



# SAINT PAUL'S FAMILIES

## Drawing the Line

New Parents Group Class Starts January 10th

Parenting raises a lot of questions. We want to raise children who are responsible and respectful, but we're not sure how to do that. How can we avoid raising children who feel they can never quite measure up? How does rescuing our children from the consequences of their choices and behaviors undermine discipline? What roles, if any, do negotiation and compromise play in discipline?



Starting in January we will discuss these questions, and many more, as we begin our class entitled Drawing the Line. This a curriculum developed by the magazine *Christianity Today*. Each week we will discuss an article on parenting from *Christianity Today* by examining some relevant biblical passages. I hope to see you on January 10 during the Christian Education hour. Enclosed you will find the first article we will discuss, "The Power of Consequences." - Colin+

## Epiphany Party

Friday, January 8th at 7 pm

Epiphany is the Christian feast day that celebrates the revelation of God the Son as a human being in Jesus Christ. Join us as we celebrate at the home of Ken & Lisa Halliburton (1126 Campbell Court). Please bring a bottle of wine and an appetizer. If you need childcare at the church please email [nursery@stpaulsmboro.org](mailto:nursery@stpaulsmboro.org).



## True Vine Retreat



Our 3rd, 4th and 5th graders who are active in Catechesis of the Good Shepherd will be going on a Rite of Reconciliation retreat this spring. More details to come.

## Parents' Night Out

Friday, January 15th  
6:00 - 9:30 pm

THEME: Winter Fun!

(For children up to 10 years old)  
Sign up by Monday, January 11 at 4 pm. Email the nursery at [nursery@stpaulsmboro.org](mailto:nursery@stpaulsmboro.org).

## Women's Workshop on Prayer

Saturday, January 30th  
10 am - 2 pm

Join us as Joyce Adkins leads our workshop entitled "Pray. Why?" We will explore the reasons we are called to pray and the many ways in which a stronger prayer life strengthens our relationship with God. Sign up on the St. Paul's website. Lunch will be provided.

## Mark Your Calendars!

### JANUARY

- 1.3 No Christian Education or Sunday Night Live (SNL!)
- 1.8 Epiphany Party
- 1.10 Christian Ed. Resumes
- 1.10 SNL! Worship and Dinner
- 1.15 Parents' Night Out
- 1.17 SNL! Youth Game Night
- 1.24 SNL!
- 1.30 Episcopal Church Women Prayer Workshop (10 am)
- 1.31 SNL!

### FEBRUARY

- 2.6 Children's Mardi Gras Party (2 pm)
- 2.7 Mardi Gras Parade (at the 8:30 am service)
- 2.9 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper (5-7 pm)
- 2.10 Ash Wednesday

## Christmas Pageant



# CHRISTIAN FORMATION

## Journey to Adulthood

Sundays at 9:45 am

**Rite 13 - 6th & 7th Grade**  
Classroom 2-2

- 1.3 Christmas Break - NO CHRISTIAN ED.
- 1.10 Collective Prayer
- 1.17 Prayer: Listening & Silence
- 1.24 Lives Dedicated to Prayer: Religious Orders
- 1.31 Pray Without Ceasing

**J2A - 8th & 9th Grade**  
Library

- 1.3 Christmas Break - NO CHRISTIAN ED.
- 1.10 Christian Meditation: Sacred Movement Part 2
- 1.17 Assertion
- 1.24 How to Get What You Need
- 1.31 How to Get What You Need Part 2

**YAC - 10th, 11th & 12th Grade**  
The Upper Room, 2nd Floor-St. Margaret's

- 1.3 Christmas Break - NO CHRISTIAN ED.
- 1.10 Introducing YAC
- 1.17 Understanding Ministry & Vocation
- 1.24 Understanding Ministry & Vocation cont.
- 1.31 Understanding Ministry & Vocation cont.

## Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

Sundays at 9:45 am

### Parables

Jesus' primary teaching method is the telling of parables. The evangelists report a great number of parables, noting that Jesus used them to teach many things (Matthew 13). Moreover, Matthew states that Jesus would never speak to the crowds except in parables (13:34).

- Sofia Cavalletti, The History of the Kingdom of God: From Creation to Parousia, p 167

### The Parable of the Mustard Seed

The Parable of the Mustard Seed is found in all three levels of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and the children, no matter what age, tell us that it is one of their favorites. The older child is able to articulate that they are able to discover within two verses of scripture, that something seemingly so tiny and insignificant contains such power and strength to grow into a gigantic tree. This parable is so short, yet we continue to offer it to the children throughout their years in the atrium: the child will hear it when they are three or four years old, when they are older and again when they are eleven and twelve. What is it about this parable?

He proposed another parable to them. "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that a person took and sowed in a field.

It is the smallest of all the seeds, yet when full-grown it is the largest of plants. It becomes a large bush, and the 'birds of the sky come and dwell in its branches.'" - Matthew 13: 31-32

The Parable of the Mustard Seed offers the child the beginning and the ending moments of the process of growth and transformation: the image of the seed and of the large bush. Jesus did not talk about what happened in between those two points. This further highlights the contrast between the smallness of the seed and the greatness of the shrub. What might this tell us about the Kingdom of God?

## Acolyte Schedule

Date	8:30	11:00	
1/3	1st Server/Crucifer	Trevor Tidwell	Sam Tipps
	Torchbearer	Maggie Tidwell	Adriana Guevart
	Torchbearer	Marshall Steele	Luke Martin
1/10	1st Server/Crucifer	Aubrey Penney	Lauren Ennamorato
	Torchbearer	Elisabeth Nelson	Sally Gaither
	Torchbearer	Grady Knox	Ally Davis
1/17	1st Server/Crucifer	Ashton Nobles	Brianna Davies
	Torchbearer	Ty Baker	Miles Workman
	Torchbearer	Ethan Penney	Clara Ambrose
1/24	1st Server/Crucifer	Aubrey Penney	Sam Tipps
	Torchbearer	Elisabeth Nelson	Luke Martin
	Torchbearer	Grady Knox	Sally Gaither
1/31	1st Server/Crucifer	Trevor Tidwell	Lauren Ennamorato
	Torchbearer	Maggie Tidwell	Adriana Guevart
	Torchbearer	Marshall Steele	Aidas Berzinskas

## Youth Group Christmas Party (12/13) and at the Pottery Place (12/6)

