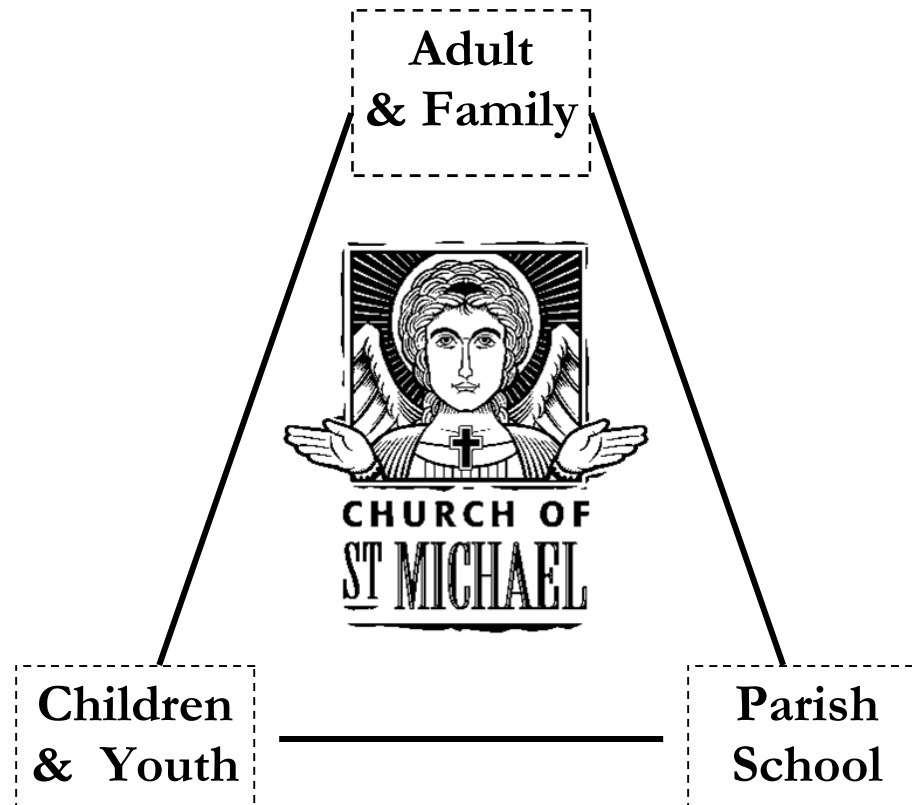


**Church of St. Michael  
Faith Formation Handbook  
2011-2012**



**16311 Duluth Avenue SE  
Prior Lake, MN 55372  
(952) 447-2491  
[www.stmichael-pl.org](http://www.stmichael-pl.org)**

## What is St. Michael Faith Formation?

All aspects of Faith Formation at the Church of St. Michael are committed to carrying out the Parish Mission Statement.

Using the Parish Mission Statement as our framework, the Faith Formation Staff & Committee brought together three **beliefs**, written to give direction to our ministry.

### Belief 1: Catholic Faith Formation...

#### It's about Discipleship

- Proclaim the Good News of Jesus through witness and word to all people
- Enable people to live as disciples through their involvement in service, ministry and leadership opportunities

### Belief 2: Catholic Faith Formation...

#### It's about Connection

- Be a community that welcomes all people, values their participation, and calls forth their gifts
- Integrate people into the liturgical, pastoral, and ministerial life of the Church of St. Michael
- Promote Catholic identity and religious literacy through programs of catechesis

### Belief 3: Catholic Faith Formation...

#### It's about Gifts and Growth

- Enable all individuals to develop a personal relationship with Jesus Christ
- Support families and individuals by providing resources, programs and services
- Provide opportunities to experience and express caring, service and compassion for others

## FAITH FORMATION STAFF

**Preschool and Kindergarten:** Deb Vohnoutka  
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Visit the parish website at [www.stmichael-pl.org](http://www.stmichael-pl.org)

**Parish Office Address:**  
16311 Duluth Ave. SE  
Prior Lake, MN 55372

## FAITH FORMATION PROGRAMS

### Preschool – Kindergarten Programs

- Classes meet during the 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday Masses
- Classes meet in the Education Center/School
- Curriculum: Pflaum's Gospel Weeklies – *Seeds & Promise*

### Elementary Program

- Classes meet on Wednesdays in the Education Center/School, with the gathering in the Multipurpose Room
- 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade – option of classes from 5:00-6:00 p.m. or 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- Curriculum: *Call to Faith*

