



St. Stephen, Martyr Parish

**Blaze, Youth Ministry &
Sacramental Preparation
Schedules**

2009 – 2010

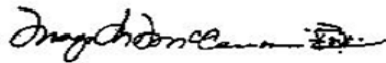
Elementary, Middle School, High School and Adults

St. Stephen, Martyr Parish Policy for Registration

It is presumed that at least one person in this family is a practicing Roman Catholic and the family regularly participates in the Sunday Eucharist at St. Stephen, Martyr.

It is also presumed that this membership indicates the family's support of this parish with their time, talents and treasure. In brief the family participates regularly in the life and service of this parish.

Thank you for your support of this minimal, normative standard.



Msgr. Michael D. McCarron, Pastor

This booklet is a compilation of current dates and schedules for youth and child catechesis for our parish of St. Stephen, Martyr. The information herein is general and may prompt further questions. Please contact us at the parish by phone at 421-7416 or by e-mail cass@ssmrcc.org for information about a specific program or situation.

We are very blessed and excited about our Blaze catechesis. Parents are the first teachers of their children and the primary instructors in our faith. Adults are expected to attend BLAZE sessions with their children. Blaze is the usual process of Religious Education at St. Stephen.

We look forward to your involvement and your help with this important ministry of our parish.

Cass Hooker, Suzanne Flach, Cathy Barrick
Christian Formation Department

CHRISTIAN FORMATION FEES

Blaze

Before 9/20/09: \$25 per child and one \$25 fee for all adults
with a family maximum of \$100

After 9/20/09: \$40 per child and one \$40 fee for all adults
with a family maximum of \$160

First Reconciliation Textbook(s) : \$20
Collected at the October Meeting

First Eucharist Textbook(s) : \$20
Collected at the October Meeting

Confirmation I fees: \$60
Collected at the October Meeting

Confirmation II fees: \$160
Collected at the October Meeting

*No one will be denied Christian Formation classes
or materials due to financial reasons.*

Christian Formation

BLAZE

Schedule for grades pre k – 11th unless noted otherwise

Sept 28th 2009	Monday 6:00pm – 8:00pm Additional Grade 3, 4, 5 and 6 Session		
October 2009	Sun 4th 1:30 – 3:30	Mon 5th 6:30 – 8:30	Sun 11th 4:00 – 6:00
October 2009	16 th Lighten Up 6pm Inter-generational entertainment night by Doug Brummel		
October 2009	29 th Slime Time 6pm K – 5 th Grade Participants MS/HS Helpers		
November 2009	Sun 8th 1:30 – 3:30	Sun 8th 4:00 – 6:00	Mon 9th 6:30 – 8:30
Nov 30th 2009	Monday 6:00pm – 8:00pm Additional Grade 3, 4, 5 and 6 Session		
December 2009	6 th Night in Bethlehem 4pm experience the Christmas Story as if you were there		
December 2009	Mon 7th 6:30 – 8:30	Sun 13th 1:30 – 3:30	Sun 13th 4:00 – 6:00
January 2010	Sun 10th 1:30 – 3:30	Sun 10th 4:00 – 6:00	Mon 11th 6:30 – 8:30
Jan 25th 2010	Monday 6:00pm – 8:00pm Additional Grade 3, 4, 5 and 6 Session		
Feb/Mar 2010	Sun 28th 1:30 – 3:30	Mon 1st 6:30 – 8:30	Sun 7th 4:00 – 6:00
March 2010	21 st Lenten Blaze 1:30pm		
April 2010	Sun 25th 1:30 – 3:30	Sun 25th 4:00 – 6:00	Mon 26th 6:30 – 8:30
May 2010	16 th Picnic & Crowning 1:30pm		

Blaze Session	Meal Plans – bring the following to Blaze
Oct 2009	Apples (cut up), Orange slices, Pineapple chunks, Grapes and Juice or Cider for drinks
Nov 2009	Fall/Thanksgiving Cookies and hot chocolate and juice for drinks
Dec 2009	Pot Luck Meal – bring a dish, pizza or chicken to share
Jan 2010	Vegetables and dips, pita chips and salsa and 2 liter sodas (any flavor - regular and diet)
Feb/Mar 2010	Meatless Meals – veggie pizza, salads, pasta and red sauce, mac & cheese and lemonade for drinks
Mar 2010	Chips and dips and juices for drinks
April 2010	Spring Fare – strawberries, grapes, bananas, breads and dips and 2 liter sodas for drink
May 2010	Picnic – SSM will provide hotdogs and ice cream with assorted toppings. Bring a side dish to share

