. Honor your father and mother
5. You shall not kill
6. You shall not commit adultery
7. You shall not steal
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife
10. You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God the Father almighty, from thence He shall come to judge the living & the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Holy Days of Obligation

- **January 1:** the solemnity of Mary, Mother of God;
- **Thursday of the Sixth Week of Easter:** the solemnity of the Ascension;
- **August 15:** the solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary;



- **November 1:** the solemnity of All Saints;
- **December 8:** the solemnity of the Immaculate Conception;
- **December 25:** the solemnity of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Beatitudes

1. Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
2. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
3. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.
5. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.
6. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.
7. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.
8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Hail Holy Queen

Hail, holy Queen, Mother of Mercy! Our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve, to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this valley, of tears. Turn, then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb Jesus; O clement, O loving, O sweet virgin Mary. Amen.

Fatima Prayer

O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those in most need of Thy mercy. Amen.

Memorare

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to thy protection, implored thy help, or sought thine intercession was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly unto thee, O Virgin of virgins, my mother; to thee do I come, before thee I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in thy mercy hear and answer me. Amen.

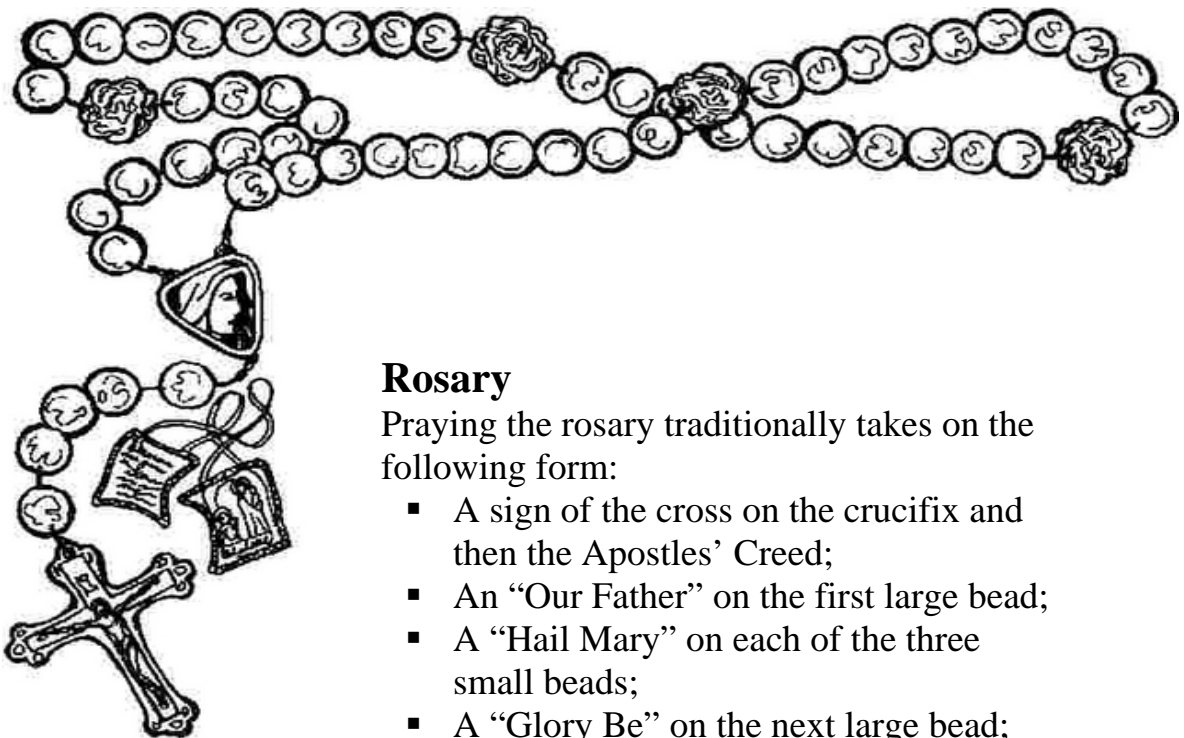


Spiritual Works of Mercy

1. Help others do what is right
2. Teach the ignorant
3. Give advice to the doubtful
4. Comfort those who suffer
- 2 5. Be patient with others
6. Forgive injuries

Corporal Works of Mercy

1. Feed the hungry
2. Give drink to the thirsty
3. Clothe the naked
4. Visit those in prison
5. Shelter the homeless
6. Visit the sick
7. Bury the dead.



Rosary

Praying the rosary traditionally takes on the following form:

- A sign of the cross on the crucifix and then the Apostles' Creed;
- An "Our Father" on the first large bead;
- A "Hail Mary" on each of the three small beads;
- A "Glory Be" on the next large bead;
- Announce the mystery
- An "Our Father" on the large bead
- A "Hail Mary" on each of the adjacent ten small beads;
- A "Glory Be" on the next large bead;
- Again an "Our Father," ten "Hail Mary's," the "Glory Be," and the Fatima Prayer for each of the following decades (or groups of ten small beads);
- A "Hail Holy Queen" and a sign of the cross.