### 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Programs

- 7<sup>th</sup> grade class meets from 5:00-6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays
- 8<sup>th</sup> grade class meets from 6:30-7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays
- Classes meet in the Education Center/School Gym
- Curriculum: *Edge by LifeTeen* – Includes speakers and small group discussion

### 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation Program

- 9<sup>th</sup> grade meets from 6:00-7:15 p.m. on Wednesdays
- 10<sup>th</sup> grade meets from 7:30-8:45 p.m. on Wednesdays
- Classes meet in the Archangels Hall
- 8 hours of Mission Outreach completed each year
- Curriculum: Speaker-based sessions that include small group discussion
  - o Noteworthy speakers for the 2011-12 sessions include Fr. Tony Ricard, John Crudele, Justin Fatica, Brian Gibson, Abby Johnson and Steve Ray

### 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Program

- Sunday sessions at 12:00 p.m. (Noon) in the Holy Grounds Coffee House, led by the Coffee House Board of Directors
- Curriculum: *LifeTeen* & other youth-led topics

- Students may also serve as small group leaders for the 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> grade programs & Quest retreat leaders

### Adult Programs

- **Adventures in Matthew:** This 24-sessions Bible Study using Jeff Cavins materials will be offered on Tuesdays from 9:00-10:30 am and repeated on Thursdays from 7:00-8:30 pm. For more information, please check the parish website or call Laura Shupe at 952-447-9062.
- **A Biblical Walk Through the Mass:** This 6-session study begins on Monday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Parish Office Building. The study involves personal reading and video presentation. Cost is \$10/person.
- **Great Religions Study of Islam:** This 6-session study which involves video presentation and discussion meets on Fridays from 9:00-11:00 am in the Parish Office Building beginning on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Cost is \$10/person.
- **Small Faith Sharing Groups:** Sharing groups consist of 6-12 adults who meet for 1 ½ - 2 hours to discuss a specific topic or the Sunday readings. Participants set the schedule of meetings.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

### Baptism

- Please call the parish Office to get information about the baptism classes – Baptism I for those who are having their first child baptized; Baptism II for those who already have a child baptized
- For those children age 5 and older, please call Laura Shupe at 952-447-9062

### First Reconciliation/Confession

- Children in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and above are invited to receive
- Curriculum: *Celebrating Our Faith*
- Sacramental Celebration: **Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 pm**

### First Eucharist/Communion

- Children in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and above are invited to participate
- Curriculum: *Celebrating Our Faith*
- Celebration of the Sacrament: **Masses on May 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>, 2012**

### Confirmation

- This is a 2-year program beginning in 9<sup>th</sup> grade
- Celebration of the Sacrament: **Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 7:00 pm** at the Cathedral of St. Paul, St. Paul

### Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)

- This process is for those interested in joining the Catholic Church
- Those adult Catholics who need to complete their sacraments of initiation (Confirmation and/or Eucharist)
- Sessions are held on Tuesdays from 7:00-8:30 p.m.

### Faith Formation Volunteer Requirements

- In response to the Charter for the Protection of Children, the Archdiocese of St. Paul & Minneapolis offers training sessions for all volunteers having regular and/or unsupervised contact with children, young people, and/or vulnerable adults. This program specifically addresses how entire parish communities can protect all people from sexual abuse. This program is called VIRTUS: Protecting God's Children. The program consists of a three-hour session and a take-home booklet; it is a **REQUIRED** (one-time attendance) program for all volunteers in Faith Formation.
- Volunteers are required to have a (one-time) Archdiocesan background check on file.
- Volunteers are required to sign a Code of Conduct.

### Health of Special Learning Issues

- Please note on the registration form any health issue of which we should be aware. We will ask you to complete a written health form to keep on file, if an emergency should arise.
- If your child has a special learning issue, please note it on the registration form and share any special strategies that will assist your child.

### Inclement Weather Policy

- **If** the Prior Lake/Savage School District cancels school & evening activities due to inclement weather, **then** ALL afternoon & evening programs at St. Michael are canceled.
- Specific cancellations will be communicated through the parish website and local television stations.

## PARISH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

### Little Angels Preschool

Laura Schroeder, Little Angels Coordinator

- **Curriculum:** *Stories of God's Love* Preschool Program (Ages 4 and 5), Published by RCL Benziger
- **Main Objectives of Little Angels Preschool:**
  - o Teaches children appropriate scripture stories that tell them of God's love and connects these stories to the children's lives.
  - o Connects sessions to the home by offering weekly family enrichment.
  - o In addition to the purchased curriculum, we have daily prayer and use the church worship space occasionally to enhance learning about our Catholic Faith.