******* PLEASE NOTE: NOT ALL BLAZE SESSIONS THIS YEAR ARE FULL MEALS *******
Bring only one of the items (i.e. apples or drink) listed for each corresponding Blaze session attended



**The following pages chart the
Curriculum for:**

Grades PK – 6th

(classwork and homework)

(Catholic traditions to learn)

and

Grades 7th – 11th

(classroom topics)

(Catholic traditions to learn)



Date	Adult Topic		PK/K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th
Sept 28 2009		Classwork				Ch. 1	Ch. 1, 5	Ch. 1,2,3	Ch. 6
Oct 2009	Trinity	Classwork Homework	Ch. 4 Ch. 1,2,3	Ch. 4 Ch. 1,2,3	Ch. 6 Ch. 1,2,3	Ch. 4 Ch. 2,3	Ch. 4 Ch. 2,3	Ch. 4 Ch. 5,6	Ch. 4 Ch. 1,2,3
Nov 2009	Life Ever-lasting	Classwork Homework	Ch. 20 Ch. 21	Ch. 20 Ch. 21	Ch. 21 Ch.19,20	Ch. 21 Ch.19,20	Ch. 21 Ch.19,20	Ch. 20 Ch. 19,21	Ch. 19 Ch.4,5,20
Nov 30 2009		Classwork				Ch.12,13	Ch. 6, 8	Ch. 12,13	Ch. 8,10
Dec 2009	Jesus Christ	Classwork Homework	Ch. 7,8 Pg.10,12	Ch. 7 Pg.10,12	Ch. 7 Ch. 8 & Pg.12,16	Ch. 7 Ch. 5,6& Pg.12,16	Ch. 7 Pg.12,16	Ch. 7 Ch. 8,9& Pg.12,16	Ch. 9 Ch. 7,8& Pg.12,16
Jan 2010	Catholic Christian Parenting	Classwork Homework	Ch. 16 Ch.17,18	Ch. 18 Ch.17,19	Ch. 16 Ch.17,18	Ch. 16 Ch.17,18	Ch. 17 Ch.18	Ch. 16 Ch. 17,18	Ch. 16 Ch.17,18
Jan 25 2010		Classwork				Ch.14,15	Ch.9,10	Ch.14,15	Ch.14,22
Feb/Mar 2010	Death & Res. of Christ	Classwork Homework	Ch. 13 Ch.15 & Pg. 16	Ch. 16 Pg. 5,16	Ch. 12 Ch.11,13 & Pg.24	Ch. 8 Ch.9 & Pg. 24	Ch. 16 Ch.13,14	Ch. 9 Ch.8 & Pg. 24	Ch. 21 Pg. 15,24
Mar 2010	Family Lenten Day	Homework	Ch. 10 & Pg.153	Ch. 10 & Pg.28	Ch. 10 & Pg.28	Ch. 10 & Pg.28	Ch.11,12 & Pg.24	Ch. 10 & Pg.28	Ch. 12 & Pg.28
April 2010	Holy Spririt	Classwork Homework	Ch. 11 Pg.22,175	Ch. 11 Pg. 6,22	Ch. 6 Pg. 26	Ch. 11 Pg. 32	Ch. 12 Pg.14,15	Ch. 11 Pg. 36	Ch. 11 Ch.12,13
May 2010	Picnic & May Crowning	Family Crowning Activity followed by Picnic							

We Learn Our Tradition ... We are Catholics

Goals for learning our traditions (located in the back of your books)

Learn by:	December	February	April
PreK and K	Sign of the Cross Glory Be Prayer Words of Faith A - H	Lord's Prayer Grace before Meals Words of Faith I - P	Words of Faith Q - Z
1st grade	Pg 206 Bible Pg 208 Creed Pg 210 Mary Pg 214 Sacraments	Pg 216 & 217 Special Things Pg 224 & 225 Colors and Seasons	Sign of Cross Lord's Prayer Hail Mary Grace before Meals All on page 230-231
2nd grade	Pg 222 Bible Pg 224 Creed	Pg 226 & 227 Sacraments Pg 232 Sacramentals	Pg 234 Church Seasons Pg 237 - 240 Commandments Lord's Prayer Hail Mary Glory Be Prayer
3rd grade	Pg 222 Bible Pg 225 Creed Pg 227 Church Pg 229 Mary	Pg 231 Order of Mass Pg 234 10 Commandments Pg 236 Examination Of Conscience	Pg 246 Rosary
4th grade	Pg 222 - 225 Books of the Bible Pg 226 - 227 Creed	Pg 230 - 233 Liturgical Year And Sacraments	Pg 234 Beatitudes and 10 Commandments Pg 246 Rosary
5th grade	Pg 222 - 227 Scripture and Creed	Pg 228- 229 Creed	Pg 234 - 235 Beatitudes and 10 Commandments
6th grade	Pg 226 - 233 Books of Bible, Creed and Liturgical Year	Pg 234 - 237 Morality Pg 240 Act of Contrition Pg 241 Blessing before Meals	Pg 246 Rosary



