

Programs for Children and Teens at the Church of Saint Paul

NURSERY

(Infants and Toddlers)

The **NURSERY MINISTRY** is dedicated to providing a structured, nurturing, Catholic environment for infants and toddlers in their care while parents attend Sunday Mass or other events. Bring your child to the nursery before Mass or the event begins (space is limited).

(Coordinator: Tara Phillips - Nursery Phone: 763-757-1148, Ext 112)

Volunteer Opportunities:

Team Leaders/Assistants (Mass) - Adult team leaders and teen assistants are needed to serve during the 8:30am or 10:30am Sunday Masses, approximately once every seven weeks.

Team Leaders/Assistants (Family Formation) - Caring people are needed to care for children of our *Family Formation* teachers while they teach once a month on Saturday morning or Monday evening and once a month on Thursday evening for Catechist Training.

Special Events Nursery - Assist in the nursery during Kick-off, First Reconciliation, First Communion, and various other events. You will be contacted as the need arises.

LITTLE LAMBS

and Sunday Celebration

(Preschool)

LITTLE LAMBS is the home piece of the preschool program, which equips parents of 3 and 4 year olds (pre-Kindergarten) with monthly lessons and ideas to incorporate the Catholic faith as an everyday way of life. Parents pick up their Home Lesson packets at Sunday Celebration. Parents are invited, but not required, to attend the regular monthly *Family Formation* adult teaching.

SUNDAY CELEBRATION is the classroom piece of the preschool program. Little Lambs children attend Mass each Sunday with their families, with the exception of one Sunday a month when they gather during Mass (choose 8:30 or 10:30 Mass) for group time including music, stories, and crafts which reinforce the lessons being taught at home. (Coordinator: Christie Doran - christiedoran@yahoo.com) *Please note: Little Lambs and Sunday Celebration registration is for both programs. The programs work together.*

Volunteer Opportunities:

Shepherd - No prep time required. Help preschoolers pay attention, and have fun enjoying time with little people. One Sunday a month during 8:30 or 10:30 Mass.

Music Leader - Lead pre-school children in fun praise and worship songs for 8-10 minutes at the beginning of each session. No instrument required...just a big smile, and a love for the Lord. A list of songs and help in learning them will be provided.

Craft Leader - Explain and demonstrate the monthly craft project to the children and their shepherds during 8:30 or 10:30 Mass. Assist with any help needed during construction. All materials and ideas will be provided. Arrive 10 minutes before the session begins to learn the craft to be presented to the children.

Saintly Visitor - Act the role and talk about the life of a saint for 2-4 minutes at one or both of the monthly sessions during 8:30 and 10:30 Sunday Mass.

Story Time Leader - Read a Gospel story or lesson in a fun way.

Saturday Set-Up - Rearrange tables/chairs to prepare the classrooms for Sunday. This can be done at your convenience any time after Saturday's *Family Formation* is done.

FAMILY FORMATION equips parents to pass on a well-formed Catholic faith as they fulfill their role as the primary educators of their children. Children from Kindergarten through Grade 6, and their parents, meet at church for a teaching once a month. Families choose Saturday from 9:30 to 11:10am or Monday from 7:00 to 8:40pm. At these meetings, parents are provided with weekly Home Lessons (requiring approximately 45 minutes per week) to instruct their children until the next monthly gathering. The *Family Formation* program is driven by Scripture, is doctrinally sound, references the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and has been given the Imprimatur of Archbishop Flynn.

FIRST SACRAMENT PREP Second graders prepare for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion during their monthly *Family Formation* class at church. In addition, materials are provided for parents and children to work on together at home during the month. If you have a child entering second grade in the fall, register for the *Family Formation* program (choose Saturday or Monday) and First Sacraments Prep. **PLEASE NOTE:** If you have a child in Grades 3-6 who has not yet

FAMILY FORMATION

(Kindergarten-Grade 6)

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Contact Sue Klejeski or
Laurie Mueller in the Family
Formation office for more
information or if you'd like to
volunteer:

763.757.1148

sue@churchofsaintpaul.com

laurie@churchofsaintpaul.com

JUNIOR HIGH

(Grades 7-8)

received one or both of these sacraments, register your family for the *Family Formation* program and write on the "special needs" line the sacraments needed. You will be contacted by someone from the parish who can help you prepare your child to receive these sacraments. A previous year of formation required before beginning Sacramental Preparation.

HANDMAIDENS OF THE LORD is a place for 4-6th grade young ladies to grow in friendship with each other and learn how they can follow the Blessed Mother as a handmaiden of the Lord. This group meets monthly and works to promote virtue, grace, and etiquette. Meetings consist of a speaker, a teaching handout that is sent home to prompt further discussion with parents, dessert, a saint teaching, and learning a feminine art. Tea is frequently part of the meetings also. There are occasional off-site service projects.

SOLDIERS FOR CHRIST is a 4-6th grade group for boys and their fathers or adult male mentor. Boys and fathers attend monthly meetings together to learn about virtues, beatitudes, and works of mercy. Meetings consist of a teaching, a service project, a saint study, an action-packed game, and a snack.

SAINTS YES! is designed for children in grades 4 - 6 to come together for social activities in a Christian environment. Saints Yes! allows children to form solid friendships with other Christians before entering the teen years. RSVP on a monthly basis. Registration takes place in the fall.