### School Religion Classes

- **Curriculum:** Grades K-6 use the Harcourt series text. Grades 7 & 8 use the *Crossroads Series*, a thematic approach to religious education.
- **Program Objectives:**
  - o All students experience instruction in:
    - Advent, including all-school prayer services
    - Lent, including stations of the cross
    - Growing in Love & Out of Harm's Way
    - Pflaum text units to prepare students for Sunday liturgies.
    - Social Justice Principles
- **Special Activities:**
  - o Wednesday Children's Liturgies led by students
  - o BNN (Blues News Network) morning prayer
  - o Service Activities, i.e. Service Marathon, Clothing/Food Drives, Giving Tree, Feed My Starving Children, Pennies for Patients, etc.
  - o Reconciliation Services
  - o The Rosary & May Crowning to honor Mary

## MINISTRY PROGRAMS

### Children's Ministry

**Children's Liturgy of the Word** – This liturgical experience is open to children ages 5 years through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. It is offered during the school year at the 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Sunday Masses.

**Early Catholic Family Life** – This program is for parents and their children, ages 3-5 years old and provides activities for parents and children together and discussion on the topic for parents only in three 1 ½ hour sessions. For more information, please contact Laura Shupe at 447-9062.

**Vacation Bible School** – Join us for SonRise National Park VBS on August 6-10, 2012, in the Education Center/School. It is open to those children age 4 through current 4<sup>th</sup> graders. Registration materials will be available in March 2012.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Children (RCIC)** – This is a process for children/teens who are not baptized and are interested in joining the Catholic Church. For more information, please call Laura Shupe at 447-9062.

### Youth Ministry

There are terrific weekly and monthly events for the youth of St. Michael to grow closer to Christ and build community with one another. Examples of these service and social events include:

- **Grades 6-8:** Feed My Starving Children, Minnesota Harvest, Overnight retreats, Bowling, Winter Blast & Chill-Fest lock-ins, Summer Stretch, Ski Club, etc.
- **Grades 9-12:** Movie & Bowling overnight lock-in, Welch Village Ski Trip, Catholic HEART Workcamp, Respect Your Elders, Cup of Tea with Grandma, pilgrimage to Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe in LaCrosse, WI, and weekly gatherings at the Holy Grounds Coffee House
  - **Join the “Holy Grounds Coffee House” group on Facebook for all event and meeting updates!**

- **Teen & Family Masses** take place on **November 6<sup>th</sup>, December 4<sup>th</sup>, January 1<sup>st</sup>, February 12<sup>th</sup>, March 4<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>**. These are energetic Masses full of beautiful worship music, powerful community, and of course the Eucharist! All are welcome to join in this joyful celebration.

### Young Adult Ministry

We are excited to have a group for young adults ages 21-39, both married and single. Please call the Parish Office at 952-447-2491 or visit the parish website at [www.stmichael-pl.org](http://www.stmichael-pl.org) for more information.

### Adult & Family Ministry

#### **Social Activities:**

- **St. Michael Day:** Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00 pm in Archangels Hall
- **Mardi Gras:** Tuesday, February 21, 2012 from 6:00-8:00 pm

**Book Club** Discussions are held in the Parish Office Building on the first Monday of the month from 9:30-11:00 am and repeated at 7:00-8:30 pm. Check the parish website and bulletin for each month's selection.

**Cana Dinner:** Join us on Friday, October 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 for this celebration of marriage

- Cost: \$25/couple (includes Dinner and Speaker)

**Women's Lenten Morning of Reflection** will be held on Saturday, February 25, 2012. Cost if \$15/person or \$10 for seniors and students.

**Parish Library:** Open before and after weekend Masses, Wednesdays from 8:00-9:00 am, and Thursdays from 5:00-6:45 pm.

**Stephen Ray** will be here on Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at 7:00 pm to speak to us about Lent. Mark your calendars now and check the parish website for more information.

## PROGRAM CALENDARS

### Preschool & Kindergarten

Sundays during the 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses

September 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 p.m.- Opening Mass (All Grades)  
September 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:45 a.m. - P&K Open House in School  
October 2<sup>nd</sup> - **First Class** - Regular class times  
October 9<sup>th</sup> - Regular class times  
October 16<sup>th</sup> - Regular class times  
October 23<sup>rd</sup> - NO CLASS – MEA  
October 30<sup>th</sup> - Regular class times  
November 6<sup>th</sup> -Regular class times  
November 13<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
November 20<sup>th</sup> - Regular class times  
November 27<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS – Thanksgiving  
December 4<sup>th</sup> – Class 10:30 a.m. only  
December 11<sup>th</sup> – Class 10:30 a.m. only  
December 18<sup>th</sup> – Class 10:30 a.m. only – Christmas Program  
December 25<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS – Christmas Break  
January 1<sup>st</sup> – NO CLASS – Christmas Break  
January 8<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
January 15<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
January 22<sup>nd</sup> - Regular class times  
January 29<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
February 5<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
February 12<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
February 19<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS  
February 26<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
March 4<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
March 11<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
March 18<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
March 25<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
April 1<sup>st</sup> – Regular class times – Last class