CURRICULUM for Grades 7 – 11

This curriculum uses the EDGE and LIFE TEEN series from LIFE TEEN, INC. It is approved by the US Catholic Bishops and is in accordance with the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Blaze Session	Grades 7 & 8	Grades 9 - 11
October '09	Stop It!	Retro
November '09	Firm Foundation	Dead Strength
December '09	The Sower	Go Fish
January '10	The Good Samaritan	Trust Me
Feb/Mar '10	Be Prepared	Heart of Mystery
March '10	Lenten Family Project	
April '10	Prodigal Son	Coming Attractions
May '10	Picnic & Crowning	

We Learn our Traditions

Goals for learning Catholic traditions. Most answers are in the back of the Catholic Faith Handbook. Books are available for your reference in Room 6 or may be purchased for \$20.

Learn by:	Grades 7 & 8	Grades 9 - 11
Dec '09	<p style="text-align: center;">What are the two Great Commandments?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Be able to recite at least 4 Beatitudes</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">What is your favorite Gospel story? Describe it and why is it your favorite and what impact has it on your life today?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Stations of the Cross – what part of the life of Jesus do these stations outline?</p>
Feb '10	<p style="text-align: center;">What are the 3 theological virtues?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">What are the seasons of the liturgical year?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Name 6 holy days of obligation.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Who is St. Francis of Assisi? Who are the 4 Evangelists? Who wrote the Acts of the Apostles?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Name one Marian apparition and what happened at one of these?</p>
April '10	<p style="text-align: center;">Describe how we pray the Rosary</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Who is St. Stephen, Martyr? Tell about him. Who persecuted him?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tell about the story of St. Paul and his conversion?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Tell about Prodigal Son and his family.</p>

FIRST RECONCILIATION PREPARATION

MONTH	DAY	
October **	13 th at 7 pm or 18 th at 1 pm	PARENT ONLY Meeting
October	31 st 9 - 11 am	PARENT/CHILD Meeting
November	21 st 9 - 11 am	PARENT/CHILD Meeting
December	4 th 6:30 pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation

** First Reconciliation Preparation book(s) will be distributed at these meetings. See front cover for reconciliation book fees.

FIRST EUCHARIST PREPARATION

MONTH	DAY	
October ***	13 th at 7 pm or 18 th at 1 pm	PARENT ONLY Meeting
January	30 th 9am - 11:30am	PARENT/CHILD Meeting
February	27 th 9am - 11:30am	PARENT/CHILD Meeting
March	20 th 9am - 11:30am	PARENT/CHILD Retreat
April	27 th 6-6:30pm 5pm Mass 6:30-7pm 9am Mass 7-7:30pm 11am Mass	PARENT/CHILD Rehearsal
May	1 st 5pm Mass 2 nd 9am Mass 2 nd 11am Mass	Celebration of First Eucharist

*** First Eucharist Preparation book(s) will be distributed in January. See front cover for Eucharist book fees.



The following
pages are

Confirmation

Year I
&
Year II

Information

Confirmation Year I Requirements

General Expectations — Must attend Mass and partake of the sacraments. Attendance at BLAZE sessions is also expected.

Confirmation Year I Classes — **These classes are mandatory preparation for the sacrament of confirmation.** Missed classes must be made up. If after looking at your schedule, you feel like you cannot commit to being present, we ask that you wait for the sacrament. (There are other youth ministry activities for teens to stay involved in.)

Sponsors—Candidates will need to meet with their sponsor (at least) once a month during the school year. Sponsors need to be adults active in our parish community. **Parents cannot serve as sponsors for their own children, but parents must stand in for sponsors for class meetings if the sponsor is unavailable.**

Interviews — All year one students must interview with a member of the confirmation team at the end of the first year or prior to beginning year two.

Confirmation Liturgy — The date and place of the celebration of the sacrament is determined by the Bishop. It is generally sometime in the Easter season. Year I Students, parents and sponsors are encouraged to attend.

Service — All first year students are **required to participate in two of the many scheduled community service projects with the class.** Our service group is called “Holy Cows” (Catholics **O**ut **W**orking) and you can find more information in the YM section of the bulletin. **Current dates that the group will meet are as follows:** October 10th, November 7th, December 5th, January 9th, February 13th, April 24th, May 8th. More dates and opportunities may arise, please follow the bulletin.

