Saints Peter and Paul Roman Catholic Church

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## Dear Partners in Faith:

How often have you heard, or perhaps have even said yourself, "I wish there were more hours in the day"? Life can get busy and we understand that religion class and youth group is just more to do. It is our hope that you will come to see these activities as much more than just one more thing. For a short time during each week, your children and teens can gather with others to concentrate on what it means to be Catholic, and to learn what the church and gospels teach us about being followers of Christ. The catechists and staff will do our best to make their time spent here as interesting and inspiring as we are able. We will do our best to teach the lessons, to pray with them, and to involve them in activities that will build their faith. This must be a partnership and we will need your help!

What you do and say as Catholic parents and adults is far more important and will teach your child far more than we can in that short time during class. Your example, your attitude toward their faith instruction speaks volumes. We ask that you attend Mass regularly so your child can experience being part of the parish community that worships together. When you are at home talk about the gospel reading and the homily, assist your children in learning how to reflect on not only its meaning but how they can live it out in their daily lives. Remember to pray at home as a family, before meals, at bedtime, before important events and whenever you need Jesus' strength to help you throughout your day! Remember that our children learn the most valuable lessons by imitating the examples set by the adults in their lives, especially their parents.

Last year was a challenge for everyone experiencing the health crisis. We are looking forward to welcoming our youth back to in person instruction and other events throughout the year. Classes will begin the Sunday after Labor Day, September 12, 2021 and will continue through Mothers Day, May 8, 2022, (please see the included calendar). Registration will be after each mass August 14 & 15, August 21 & 22, and August 28 & 29. We have managed to keep the costs the same this year. The first child will be \$45.00 and each additional child will be an additional \$20.00. No family will pay more that \$105.00. Please contact John Verga, john.verga@saintspeterpaul.org for questions or concerns. You may also call the Church at 434-589-5201.

In addition to our Sunday classes, we are starting our youth groups back up in person. We will have a group for middle school and a group for high school. Each group is open to all youth from 5<sup>th</sup> grade until 12<sup>th</sup> grade. More details will follow.

We look forward to walking this journey of faith with you, and we need and appreciate your prayerful support!

Yours truly,

John F. Keriga

John Verga Coordinator of Religious Education and Youth Ministry