## Elementary Program (Grades 1-6)

1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grades – 5:00-6:00 p.m. or 6:30-7:30 p.m.

6<sup>th</sup> grade – 6:30-7:30 p.m.

September 21<sup>st</sup>, 6:00 p.m. - Opening Mass (**All Grades**)  
\*\* Open House—meet your Catechist  
September 28<sup>th</sup> -1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders have regular class  
\*\* 6<sup>th</sup> grade: Magic of your Potential, 6:30 pm, Archangels Hall  
October 5<sup>th</sup> - Regular class times  
October 12<sup>th</sup> - Regular class times  
October 19<sup>th</sup> - NO CLASS- MEA  
October 26<sup>th</sup> - Regular class times  
November 2<sup>nd</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders have regular class  
\*\* 6<sup>th</sup> grade Movie Night 4:45-7:30 p.m. School  
November 9<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grades have regular class  
\*\* 5<sup>th</sup> Grade to Feed My Starving Children, 5:00-8:00 pm  
November 16<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
November 23<sup>rd</sup> – NO CLASS – Happy Thanksgiving!  
November 30<sup>th</sup> – Class (Protection of Children & Youth Lessons)  
\*\* Parents encouraged to attend with their children  
December 7<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
December 14<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders have regular class:  
\*\* 6<sup>th</sup> Grade to Feed My Starving Children, 5:00-8:00 pm  
December 21<sup>st</sup> –NO CLASS- Merry Christmas!  
December 28<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS – Happy New Year!  
January 4<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
January 11<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
January 18<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> graders & 5<sup>th</sup> graders have regular class times:  
\*\*4<sup>th</sup> Grade to Feed My Starving Children, 5:00-8:00 pm  
\*\*6<sup>th</sup> Grade to Church at 7:00 pm for speaker on Bullying  
January 25<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> graders have regular class times  
\*\*6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade to Gym from 6:30-7:30 pm for DJ Bill  
February 1<sup>st</sup> – Regular class times  
February 8<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
February 15<sup>th</sup> - Class-Faith Formation Reconciliation  
1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade have regular class; 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders meet at 6:00 p.m., in the church to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation. 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade must attend with a parent/adult.

## Elementary Program (continued)

February 22 – NO CLASS (Grades 1-5): Ash Wednesday  
\*\*6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> Grade meet at 6:00 pm in Archangels Hall & attend  
7:00 pm Ash Wednesday Liturgy together  
February 29<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
March 7<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
March 14<sup>th</sup> – 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade have regular class  
\*\*6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade: NET Retreat, 4:00-7:30 pm, Archangels Hall  
March 21<sup>st</sup> – Regular class times  
March 28<sup>th</sup> – Grades 1-10: Living Stations of the Cross, 6:00 pm  
\*\*Families are invited to attend with children in Church  
April 4<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS – Spring Break!  
April 11<sup>th</sup> – Regular class time  
April 18<sup>th</sup> – Closing Class - Celebrate!

### **1<sup>st</sup> RECONCILIATION**

**Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2:00 p.m.**

### **1<sup>st</sup> COMMUNION**

**Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 pm Mass**

**Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 8:30, 10:30 am & 2:00 pm Masses**

### **VIRTUS TRAINING –Archangels Hall**

**Thursday, Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-9:00 p.m.**

### **Returning and New Catechist Training – Archangels Hall**

**Wednesday, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30 p.m.**

### **HOMESTUDY PARENT INFORMATION MEETING**

(For families choosing NOT to attend Wednesday classes and are completing  
CALL to FAITH curriculum at home)

This meeting will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room Education Center, Monday,  
October 4<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Materials will be distributed.

## Middle School Program (Grades 7 & 8)

Grade 7 – 5:00-6:00 p.m. Grade 8 – 6:30-7:30 p.m.