Youth Ministry — Students are also encouraged to participate in youth ministry events—especially as the preparation process as year one does not offer as many opportunities as year two does. As well, as members

Confirmation Year I Classes Calendar 09-10

Date	Time	Location	Topic
9/12	noon – 6:15	SSM	Fall Orientation, Fun Day & Mass
10/13	7pm	Worship Space	Parent Sacrament Info Meeting & Registration
10/16	5:45 - ? pm	Worship Space	Guest Presenter: Doug Brummel
10/18	1:00	Worship Space	Parent Sacrament Info Meeting & Registration
11/15	3:00 -5:15 pm	Worship Space & Commons	Class Sponsor or parent to attend (refreshments offered)
12/12-12/13	8:30 am Sat – 1:00 pm Sun	SSM	Antioch Retreat
1/8	6pm ~ 9pm (approx ending time)	Worship Space & Commons	12 th night dinner & class meeting Sponsor or parent to attend
1/17	1:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Worship Space & Commons	Class Sponsor or parent to attend (meal offered)
2/14	1:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Worship Space & Commons	Class Sponsor or parent to attend (meal offered)
3/28	1:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Worship Space & Commons	Class Sponsor or parent to attend (meal offered)

Confirmation Year II Requirements

General Expectations— Must attend Mass and partake of the sacraments. Attendance at BLAZE sessions is also expected.

Confirmation Year II Classes—These classes are mandatory preparation for the sacrament of confirmation. Missed classes must be made up. If after looking at your schedule, you feel like you cannot commit to being present, we ask that you wait for the sacrament. (There are other youth ministry activities for teens to stay involved in.)

Retreat- You must attend the overnight retreat. **The retreat is mandatory and time should be saved immediately to guarantee participation. Work schedules, school activities, sports, and SATs, etc can be adjusted with adequate notice. Start working now to clear your calendar for those dates.**

Sponsors—Candidates will need to meet with their sponsor (at least) once a month during the school year. Sponsors need to be adults active in our parish community. **Parents cannot serve as sponsors for their own children, but parents must stand in for sponsors for class meetings if the sponsor is unavailable.**

Letter-Candidates express their desire to be confirmed with a letter to the pastor. Information about the letter is given out in the spring-time.

Interviews— There are 2 interviews conducted. The first will occur prior to Christmas and the second will occur after the retreat and before the Confirmation Liturgy. Interviews will be with the pastor or his designee(s).

Service—all second year students are **required to participate in three of the community service projects with the class.** Our service group is called “Holy Cows” (Catholics **O**ut **W**orking) and you can find more information in the YM section of the bulletin. **Current dates that the group will meet are as follows:** October 10th, November 7th, December 5th, January 9th, February 13th, April 24th, May 8th. More dates and opportunities may arise, please follow the bulletin.

Confirmation Liturgy—The date and place of the celebration of the sacrament is determined by the Bishop. As soon as we know, we will let you know when that will be. It is generally sometime in the Easter season.

Youth Ministry — Students are also encouraged to participate in youth ministry events—especially as the preparation process as year one does not offer as many opportunities as year two does. As well, as members of the parish, students should in some way be involved in ministry.

Confirmation Year II Classes

Date	Time	Location	Topic
9/19	Noon – 6:15	SSM	Orientation, Fun Day & Mass
10/13	7:00 pm	Worship Space	Parent Sacrament Info Meeting & Registration
10/16	5:45pm - ?	Worship Space	Guest Presenter: Doug Brummel
10/18	1:00 pm	Worship Space	Parent Sacrament Info Meeting & Registration
10/25	1:00pm – 3:15 pm	Worship Space & Commons	Class Sponsor or parent to attend (meal offered)
11/21	Check in by 4:45 pm	Mass	Rite of Welcome with reception following Sponsor & parents to attend
11/22	1:00 pm– 3:15 pm	Worship Space & Commons	Class (meal offered)
1/24	1:00 pm– 3:15 pm	Worship Space & Commons	Class Sponsor or parent to attend (meal offered)
1/26	7:00 pm– 9:15pm	Worship Space	Msgr. Mike – Death & Dying Sponsor or parent to attend
2/16	7:00pm- 9:15pm	Worship Space	Msgr. Mike – Baptism & Confirmation Sponsor or parent to attend
2/21	1:00 pm– 3:15 pm	Worship Space & Commons	Class Sponsor or parent to attend (meal offered)
3/2	7:00pm- 9:15pm	Worship Space	Msgr. Mike – Eucharist Sponsor or parent to attend
3/12- 3/14		TBA	Retreat
4/11	1:00 pm – 3:15pm	Worship Space & Commons	Class Sponsor or parent to attend (meal offered)

YOUTH MINISTRY

What is Youth Ministry?