Mysteries of the Rosary

On **Monday and Saturday**, meditate on the “Joyful Mysteries”

- First Decade: The Annunciation of Gabriel to Mary (Luke 1:26-38)
- Second Decade: The Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth (Luke 1:39-56)
- Third Decade: The Birth of Our Lord (Luke 2:1-21)
- Fourth Decade: The Presentation of Our Lord (Luke 2:22-38)
- Fifth Decade: The Finding of Our Lord in the Temple (Luke 2:41-52)

On **Thursday**, meditate on the “Luminous Mysteries”

- First Decade: The Baptism of Our Lord in the River Jordan (Matthew 3:13-16)
- Second Decade: The Wedding at Cana, when Christ manifested Himself (Jn 2:1-11)
- Third Decade: The Proclamation of the Kingdom of God (Mark 1:14-15)
- Fourth Decade: The Transfiguration of Our Lord (Matthew 17:1-8)
- Fifth Decade: The Last Supper, when Our Lord gave us the Holy Eucharist (Mt 26)

On **Tuesday and Friday**, meditate on the “Sorrowful Mysteries”

- First Decade: The Agony of Our Lord in the Garden (Matthew 26:36-56)
- Second Decade: Our Lord is Scourged at the Pillar (Matthew 27:26)
- Third Decade: Our Lord is Crowned with Thorns (Matthew 27:27-31)
- Fourth Decade: Our Lord Carries the Cross to Calvary (Matthew 27:32)
- Fifth Decade: The Crucifixion of Our Lord (Matthew 27:33-56)

On **Wednesday and Sunday**, meditate on the “Glorious Mysteries”

- First Decade: The Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord (John 20:1-29)
- Second Decade: The Ascension of Our Lord (Luke 24:36-53)
- Third Decade: The Descent of Holy Spirit at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-41)
- Fourth Decade: The Assumption of Mary into Heaven
- Fifth Decade: The Coronation of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth



Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel

St. Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do Thou, oh Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the Divine power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who roam throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

Precepts of the Church

1. You shall attend Mass on Sundays, and on holy days of obligation, and rest from servile labor
2. You shall confess your sins at least once a year
3. You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season
4. You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church
5. You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church



Gifts of the Holy Spirit

1. wisdom
2. understanding
3. knowledge
4. counsel
5. piety
6. fortitude
7. fear of the Lord

Fruits of the Holy Spirit

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------|
| 1. Charity | 7. Generosity |
| 2. Joy | 8. Gentleness |
| 3. Peace | 9. Faithfulness |
| 4. Patience | 10. Modesty |
| 5. Kindness | 11. Self - control |
| 6. Goodness | 12. Chastity |

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and enkindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth. O God, who did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever rejoice in his consolation, through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Angelus

The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary.

— *And she conceived of the Holy Spirit.*

Hail Mary...

Behold the handmaid of the Lord.

— *Be it done unto me according to thy word.*

Hail Mary...

And the Word was made Flesh.

— *And dwelt among us.*

Hail Mary...

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God.

— *That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.*

Let us pray:

Pour forth we beseech Thee, O Lord, Thy grace into our hearts, that we, to whom the Incarnation of Christ Thy Son was made known by the message of an angel, may by His Passion and Cross be brought to the glory of His Resurrection, through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen

Morning Offering

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer You my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of Your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, in reparation for my sins, for the intentions of all my relatives and friends, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father. Amen.

Act of Faith

O My God, I firmly believe that you are one God in three Divine Persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. I believe that your divine Son became man and died for our sins, and that He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe these and all the truths which the Holy Catholic Church teaches, because you revealed them, who can neither deceive nor be deceived. AMEN

Act of Hope

O My God, relying on Your infinite goodness and promises, I hope to obtain pardon of my sins, the help of Your grace, and life everlasting, through the merits of Jesus Christ, my Lord and Redeemer. AMEN

Act of Love

O My God, I love you above all things with my whole heart and soul, because You are all good and worthy of all my life. I love my neighbor as myself for love of You. I forgive all who have injured me, and I ask pardon for all whom I have injured. AMEN



INDEX

A

- Admission (2011-2012), 11**
- Announcements, 20**
- Arrival & Dismissal Procedures, 13-14**
- Attendance/Absences, 12-13**

C

- Calendar, 8-9**
- Cancellation of Classes, 14**
- Catechists, 7**
- Changes in emergency contact number or information, 20**

D

- Discipline Policy, 16-19**
- Diocesan Statement of Purpose, 4**
- Dress Code, 20**

E

- Exits, 21**
- Electronic Devices, 17**

F

- Finances, 12**
- Fundamentals of the Faith, 25**

G

- Gum, 20**

H

Home Schooling, 15-16
Homework, 15

I

Important Dates for the Sacraments of Initiation, 10

M

Medical Conditions, 21

O

Objectives, 5

P

Participation, 13

Policy of Sacrament of Initiation, 14-15

Program Activities, 22

Prayers, 27-34

Prayers by grade, 2

R

Religious Education Curriculum, 23

Religious Education Personnel, 6

Religious Education Resource Room, 21

Responsibilities for Program Participants, 23-24

S

Sacramental Obligations, 24-25

Safety, 21

Service Hours, 22

St. Pius X Mission Statement, 4

Student Evaluation, 16

Supplies, 16

T

Table of Contents, 2

Tardiness, 13

V

VIRTUS, 20 & 21

W

Welcome , 3