Volunteer Opportunities:

Catechist - Teach a *Family Formation* class once a month on either Saturday morning or Monday evening. Catechists are given easy-to-follow lesson plans for monthly in-church classes. Monthly Catechist Training is provided and required to prepare you for class. Assistant Catechists and substitutes are also needed.

Hospitality - Serve juice and cookies following First Reconciliation. Help with hospitality following a First Communion Mass.

Home Lesson Hand-outs - Arrive early on *Family Formation* days to greet people and hand out Home Lessons.

Greeter - Welcome families as they come to *Family Formation*.

Set-Up - Arrive early on *Family Formation* days to prepare classrooms. Sign up for the year or indicate specific days you will be available.

Office Help - A variety of help is needed in the *Family Formation* office. Volunteer a few hours each week or when you are available. Or take projects home as needed.

Collating - Volunteers are needed once a month for two hours on a Monday at 9:30am to collate Home Lesson packets.

Videography - Videotape on *Family Formation* days, Catechist Training on Thursday evenings, or other special events.

Photography - Take snapshots of various *Family Formation* events during either our scheduled Mondays or Saturdays.

Bulletin Board - Keep families up-to-date with the latest *Family Formation* or Little Lambs Home Lessons and events by displaying activities and pictures on the bulletin board (once a month involvement). Prep can be done at home.

Sound - Work the sound board for *Family Formation* and special events.

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP meets on Monday nights from 7:00 to 8:30pm October- April. This program seeks to personally help each teen encounter Jesus personally through small group discussion, praise and worship, community building and activities. The evenings are enhanced with games and team building activities, as well as praise and worship, talks and teachings and other prayer experiences as a group.

(See volunteer opportunities below.)

SENIOR HIGH

(Grades 9-12)

All youth in grades 9-12 are invited to **SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP** Wednesday nights from 7:00 to 9:00pm, October – May and includes all teens in the PORT or Confirmation preparation. As a part of youth group, teens have the opportunity to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ through fellowship and formation in their Discipleship group that meets every other week to discuss topics about the faith, personal faith life, and be challenged to live out their lives as a committed follower of Jesus.

In addition to discipleship small groups, there are large group nights that include times of prayer and Praise and Worship, talks to deepen faith, fun activities and games, fellowship, outreach ministry, and some small group competitions.

THE PORT is youth group for those who have already been Confirmed. The PORT meets every Wednesday there is youth group. Two times per month teens have times of praise and worship, fellowship, games, talks and other ways to go deeper in their faith life. The other weeks of the month the teens will meet in their Discipleship group to grow in prayer, knowledge of the faith, relationships with each other and be held accountable to living out their faith in their daily life.

CONFIRMATION PREPARATION is a program which prepares youth for the "Rite of Confirmation." Confirmation is open to all youth. Most teens start the preparation process in 9th grade. Candidates can comfortably complete the program in two years. The Confirmation candidates meet every other week, October– April, to fulfill the course study portion of our program in their Discipleship group. The Program also includes retreats, ministry hours, sponsor activities, and more.

PEER MINISTRY is a team comprised of Confirmed teens, young adults, and adults. The team's purpose is to aid the youth program in fulfilling its mission statement: "A community of Catholic disciples, empowered by the Holy Spirit to evangelize their peers and bring them closer to Christ." This team meets on the first Monday of the month from 5:30 to 8:30pm. All teens on the Peer Ministry team are also part of the PORT on Wednesday nights and take part in a Discipleship Group. The team will learn skills in small group dynamics, drama, leadership development, team interaction, and much more!

Volunteer Opportunities (for both Junior High and Senior High):

D-Group Leader - Build a relationship with our young people focusing on leading them to a deeper relationship with Jesus and His Church. We use a Small Group/relational youth ministry approach. Requires consistent attendance on either Monday (Junior High) or Wednesday (Confirmation, Port) nights and a love for young people. Training will be provided. Note: Our Junior High program is for students in 7th and 8th grade. Our Confirmation program is a two-year program that students can begin during grade 8, 9, 10, or 11. Our Port program offers small groups for students after they have been confirmed, (typically for students in grade 10, 11 and 12.)

Hospitality - Purchase (church reimburses) and prepare snacks on Monday or Wednesday nights for youth group. Schedule rotates.

Hall Monitor - Monitors in and out of the building to ensure teens are with the rest of the group. Schedule rotates.

Greeter - Greet and welcome teens as they come in for Monday or Wednesday night youth group. Schedule rotates.

Administrative/Office Help - Help with office work including computer use, photocopying, mailings, collating, and other various tasks as needed.

Prayer Team - Provide intercessory prayer for the Youth Program and special intentions as needed. Commit to an hour of prayer in the Adoration chapel either Monday or Wednesday night during our youth programs.

Promotions and Technology - Help is needed with videoing, photographing events, bulletin boards, posters and technology support.

Event Help - Help with extra events such as retreats and social events, either on or off site.

Living Stations - A variety of help is needed with this huge parish event. Seamstresses, hospitality, set-up, tear down, costumes, prayer, etc.

Contact Abbey Martin or
Cate Bunnell in the Youth Office
for more information or if you'd
like to volunteer:

763.757.1148

abbey@churchofsaintpaul.com

cate@churchofsaintpaul.com

VOLUNTEERING: All adults involved as a volunteer in ministries to children and teens must have a background check, code of conduct, and VIRTUS training completed. View a list of area VIRTUS sessions online at virtus.org. Volunteers ages 13-17 must have two Youth Background Evaluations and a Code of Conduct completed.