

Saanich Peninsula Parish

Children's Religious Education Program

2009/2010 Annual Report

Our ongoing goal is to help children see God in their lives, to see God's grace in their everyday experiences and to help them increase their appreciation of God's love and goodness for us. Our catechists followed the Born of the Spirit Canadian Catechetical series with the exception of Course 2/3 which followed the newly developed program for the children preparing for reception of their 2nd and 3rd Initiation Sacraments of Confirmation and First Communion.

- 8 Catechists & 2 Substitutes (& 2 youth helpers for the Pre/K program)
- Preschool to Grade 8
- 67 children in the program (+ 3 children who joined in February.)
- Enrollment history:

2005/2006 - 52

2006/2007 - 51

2007/2008 - 67

2008/2009 - 63

2009/2010 - 67 (+ 3 Pre/K children who joined in February = 70):

Preschool, Kindergarten, & Course 1:	17
Course 2/3:	24
Course 4/5:	16
Course 6, 7, & 8:	13
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Total:	70 children

- We meet every Sunday from 9:45 to 11:00 a.m. at St. Elizabeth's
- Special children's masses are held once a month with the older classes participating in the mass. Our Christmas Eve service we held a simple but meaningful 'enacted liturgy of the word'. Children from Course Pre/K - 8 (and a few parents) took part in this wonderful service.
- Sacramental preparation classes for Christian Initiation: In 2008, Bishop Richard together with a committee looked into modifying the sacramental preparation program for Confirmation & First Communion into a two year program. Confirmation/ First Communion classes were held every Sunday from September - April. This year 24 children and their parents followed the new liturgy based sacramental preparation program. Together we journeyed

in partnership with their parents to learn about their faith. We had 100% positive feedback not only from the catechists and the parent's but from the children as well.

During the months of March and April we followed the eight week program "Come Join Us at the Table". Carla Fretwell, Jim Fretwell, Gary Koett, Lynn Koett, and Kathy Gillis helped prepare the children for this important celebration which was held April 25th with Bishop Richard Gagnon and Father Rolf Hasenack presiding.

- All classes have participated in many outreach community projects. The children brought in many bags of groceries for World Food Day (St. Vincent de Paul). In December, our youth group (Course 6, 7, & 8) held a pancake breakfast with St. Nicolas for the children and their families of our parish. Also during December the children, catechists, and Father Rolf sang Christmas Carols for the residents at Rest Haven Lodge. During Advent the senior class raised funds to put together toiletry kits for our friends at Anawim House. During our Easter season Course Pre/K - Course 8 children and parents worked together to make six dozen Easter treats for our friends at St. Elizabeth's soup kitchen.**
- During the year we held many social functions including a Harvest Family festival/Oktoberfest with the K of C, Advent wreath making, and seasonal celebrations. We will be holding the end of the year celebration (BBQ) with our parish at Heritage Acres on June 9th.**

Hours submitted by Lynn Koett:

**2005/2006 - 405 hours (September - May)
2006/2007 - 415 hours (September - May)
2007/2008 - 336 hours (September - April)
2008/2009 - 346 hours (September - April)
2009/2010 - 419 hours (September - April)**

**Yearly contract 2005 - 2008: 195 hours / year
Yearly contract 2008/2009: 235 hours
Yearly contract 2009/2010: 340 hours**

My recommendation is that the yearly contract for the new Religious Education coordinator be extended to 380 hours so that the contract again includes the months from September to May.

Respectfully submitted,

**Lynn Koett,
Religious Education Coordinator**