

Philosophy

Parents are the primary religious educators of their children. Formal religious education classes are designed to support parents in their ministry. Each child is a gift, and it is a privilege to partner with our families in the Faith Formation or our parish youth.

Our educational approach is threefold: knowledge, relationship, and service. Knowledge of God and the Church is presented through lessons based on Scripture, Church history, and Catholic doctrine. Relationship to God is fostered through prayer, the sacraments, community expressions of faith, and interaction with peers and adults. Service is encouraged with opportunities for sharing through community service projects.

With the combined commitment of parents, the Parish School of Religion Catechists, and staff, the youth of St. Peter Parish shall be provided with many and varied opportunities for growth in their Catholic faith.

Saint Peter

Parish School of Religion

Saint Peter Roman Catholic Church

6899 Smoky Row Road

Columbus, Ohio 43235

616-889-2221

www.stpetercolumbus.com

Youth Ministry

**Our Vision:** St. Peter’s High School Ministry is committed to creating life-long disciples on fire for their Catholic faith.

**Our Goals:**

* **Community:** to build a welcoming community that still connects the teens to the greater Parish.
* **Evangelization:** to challenge our teens to joyfully live their faith without hesitation and fear.
* **Christ-centered:** to always be pointed to Christ. Our ministry exists because of His death and resurrection.  Everything we do is for His glory!

**Our Mission:** To transform the hearts of the teens we serve through weekly gatherings, retreats, service opportunities, mission trips, youth conferences, social gatherings and relational ministry.  *“Behold, I make all things new.”*  (Revelation 21:5)

Please visit our blog to learn more about our middle and high school youth ministry gatherings:  
***https://stpeterteens614.wordpress.com/***

Program Information

**Infant/Toddler Program:**

On Sunday mornings during the 9:30 Mass, this program provides loving care for infants who are able to sit alone, up to and including toddlers who will not turn three years old until after September 30th. The program takes place in the Red Room (north side of church Gathering Space). Registration is not required, and there is no fee. The Infant/Toddler team is led by a professional health care provider who is assisted by parish volunteers. Children who are three years old before September 30th of any given school year are encouraged to register for the Sunday Early Childhood program.

**Formal Instruction:**

Classes are offered for children from age three through high school:

Early Childhood ages 3, 4, K, Grade 1

Elementary Grades 2-6

Junior High Grades 7 & 8

Senior High Grades 9-12

Home Study Grades 1, 3-7

**Home Study:**

Home Study is a Parish School of Religion option for families with children who cannot attend weekly formal PSR class and wish to work with their children in a home setting. Home Study students are expected to complete the same materials as students in the classroom setting.

**Home Study is not an option for students in Grade 2 or Grade 8.**

Sacramental Preparation/Policies

**First Reconciliation:** The National Directory for Catechesis, put out by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, strongly recommends that children receive the Sacrament of First Reconciliation prior to First Eucharist. Therefore, every child in our PSR program is prepared to receive this sacrament, in second grade.

**First Holy Communion:** First Holy Communion is celebrated at St. Peter in second grade. Students wishing to celebrate this sacrament must attend either Catholic School of PSR (Parish School of Religion) in both first and second grades. There are no exceptions.

All candidates for First Holy Communion must demonstrate a knowledge that it is the Real Presence of Christ they are receiving in Communion, and be active participants in parish life, e.g., Mass.

**Confirmation:** Confirmation is celebrated at St. Peter in the eighth grade. Students wishing to be confirmed here must attend either Catholic School or PSR (Parish School of Religion) from first through eighth grades.

Exceptions will be handled by the Director of Religious Education.

All candidates for Confirmation must demonstrate a knowledge of the faith, and be active participants in parish life, e.g., Mass.