

Little Panthers Basketball Program

The **Little Panthers Basketball Program** is a co-ed program designed for young parishioners in grades 1–3 who attend MTC school or MDP PREP.

The goal of the program is to teach young athletes the fundamental skills and proper techniques of basketball while helping them develop a love for the game and prepare for CYO basketball competition in fourth grade.

★ Program Details

- **Cost:** $100
- **Season Length:** Six weeks
- **Practices:** Six 60-minute practices, held once a week on Tuesday evenings at MDP gym, 5:30–6:30 PM or 6:30–7:30 PM
- **Games:** Six games, generally on Sunday evenings at MDP gym, 4:00-5:00 PM or 5:00-6:00 PM
- **Team Format:** 4-on-4 to give each player more opportunities to handle the ball and participate in the game. All teams are co-ed.
- **Team Size:** 6–8 players per team to ensure plenty of playing time.
- **Basketball Size:** 27.5 or 28.5
- **Hoop Height:** 8–9 feet
- **Game Format:** Two 14-minute halves, with a referee and scoreboard at each game.

A designated **Free Zone** will be established outside the three-point line. This will allow players to feel comfortable bringing the ball up the court without defensive pressure.

★ **Tentative Practice Dates**: Dec 15, Dec 22, Jan 5, Jan 12, Jan 19, Jan 26

★ **Tentative Game Dates**: Dec 20, Jan 3, Jan 10, Jan 24, Jan 31, Feb 7

★ **Final Games:** Thursday, Feb 7 at 6:00 PM or 7:00 PM

★ Coaching and Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer coaches are needed and encouraged to participate!

- Coaches will receive five practice plans to use with their teams upon request.
- Game rules will be provided to each coach.

If you are interested in coaching or volunteering to help with the program, please contact **Bill Alburger** at balburger22@yahoo.com

We look forward to having your young athlete join the Little Panthers Basketball Program! Our goal is to create a fun, positive environment where every player can learn, improve, build confidence, and develop a love for basketball.