

Dear BRICK parents,

START-UP: Mark your calendars because BRICK's first meeting will be Monday, Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Remember there is a 6:30pm Mass before all our meetings which we encourage teens to attend. Our meetings begin at 7pm right after the Mass and end at 9:15. During the 1<sup>st</sup> semester our focus will be on building relationships with one another and Jesus. In the 2<sup>nd</sup> semester we will look deeper into church teachings as we continue to foster our prayer life.

BRING POP: Teens are asked to each bring two large bottles of pop per semester. Please try to bring at least one caffeine free drink.

#### IMPORTANT DATES & EXPENSES:

We are setting all payment due dates to the first Monday of the month. These are all summarized below. Please use the colored response sheet with the attached tear-off portion to help us keep track of your intentions/responses. Using the response sheet will help to reserve a spot for your teen for events that fill up quickly. Payments should be brought to meetings and handed to Christine Leonard who will provide a paper receipt. **Except for the March for Life, all checks are always made out to St Sebastian BRICK Youth Group. Please help us out and always record a memo on the checks (left lower corner).**

1. TUITION: We are asking a tuition of **\$65** per teen to be made payable to St Sebastian Parish. Please try to pay this within the first three weeks. This money is used toward all our expenses and especially to subsidize our special events. (We don't want anyone excluded so if tuition is a problem, don't let that stop you, just contact Giovanni Vitale or Barb Smerecki.)
2. March for Life in DC: Monday, January 24<sup>th</sup>. Many teens have gone on this trip in the past. We believe Divine Child is sending a bus and will try to get more information to you as we receive it. The Right to Life of Michigan also has a red eye bus which costs around \$100.
3. Rainbow XXIX: Theme: "Live for Him," on February 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. This year we will be taking interested teens to the Archdiocese of Detroit's Youth Conference. The conference is located at the Marriott Hotel in Detroit. The registration cost is \$107.00 which is due by November 8<sup>th</sup>. Many other groups stay overnight at the hotel if you would like to consider does this please contact Giovanni. Note, the hotel cost is an additional expense.
4. RETREAT: **Note that we desire all our teens to attend this retreat.** Currently we are planning a Lenten retreat in Jackson, Michigan on April 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2011. A down payment of \$40 is due March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 to secure a spot. The balance of \$40 is due April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011. No transportation is provided to this event. Parents are asked to drive their teens, or make plans with other families to car pool. Again if finances are a problem please talk to us.
5. STEUBENVILLE: This conference continues to bless all our teens with a solid injection of good Catholic teaching and loads of fun. Dates are June 17-19, 2011 for our first pick and June 24-26 for our second pick. We won't know the firm date until after registration. Total amount due is \$200 made payable to St Sebastian Parish. {Please note -Shirt sizes when making payments.) Teens also need bring about \$20 for two meals, one on the way there

and one on the way back. A \$85 deposit will be due December 6, 2010 (note that \$30 of this deposit is non-refundable). The balance of \$115 will be due in the second semester.

6. **CAMPING TRIP:** We would prefer payments for this trip Monday, May 2, 2011. The final deadline for signing up and paying is May 25, 2011 at our end of the year Mass. The camping trip is either July 16<sup>th</sup> -July 20<sup>th</sup>, depending on availability. BRICK will again head north for rustic camping at Wilderness State Park which is located near Mackinaw City. The estimated cost of this trip will be **\$85**. Contact Barb Smerecki before June 6, 2011 if for some reason a teen or family is unable to decide by this date. This trip requires many volunteers. Since we really need drivers, families with older children are welcome on this weekend. John Michalik, 313-565-0476, is the contact person to handle questions. Please use the response sheet to let us know if you are able to drive or if we can utilize your van. Note that we have a strict dress code for this event. More will be said on this at parent's night but for our teen girls: note that only one piece bathing suits are allowed.

**OPEN HOUSE FOR PARENTS:** Back by popular demand. We are having a parent's night on January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Please, plan now on setting aside this night. **Parents only**

**PARENTS E-MAIL LIST:** E-mail is the fastest, easiest, and cheapest way for us to get information to you. It is great for last minute changes. We want to make sure that no one is left out. If you are not already on the BRICK Parents Email list, please send an email to get connected. Send your email to: [gvitaleii@gmail.com](mailto:gvitaleii@gmail.com). Also note that we are linked to the St. Sebastian web page where our schedule will be posted. [stsebastiancatholicchurch.org](http://stsebastiancatholicchurch.org)

**New This Year:** Please pay attention to the photo permission we have placed on the enclosed colored sheet.

**Remember:** We will continue our on-going collecting of toiletries for Covenant House.

Please pray for us, Barb and Giovanni

Barbara Smerecki  
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ENCLOSED: Parent Response Sheet

**SUMMARY of PAYMENTS (MARK YOUR CALENDARS)**

***THESE ARE ALL ON THE FIRST MONDAY!***

Monday 10/25/2010 \$ 65 Tuition.

Monday 12/6/2010 \$85 for FUS deposit (Remember \$30 of this is non-refundable)

Monday March 7<sup>th</sup>: \$40 Retreat deposit      Monday April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011: \$40 Retreat balance

Monday April 4, 2011: \$115 FUS balance      Monday May 2, 2011: \$85 Camping fee

**BRICK RESPONSE SHEET 2010-2011**

We have found that the use of this RESPONSE SHEET really helps us stay organized. In the volunteer section, see the opportunities for which you may be able to help. In the record keeping section, check off any payment/down payments you are sending now. Also in this section, check off the events in which your teen plans to participate and for which you will pay at a later date. We are continuing with due dates set on first Mondays.

Parents names \_\_\_\_\_ Home phone \_\_\_\_\_

Parent(s) Email address \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Student \_\_\_\_\_ Teen Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please consider the list below and indicate the thing(s) for which you could be called upon to assist. Please send this form back with your tuition

- \_\_\_\_\_ I can offer a van (or vehicle) for use for special events (Please keep in mind that our group is very large and when we have big events we need vehicles that can haul us all.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can drive to the BRICK Lenten retreat
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can drive to special events
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can organize a service project
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can drive to service activities
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can chaperone occasional Saturday evening activities. (game night, walleyball, etc.)
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can organize the end of the year reception with teen help.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can help with the end of the year reception
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can bake/bring something for the end of the year reception.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will attend the BRICK camping trip as a chaperone (# of family members with you \_\_\_\_\_)
- \_\_\_\_\_ I will commit to pray regularly for the youth and leadership of BRICK
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can help with music
- \_\_\_\_\_ I can make phone calls when needed

Please list anything else you may want to do to help.

**RECORD KEEPING SECTION**

Parents, please use this tear-off to help with record keeping by noting the payments you are sending. If you know your teen is interested in attending a specific event and you are not placing a down payment at this time, mark the appropriate line on the right. All checks should be made out to: St Sebastian BRICK Youth Group.

(This will help hold a spot for your teen at these events.)

Please use one slip per student. Student name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$65 tuition full payment

\_\_\_\_\_ \$40 Retreat down payment Total is \$80 Mark here if YES but will send payment later \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$85 Steubenville down payment (\$30 of this in non-refundable.) Total is \$200  
Mark here if YES to Steubenville but will send payment later \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$85 Camping full payment Mark here if YES but will send payment later \_\_\_\_\_

If you **would not** like your teens photograph to be posted on the parish website or bulletin please sign and date.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_