

DIVINE MERCY
CATHOLIC PARISH
PAULDING COUNTY
OHIO



Contact Us!

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Parish School of Religion

2016—2017

DIVINE MERCY CATHOLIC PARISH

PSR Calendar

Sept 14:	Class 1
Sept 21:	Class 2
Sept 28:	Class 3
Oct 5:	Class 4
Oct 12:	Class 5
Oct 19:	Class 6
Oct 26:	Class 7
Nov 2:	Class 8
Nov 9:	Class 9
Nov 16:	Class 10
Nov 23:	NO CLASS — Thanksgiving break
Nov 30:	Class 11
Dec 7:	NO CLASS — Vigil for Immaculate Conception
Dec 14:	Class 12
Dec 21:	NO CLASS — Christmas break
Dec 28:	NO CLASS — Christmas break
Jan 4:	Class 13 (No classes in Antwerp)
Jan 11:	Class 14
Jan 18:	Class 15
Jan 25:	Class 16
Feb 1:	Class 17
Feb 8:	Class 18
Feb 15:	Class 19
Feb 22:	Class 20
Mar 1:	NO CLASS — Ash Wednesday
Mar 8:	Class 21
Mar 15:	Class 22
Mar 22:	Class 23
Mar 29:	Class 24
Apr 5:	Class 25
Apr 12:	NO CLASS — Holy Week
Apr 19:	Class 26
Apr 26:	Class 27
May 3:	Class 28



Holy Disciples
Holy Families
Holy Vocations

Parish School of Religion Times and Locations

All classes meet on Wednesdays
K–5 in Paulding.....4–5 PM
K–5 in Antwerp.....6:30–7:30 PM
6–8 in Paulding.....7–8 PM
7–8 in Payne.....7–8 PM
6–8 in Antwerp.....7:45–8:45 PM

From the Pastor



Fr. Poggemeyer gives a tour of the church to the Paulding kindergarten PSR students.

“Families must have the courage to set before young people the radical decision to follow Christ, showing them how deeply rewarding it is.”

Pope Benedict XVI

Dear PSR Families, +JMJ

In November of 2014, Bishop Thomas visited our deanery and laid out a plan to make our Diocese of Toledo truly “Holy Toledo”. The plan consisted of working with the Lord to make us into “Holy Disciples, Holy Families and Holy Vocations”.

Disciples are those people who are learning from Jesus Christ, those people who have given their lives to Him, and accept him as their Guide, their Savior, their Lord. We all need to become true disciples of Jesus Christ, living every aspect of our life for Him. If we have holy disciples in homes, then we will have holy families. Holy families image the life of the Trinity, and they transform society around them. Holy families are made up of individual disciples of Jesus Christ, each giving himself or herself in service to those other members of the family. You have a small community of people living self-donating love towards one another.

You have a “communion of love”. Then, out of holy families comes holy vocations. People growing up in holy families will marry and raise their own holy families. So you have the vocation to marriage lived out in a holy way. But particularly in this day and age when vocations to the religious life and priesthood sometimes seem scarce, it is important to say that such vocations of consecration come from holy families. Children in holy families learn the value of sacrifice. They live virtuous lives. They learn to look to Jesus Christ and offer Him their lives, with a willingness to become whatever He wants them to become in life, a desire to follow wherever He leads.

Consider this theme of Holy Disciples, Holy Families and Holy Vocations. Do you want this? Does your heart resonate in agreement with this plan of God for you and your family? I hope it does. Our PSR program of studies and activities for the upcoming year aims towards this goal.

Mary, the Blessed Mother of Jesus Christ – and our Mother – plays key role in bringing about Holy Disciples, Holy Families and Holy Vocations. So you will see in this issue a notice of a program of consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary during the Advent season. There will be various ways that your family can take part. As the whole parish is invited to take part in a personal consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary, we will be including some activities in our PSR program. Saints such as Louis de Montfort would call Mary the “secret” to becoming a full disciple of Jesus Christ! There is nothing the Blessed Virgin wants more than to see you and your family transformed in Christ, for the glory of God the Father.

May your academic year be blessed! If Theresa Conley or I can be of any assistance regarding your study of the Faith, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

In cordibus Iesu et Mariae,
Fr. Poggemeyer

Our theme for PSR 2016—2017



Holy Disciples
Holy Families
Holy Vocations

In his visits to deaneries throughout the Diocese of Toledo in the fall of 2014, the newly-installed Bishop Daniel Thomas challenged his

listeners to help him in his mission to create Holy Disciples, Holy Families, and Holy Vocations.

This year in our PSR program, we are going to focus on this challenge from our bishop. We will talk with students about what it means to be a Holy Disciple of Christ, and

we will periodically send home information for you about strengthening your faith and fostering spirituality within your family.

We will also continue to pray as a community for an increase in vocations, and we encourage you to do the same in your home!

