



Future Members of San Pedro's 2006 Confirmation Class volunteer to earn service hour credits by serving meals at the church bazaar in November 2005.

**Voice of the Youth (VOY) "What the Youth Center Means to me" by Jessica Fox (8th grade student)**

As a youth of this parish, to me the new activity center will be a place to get together with my friends to hang out and meet new people, shoot pool, play games, do crafts, work on homework, mentor other children and be in a safe facility and environment. The world we live in has changed since our parents grew up. There is a lot of peer pressure these days and I hope that by attending Mass and CCD classes that along with this Youth Center that children and even teens will feel com-

fortable talking to one another and helping each other with questions or confusing emotions that teenagers go through.

I hope that when people see the new Youth Center they will see how our church family came together and worked to make this a reality and not just a wish or good idea for our youth, families and friends but also for the good of all of North Port.

Many of our church organizations are working hard

with fundraisers to help bring in money for this dream to come true. The Super Bowl party has already brought in a big donation and we hope that the Saint Patties Party will bring in an even bigger donation. Being involved with CCD classes, Altar Serving and volunteering for many of the picnics, parties and special events I hope that all of the children and young adults will give some of their time to help with this huge commitment that is being made for us.



**Father Pat's Inspirational Thoughts**

"There is no more noble occupation in the world than to assist another human being—to help someone succeed."

**Your Help Is Needed!**

As our church expands, the need for volunteers also grows.

Most of us are oblivious to the many volunteers at San Pedro who perform much needed work behind the scenes. They volunteer their time and effort to make sure that our families have a wonderful church experience. They certainly don't do it for the praise. They do

it because their help is needed. It is the right thing to do.

The ways they volunteer are varied. They teach our kids, serve at mass, decorate the church, clean up afterwards and so much more. These things just don't happen on their own.

There are many ways in which you can use your unique talents to address the

needs of your parish. You don't need to quit your job to help, you just need to give a little bit back when you can.

If you are interested and would like to know where your talents can be put to use, please visit our website: [www.sanpedrocc.org](http://www.sanpedrocc.org) or contact the office at 426-2550.

The call to Service is here. Are you listening?

**Just the Facts Ma'am**

Our little parish is growing up— or should I say growing down. Here are the facts.

San Pedro currently has over 2,381 registered families. That is more than 5,566 individual members. There are 2,523 registered men and 3,043 registered women.

Think about that for a moment. That doesn't include all of our winter visitors from the north. Wow!

San Pedro now has over 1,000 kids under the age of 17 that are members of our parish. More than 300 of those children attend CCD classes which, because of limited space, are held on Tuesday and Wednesday nights as well as Sunday mornings. Wow!

I can't tell you how special it is that at the end of every mass, time is taken to



See Facts... next page



"There are no strangers, only friends we haven't met yet."

**St. Patrick's Day Dinner - Dance: Saturday, March 18th**

Sold Out!

All of the tickets for the St. Patrick's Day Dinner-Dance have been sold. We are expecting a great turnout for the festivities.

Father Pat has asked John Zagrobelny to act as the evening's Master of Ceremonies.

The program will be as follows:

6:00 pm Cocktail Hour

7:30 pm Dinner

During Dinner— Raffle and Door Prizes, Irish Music (DJ) and Videos of Ireland

8:30 pm Irish Dancers

9:00 pm Irish Musicians

Immediately following Music— Raffle & Door Prizes

9:30 pm Dancing— DJ music

Final Drawings during Dancing

Meloni Raisner and her crew of volunteers will be preparing the traditional Irish fare of corned beef and cabbage accompanied by a garden salad. For the younger crowd, hot dogs and pizza will be available. A variety of desserts will follow the meal.

Wine, mixed drinks, bottled beer as well as festive Green Beer will be available for a

small donation to the Building Fund.

This event is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a parish community and support the very important cause of fundraising for the San Pedro Family Center.

Whether or not you were able to attend this outstanding event, we look forward to seeing you at our next one.

Don't forget to make plans early to attend the upcoming "Happy Days 50's & 60's Dance" featuring a Reverse Raffle.

Stay tuned for details...

**"Happy Days" 50's & 60's Dinner Dance Featuring a Reverse Raffle**



**Facts...** (continued from front page)

acknowledge and individually bless all children who haven't yet received their First Communion. I know this makes the kid's feel very special in their relationship with God. I applaud Father Pat for beginning this practice many years ago. It is our responsibility, as adult members of the church, to set a good example for them both inside and outside of

the mass. Our church is growing down, more and more young families and their children are joining and that is a wonderful thing to see for the future of our parish!

