



Dear Parents,

Welcome back to St. Peter's School for this 2008-09 school year. For some this is a brand new experience and for others it is another year of formation for your children. I want to take this time to welcome all of you to school and hope that this year will be an amazing year for your family to truly be touched by God in many different ways.

I want you to know, parents, that all of us on the parish staff are available for your pastoral needs. I, in a special way, welcome any chance to visit with you and to hear about your family life, your hopes and dreams for your children, and how we can together work with God's grace to make His Kingdom come. In whatever way I can be of service, please know that you can always stop by.

I also want to remind you that, as your Pastor, I have a responsibility to continue to make each of our parishioners aware of their responsibility to practice the faith. Being present at Sunday Mass is an obligation of each baptized Catholic. It is especially important for parents to set a good example for their children by making the practice of the faith a priority on Sunday morning. Do not let anyone fool you--it is a sin to miss Mass on Sunday and holy days of obligation. This has not changed. The school Mass that we celebrate on Thursdays with your children is a pale substitute for the Sunday Mass when the Church gathers in total to celebrate the Paschal mystery.

Parents, you are extremely committed to your children's formation and for this I give thanks to God. I urge you to make this a lifelong commitment to ensure that your children may pick up the faith that has been handed on to you and carry it forward to a new generation.

Know that you are in my prayers.

Fr. Joseph Sharbel
Pastor

Virtus Workshop Dates

All priests, deacons, principals, teachers, coaches, youth ministers, and lay volunteers who interact with children in diocesan, parish, and school sponsored programs on a regular basis are required to attend a Protecting God's Children workshop. Any adult is welcome and encouraged to attend. Again, if you are a regular volunteer at St. Peter's School, interacting with children, you must attend a workshop if you have not already done so. To register on-line for a session, please visit the diocesan website at www.diocese-kcsj.org. Some upcoming local workshop dates include the following:

Wednesday, September 3 7-9:30 p.m. @ St. Thomas More

Saturday, September 6 9:30 a.m.-Noon @ Our Lady of the Presentation

Saturday, September 20 10 a.m.-12:30 p.m. @ St. Monica Parish

Wednesday, December 3 7-9:30 p.m. @ St. Thomas More

We will inform you of other workshop dates and opportunities as they are announced.