Religious Education Fees

PSR fees for the 2016—2017 year will be **\$25 per student**. This is far below other parishes in our area. We work hard to keep religious education affordable!

This year, we will also be instituting a **\$10 snack fee for the elementary students in Paulding** who receive snacks each week. This will help us stay within our religious education budget.

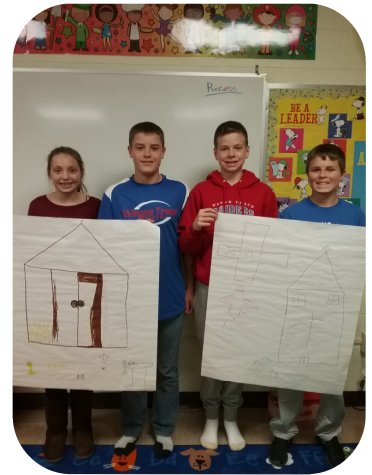
Each family will receive an invoice from the parish. Checks can be made out to Divine Mercy with “PSR” and your child’s name in the memo line. Payment can be submitted in one of three ways:

1. Mail it to the parish office (417 N Main St., Paulding OH, 45879)
2. Drop it off to the parish office any time Monday—Friday, 9 AM—4 PM or Wednesdays 9 AM—8 PM.

3. Drop it in the weekend collection basket in an envelope marked “PSR.”

Payment needs to be received by September 30, 2016.

Families who are unable to pay should contact Dianne Jones or Theresa Conley at the parish office.



7th and 8th graders in Payne work on posters as they prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation

Stay up-to-date with the latest PSR information

There are many ways to stay in touch with what is going on in our programs in the parish, including the weekly parish bulletin and parish mailings, but technology allows us instant updates which is helpful in the event of a cancellation.

You can get the most up to date information about religious education events, schedule changes, and last-minute weather cancellations by taking

advantage of this technology!

We encourage you to “Like” our parish Facebook page (www.facebook.com/DivineMercyCatholicParish) and **download our parish App** today (at myparishapp.com or search your phone’s App store for myparish). In the event of a cancellation or special event, our parish app will send a notification to your phone instantly!

Information can also be found on our parish website: www.divinemercycatholic.com. If you are ever unsure about any class or program, you can always call the parish office at 419-399-2576.

“Parents are the most influential agents of catechesis for their children They catechize primarily by the witness of their Christian lives and by their love for the faith.”

***National Directory for Catechesis
pg 234***



1st grade PSR students in Antwerp and their classroom helpers decorated their footprints with ways they can follow Jesus.

The Jubilee Year of Mercy



Theresa Conley leads the PSR students in Paulding as they learn about the Holy Door for the Year of Mercy.

1st graders in Jodi Griffith's PSR class made wind socks when they learned about the Holy Spirit.



The 2016 Jubilee was first announced by Pope Francis on March 13, 2015. It was declared in the pope's April 2015 papal bull called "The Face of Mercy".

It is a great honor that our parish was chosen to be one of only four locations within the Diocese of Toledo to host

Holy Doors for this Jubilee of Mercy. If you have not yet made a special trip to our Paulding church to visit the Holy Doors, please be sure to do so before the end of November!

Pamphlets with the Year of Mercy prayer and information about the indulgence are available in the Narthex.

In our PSR program, we have a poster of a Holy Door (in Antwerp and Paulding) that we use for teaching about the Year of Mercy and to remind ourselves of the graces available to us during this Jubilee year. Please check it out!

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

Children are prepared for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion in second grade (or above). Preparation is a two year process beginning in the first grade.

Parents are required to attend one parent meeting for First Reconciliation and at least one parent must attend the mandatory First Communion Retreat with their child. It is expected that students attend Mass weekly with their families.

This year, the **Parent Meeting for First Reconciliation will be on Sunday, October 16, at 2 PM in the Educational Center in Paulding** (located one block North of the Catholic Church in Paulding). At least one parent is required to attend

and students do not have to come. If this date does not work for you, contact Theresa Conley as soon as possible to set up a private meeting.

As usual, we will celebrate First Reconciliation on two different dates so families can choose the date or location that works best for their families.

Monday January 9 at 7 PM in the church in Antwerp OR

Tuesday January 10 at 7 PM in the church in Payne.

Our parish also offers a beautiful First Communion Retreat for our First Communion families. The First Communion Retreat is mandatory for First Communion students and at least one parent (please

note that sports practices and games are not adequate reasons for absence or tardiness on the day of the retreat).

The retreat will take place on Saturday, May 6, 2017 from 9am – 12pm in the Educational Center in Paulding.

First Communion will be celebrated at all the weekend Masses on the weekend of May 6 and 7, 2017. Each First Communion family will be able to choose which Mass their child will attend that weekend for First Communion. Each family will have 1 reserved pew at their chosen Mass.

Any questions about First Reconciliation or First Communion can be directed to Theresa Conley.