Somebody say WOW!

**The Facts... Ages:**

0-4	246
5-9	345
10-13	282
14-17	249
18-25	284
26-35	516
36-55	1,102
56+	2,390



## San Pedro Catholic Church

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Religious Ed: 426-2893  
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Visit us on the web:  
[www.sanpedrocc.org](http://www.sanpedrocc.org)



If you find a mention of San Pedro in the media, please notify our office and we will include it in future issues.

### San Pedro in the News

If you happen to pick up your local newspaper, you might be surprised how often San Pedro is mentioned.

The most recent mention was of our St. Patrick's Day Dinner Dance in the North Port Sun in the "Let's Go" section. It contained information on the events, entertainment and where to purchase tickets.

Hank Chiminello a parishioner, also writes about happenings at our church weekly in his North Port Sun column. In the past, he has provided his humorous insights on church activities

including the church's Volunteer Dinner as well as Father Pat's parking exploits. We want to thank him for his continuing efforts in helping to keep parishioners as well as the entire North Port community up to date on all of the exciting things going on in our parish.

Recently, Levko Klos, a Sun Contributor, had much of an article devoted to the upcoming fundraising efforts to build the Family Center on the San Pedro campus. He interviewed Father Pat and John Zagrobelny. John and his wife Christine, owners of the Olde

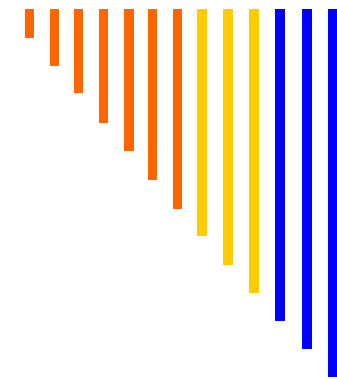
World Restaurant and longtime San Pedro parishioners, are heavily involved in the fundraising efforts for the Family Center.

Levko's article helped educate the community on our aspirations regarding the Family Center and is very much appreciated.

All of this attention is a testament to the vitality of San Pedro and is reason for all of us to be excited.

If you find a mention of San Pedro in the media, please notify our office and we will include it in future issues.

If you would like to receive email updates of San Pedro Family Center efforts and activities, please submit your name and email address to the office or email us at: [info@sanpedrocc.org](mailto:info@sanpedrocc.org)



San Pedro Catholic Church

# Family Center Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 1

Newsletter Date: March 18th, 2006

## San Pedro Family Center



### Our Mission Statement

The mission of the *San Pedro Family Center* Committees is to encourage the youth of San Pedro to develop socially, emotionally and spiritually by constructing for them a building which would provide wholesome activities, educational and spiritual programs and a place where families of similar beliefs and values can interact. A place to feel good, to feel at home and to feel God.

### Our Vision Statement

There continues to be a growing need for places where our teens and young adults can go and spend their otherwise idle time, a place to help them gain purpose and moral direction in their lives. The San Pedro parish currently has 2,381 registered families, over 1,000 children up to 17 years of age and our parish continues to grow. In the dangerous and immoral climate existing today, we need to provide a safe place for our children. It is the vision of Father Pat Organ and San Pedro Catholic Church to provide such a gathering place. A place where our youth can grow to become the successful leaders of tomorrow for our church and community. The *San Pedro Family Center* will be a safe haven, where teens and young adults of this parish can spend time in fellowship with their peers. A place where they can invite their friends from the community to experience the joy of our catholic faith and promote the values and principles we adhere to at San Pedro.

The proposed facility will be a dedicated, state-of-the-art, recreational, social, cultural and spiritual family-oriented center, built on the San Pedro Campus. Our teens can enjoy socializing, dances, concerts, plays, a large game room with pool and ping pong tables, movie nights and quality television programming, computer access, along with an educational and spiritual print and video library. With all our help we can bring to San Pedro the kind of entertainment, education and social events all parents desire for their teens and young adults.

**Our youth are the future God has entrusted us with.** It is with joy and knowledge of this enormous responsibility given to all of us that we embark on this tremendous act of love. It is only through the caring support of every member of San Pedro Catholic Church that we can advance this mission. Please join us by making a generous donation today in building a secure and faith-based future for our youth and their families.