Youth Ministries consists of programming and spiritual development for students in grades 6-12. Students in grades 6-12 are invited to fully participate in any and all programs that we offer. Some of our programs are age specific and we try to strike a balance between fellowship, mission and education. Friends, whether Catholic or not, are always expected and welcomed! A calendar of upcoming events is published weekly within the Youth Ministry bulletin insert, complete with times and locations. We also have a bulletin board in the commons, a facebook fan page, and frequent updates and announcements sent via e-mail – make sure all of your family's e-mail addresses are current with Suzanne Flach.

Joining Youth Ministry

You do not need to register or sign up for “Youth Ministry” – we have a large and fast moving revolving door! However, you do have to sign up and register for special events so we know how many to prepare for. But as far as an official registration to become involved in Youth Ministry – there is no such thing! Some teens come to everything we offer, some teens only come to events when their schedule allows.

Watch the bulletin for actual dates and times
to join us for any and all of the following
Special Events:

Bowling & Pizza

Laser Quest

Busch Gardens

Camping & Hiking

Antique Car Show

Holiday Parties

Ice Skating

Trips to the National Cathedral, the Beach, St.
Mary's Basilica in Norfolk

March for Life Rally

Variety Shows

International Dinner

Super Bowl Party

Snow Skiing

Kayaking

Souper Bowl of Caring

Food Fast

Lock - Ins

Discovery Retreat

A special diocesan peer-ministered retreat for 9th and 10th graders! It deals with discovering one's identity and that of the Lord through: talks, small group interaction and community-building experiences. It is based on the steps of evangelization and helps the young person know Jesus in faith!

Christian Awakening Retreat

A special diocesan peer-ministered retreat for 11th and 12th graders! The youth of this retreat community come to know and experience Christ, and to see him in themselves and others. They're invited to look at ways of serving others and becoming better, more fully committed Christians.

Antioch Retreat

"It was at Antioch that believers were first called Christians." (Acts 11:26). Antioch is a parish based retreat program also led by peer ministers. Antioch is most appropriate for 10th - 12th graders. It offers teens an encounter with Jesus and an experience of His church within their own culture. Because this is a parish based ministry, there is the valuable ingredient of continuity with all of the attendant opportunities for growth in Christian community, ongoing peer ministry, and assimilation of their treasured gifts into the whole parish faith community.

Music Ministry

We are always looking for musicians!! We need musicians for youth masses, regular masses, special events... you name it!!! Without music the world is quiet and boring!!! Come share your talent and offer praise to Jesus through this unique ministry.

Martyrs Messengers

We have a very active and involved drama troop called Martyrs Messengers here at St. Stephen, and we are under the direction of Valerie Klauss and Renee Cunningham. We put on special performances such as dinner theatres and also perform the Gospels during youth masses, Holy week, and other times. We need you to join us!!!

Holy C.O.W's

Catholics Out Working. We meet at St. Stephen approximately one Saturday a month for service opportunities around our community such as working at the Union Mission, the area Food Bank, nursing homes, and for service to the parish and parishioners of St. Stephen. We can help with yard work, minor home repairs and general upkeep, anything you may need! If you have a service request or idea, or know of someone who may need our help (parishioners or not, it doesn't matter!), please let us know! We would like to break a record of hours volunteered in service to our community this year!

MS & HS Youth Groups

MS and HS Youth Groups alternate-meet every Friday evening (with a few exceptions). We come together with new and old friends to hang out and have a good time together. We could have anything from a "20 minute Bible discussion" to "inner tube wrestling" – you just never know what you're going to get! One thing is for sure – you will have fun whether you want to or not!

For further
Youth Ministry
information

contact Suzanne at

suzanne@ssmrcc.org

or visit the website at

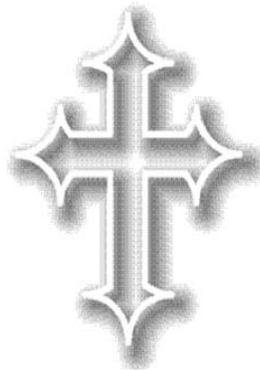
<http://www.ssmrcc.org/youth-ministry.aspx>



INCLEMENT WEATHER

If we need to cancel any of our classes, there will be a mass email or a message on the office phone to let families know there are no classes.





SSMRCC

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