September 21<sup>st</sup> – 6:00 p.m. Opening Mass in Church – both grades  
September 28<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm Magic of your Potential in Archangels, ALL  
October 5<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
October 12<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm Speaker in Church – Fr. Tony Ricard  
October 19<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS  
October 26<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm Speaker in Church – Fr. John Paul Erickson  
November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Regular class times  
November 9<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
November 16<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
November 23<sup>rd</sup> – NO CLASS – Happy Thanksgiving!  
November 30<sup>th</sup> - Regular class times  
December 7<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
December 14<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
December 21<sup>st</sup> - Regular class times  
December 29<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS  
January 4<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
January 11<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
January 18<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 p.m-8:30 p.m. – both grades in Church-John  
Crudele  
January 25<sup>th</sup> – 6:30-7:30 pm in Gym with DJ Bill – both grades  
February 1<sup>st</sup> – Regular class times  
February 8<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
February 15<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm in Church – Reconciliation Service, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup>  
February 22<sup>nd</sup> – 6:00 pm in Archangels & 7:00 pm Ash Service  
February 29<sup>th</sup> - Regular class times  
March 7<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
March 14<sup>th</sup> – 4:00-7:30 pm in Archangels Hall – NET Retreat, 7<sup>th</sup>&8<sup>th</sup>  
March 21<sup>st</sup> – Regular class times  
March 28<sup>th</sup> – 6:00 pm in Church – Stations of the Cross (all invited)  
April 4<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS – Holy Week!  
April 11<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
April 18<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times

*Please visit the parish website at [www.stmichael-pl.org](http://www.stmichael-pl.org)*

## High School Program (Grades 9 & 10)

Grade 9- 6:00-7:15pm      Grade 10 – 7:30 – 8:45pm

September 21<sup>st</sup> – 6:00 pm – Opening Mass for both grades  
September 28<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – **Parent-Teen Night** for both grades  
October 5<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
October 12<sup>th</sup> – 7:00pm – both classes combined, **Fr. Tony Ricard**  
October 19<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS - Enjoy MEA!  
October 26<sup>th</sup> – 7:00pm – classes combined, **Fr. John Paul Erickson**  
November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Regular class times  
November 9<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
November 16<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
November 23<sup>rd</sup> – NO CLASS – Happy Thanksgiving!  
November 30<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
December 7<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – both classes combined, **Justin Fatica**  
December 14<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
December 21<sup>st</sup> – Regular class times  
December 28<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS – Merry Christmas!  
January 4<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
January 11<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
January 18<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – both classes combined, **John Crudele**  
January 25<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
February 1<sup>st</sup> – Regular class times  
February 8<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
February 15<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – both classes combined, **Abby Johnson**  
February 22<sup>nd</sup> – 6:00pm - both classes combined  
February 29<sup>th</sup> - Regular class times  
March 7<sup>th</sup> – 7:00 pm – both classes combined, **Steve Ray**  
March 14<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
March 21<sup>st</sup> – 7:00 pm – both classes combined, **David Rinaldi**  
March 28<sup>th</sup> – Regular class times  
April 4<sup>th</sup> – NO CLASS – Holy Week!  
April 11<sup>th</sup> - Regular class times  
April 16<sup>th</sup> – **Rite of Confirmation, 7:00 pm at Cathedral of St. Paul**



## Confirmation Retreats

*Quest, TEC and NET are retreat experiences that combine prayer, reception of the sacraments, small group discussions, witnesses & presentations, skits, games, great food, and a few surprises...*

### **9<sup>th</sup> grade – MUST attend a Quest Retreat**

- Quest Retreat – November 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011
- Quest Retreat – December 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011

**(Quest retreats are held in Archangels Hall)**

### **10<sup>th</sup> grade – MUST attend a TEC or NET retreat**

TEC or NET – see Confirmation parent packet for dates

Parent Retreats are held in Archangels Hall on a Friday evening and returning on Saturday morning through late afternoon

Women's Retreat – November 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Men's Retreat – November 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011

- Remember to mark your calendars for the Church of St. Michael **Teen & Family Masses** at 5:00 pm on **November 6<sup>th</sup>, December 4<sup>th</sup>, January 1<sup>st</sup>, February 12<sup>th</sup>, March 4<sup>th</sup> and April 15<sup>th</sup>!** Join this community of faith for powerful and Christ-centered worship!

### ***Support St. Michael with SCRIP!***

***Help to support the Faith Formation programs of St. Michael by participating in the SCRIP program! Simply purchase SCRIP gift cards at the parish office, school office or after Mass (including all Teen & Family Masses) and specify whether you would like the proceeds to benefit the Faith Formation programming or the Parish School. You spend the same amount you normally would at local vendors, and the parish's ministries benefit!***