

RELIGIOUS ED

As a parish staff, we are here to assist families in nurturing their children's faith development, as was promised to do at their baptism. Parents are the primary educators in the faith of their children... children learn what they live. We are here to support, encourage and guide each other to serve the three goals of youth ministry as described in the National Conference of Catholic Bishops' document: *Renewing the Vision*.

- To empower young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today
- To draw young 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 young person

In an attempt to serve the needs of our Middle School youth and their families we have one program with several options from which to choose. Program details are described inside. We are also planning several youth ministry opportunities so as to provide a fuller experience as to what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

Families are asked to complete and return a registration form before June 1st... options will be given on a "first come, first served" basis. If a family is not registered in the parish/does not appear in the data base, the registration will be put on hold until parish registration is completed.

Options can only be provided if an adequate number of teachers is available.... Therefore, an option will be considered FULL when a limit has been reached for each class for which we have a teacher. **Depending on the availability of volunteers to teach, we may be asking a parent from each family to assist at a couple classes... This would be done at the September sign-up nights.** If you have any questions, further suggestions, etc please do not hesitate to contact us...

We are in ministry together!!!

Curriculum

During the course of the Middle School years, the following will be covered:

Scripture: the unfolding story of our relationship with God as experienced by our ancestors in Faith.

Jesus: coming to know Him through the Gospels and experience Him through the Sacraments.

The Holy Spirit: discovering the third person of the Trinity & recognizing its activity in the world.

The Church: reflecting on our journey as the People of God and discerning who we are called to be.

Morality: considering our call to be in a right relationship with God and each other first made known through the 10 Commandments, then discovering the deeper implications through Jesus' teachings and the Beatitudes.

We will be using the parish bulletin as our major source of communication, as well as e-mail. We hope the dates included in this pamphlet are set, but sometimes changes may need to be made... please use the bulletin to receive updated information and keep informed. If you have any questions, suggestions or if there is any way I can assist you in regards to your child's faith formation, please, do not hesitate to contact me.

Susan Levesque, DRE

E-mail: Sue.Levesque@comcast.net

Carol Touzet, Secretary

Shawn McDonough, Youth Minister

Fr. John Michalowski, SJ, Pastor

SAINTS MARY & JOSEPH PARISH

200 Lawrence Road
Salem, NH 03079

Phone: 603-893-8661

Fax: 603-890-0292

www.ssmaryjosephparish.org

**SAINTS MARY & JOSEPH
PARISH**

**A Total
Youth Ministry
Experience
for
MIDDLE
SCHOOL
YOUTH**

Sign-Up Nights
for Youth Ministry
experiences and
GAP Gatherings:

**Monday,
Sept. 12th, at MQP
or
Sunday, Sept. 18th
at SJ**

Come and See!



Scaling walls at Life Teen's Camp Tepeyac, Prescott, AZ

Tel: 603-893-8661

WELCOME!

In ministering with Shawn, the rest of the pastoral staff, and you, I hope to offer opportunities for us to get to know our wonderful God even more, come to a deeper understanding of why God created us, how God has gifted us, and how God call us to be.

Because religious education is meant to effect the way we live, experiences for us to learn and be Jesus' hands, feet, eyes, ears and heart for others will be offered as well through Youth Ministry Experiences and GAP Nights:

Youth Ministry Experiences:

- * Altar Serving
- * Rosary project, Wednesday, October 5
- * Service for our military veterans, November 12
- * Pro-Life Baby Shower, Wednesday, January 18
- * Famine to feed the hungry, Feb 3-4
- * Famine Orientation on Wednesday, Jan 11
- * Souper Bowl Collection, Feb 4-5
- * Lenten Project, Feb 18-19
- * Seder Meal, Saturday, March 31
- * Palm Crosses for Palm Sunday, March 31 & April 1
- * Mother/Daughter Tea, May 19th
- * Workcamp Summer Mission Trip (8th graders)
- * Summer Reading Program for younger children

GAP Gatherings

GAP = God and People

GAP s are one hour gatherings that will follow Sunday Mass with question and answer time, open discussion, prayer and a simple meal. A parent is asked to join each middle schooler.

- ◇ Sunday, October 16, 11:00 Mass, SJ
- ◇ Sunday, October 23, 10:45 Mass, MQP
- ◇ Sunday, November 6, 11:00 Mass, SJ
- ◇ Saturday, November 19, 4:00 Mass, MQP
- ◇ Sunday, December 4, 10:45 Mass, MQP
- ◇ Saturday, December 17, 4:15 Mass, SJ
- ◇ Sunday, January 8, 11:00 Mass, SJ
- ◇ Saturday, January 14, 4:00 Mass, MQP
- ◇ Sunday, February 12, 10:45 Mass, MQP
- ◇ Sunday, March 11, 11:00 Mass, SJ
- ◇ Sunday, March 25, 10:45 Mass, MQP
- ◇ Saturday, April 14, 4:00 Mass, MQP
- ◇ Sunday, April 15, 11:00 Mass, SJ



Options can only be provided if an adequate number of teachers is available.

Options A and B at MQP Monday nights, 6:30-8 weekly, half year

Option A

September 19, and 26
October 3, 17 and 24
November 7, 14, 21 and 28
December 5, 12 and 19

Passion Play on April 1st
plus your choice of

1 Youth Ministry experience
And 1 GAP Gathering



Come and See!

Option B

January 2, 9, 23 and 30
February 6 and 13
March 5, 12, 19 and 26
April 9 and 16

Passion Play on April 1st
plus your choice of

1 Youth Ministry experience

Option C at SJ Sunday afternoons, 2:00-4:00 monthly

September 18
October 16
November 6
December 4
January 8
February 12
March 11
April 15

Passion Play on April 1st
plus your choice of

1 Youth Ministry experience



Option D at SJ Summer M-Th 6:00-8

August 13, 14, 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, and 23

Passion Play on April 1st
plus your choice of

1 Youth Ministry experience
And 1 GAP Gathering