Marian Consecration

Recently, Fr. Poggmeyer announced that Divine Mercy parish would be doing a Marian Consecration that would conclude on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, December 8. But what IS a Marian Consecration?

Total Consecration to Jesus is a beautiful exercise to increase your spirituality and ability to truly serve Jesus. The basic premise set forth by St. Louis Marie de Montfort is simply that Jesus came into the world through Mary and that for us to always be assured of being close to Jesus, we should go through Mary.

"Consecration" means to set aside for a sacred purpose. Mary's life was set aside for the

sole purpose of serving our Lord. By following her example, we, too, can completely give ourselves to Christ in a fundamental way that consecrates us to Him. We give our lives to Him in service and love.

Consecration helps us grow in holiness and increase our faith. It is a prayerful and focused method of drawing closer to Jesus than ever before.

How does it work?

We will be using the book and video series "33 Days To Morning Glory." For the 33 days prior to December 8, there are readings and prayers to help prepare our hearts for the consecration. In our PSR program, we will offer a

simplified version of the Consecration for the students and take-home papers for families to use at home.

We also encourage parents to participate in the full Consecration preparation by attending the classes offered at church or by following along at home by using the resources on formed.org. To access these resources, simply go to formed.org and register using our parish code: f5f546.

For more information watch the bulletin.

Middle School students in Antwerp work on writing prayers for an outreach project at Easter time.



Junior High Youth Group

We are very blessed at our parish to have an active Junior High Youth Group that meets monthly during the school year. All our Junior High youth group activities are open to all students in grades 6—8, whether they attend our parish or not.

The major goal of our youth ministry is to bring Jesus Christ into our daily lives through prayer, service and fellowship.

The Junior High Youth Group meets monthly on

Sunday afternoons and students participate in a variety of social events, educational discussions, service projects, prayer experiences, and fundraisers.

At the time of this publication, the fall calendar for the youth group was not yet available, but this will be sent home with all PSR middle school students.

If you have any questions about the Divine Mercy Junior High Youth Group, or if you are an adult who would like to help out with the youth group, please contact Theresa Conley.

Students in the Jr High Youth Group pause for a photo during their Meals on Wheels outreach project on January 17, 2016.

Students prepared and then delivered meals to homebound parishioners.



"Parents and other family members awaken in the child a sense of God. This religious awakening within the family is irreplaceable"

General Directory for Catechesis #226

Divine Mercy Catechetical Policies



Bishop of Toledo Daniel Thomas greets 7th grader Emily Sanders after the Confirmation Mass on April 3, 2016.

4th grade PSR students from Paulding prayed the Stations of the Cross in the Paulding Church during Lent.



Attendance Policy – Families should make every effort to see that their children attend religion classes. Parents are expected to have their children at class on time and to pick students up promptly. Since all sessions are offered on Wednesday “Church Nights,” no school or sports activity will be accepted as an excuse to miss class. “Church Night” is respected by all three school districts in the county. If a school conflict arises on Wednesday nights, parents should contact Theresa Conley.

Arrival Policies – Students need to be at class on time. However, no student should be in the building more than 10 minutes before class without a parent present since there is not adequate adult supervision while teachers are preparing their classrooms for that week’s lesson. Younger students should be escorted into the building. Older students who are dropped off are required to come directly into the building and into their classroom. Students are not allowed to play outside before or after class unless their parent is present.

Elementary students at the Paulding Location will need to provide the school with a note that they are walking over for PSR. Students are

expected to walk – not run – on the way from school,

to wait for the crossing guard to tell them to cross the street, and to come directly into the building. Students in Kindergarten and grade 1 are walked over from school.

Dismissal Policies – Parents (grandparents, babysitters, etc) need to be on time to pick up their children. **Those picking up students in Kindergarten and 1st grade should come into the building to pick up their children**

Care should be taken not to schedule appointments or other conflicts on Wednesdays during class time. However, should you need to pick up your child from class early, you will need to come into the building and pick up your child directly from class. If someone other than a parent, grandparent, or legal guardian of the child is coming to pick them up from class, they will need a signed note from the parent.

Cancellations – If school is canceled for any reason in the school district where classes meet, there will be no religious education classes that day. Classes in Payne go by the Wayne Trace schedule, Antwerp goes by the Antwerp school district, and Paulding classes go by the Paulding school district. If you are unsure about whether or not your child has class, please call the parish office at 419-399-2576.

Field Trip and Off-Site Activities – Field trips and off-site activities such as service projects and retreats are

occasionally scheduled with the permission of the catechetical leader. No student will be allowed to participate in any off-site activities unless a completed permission slip signed by a parent/guardian is turned in.

Health Concerns – Health information is collected on registration forms. The catechists, volunteers, and staff at Divine Mercy are not allowed to dispense or administer medication to students.

Discipline Policies – Our main concern is to maintain a safe environment in which our youth can form a community, share faith, and enjoy the best possible learning environment. Therefore, our students must meet the following expectations:

- Behave respectfully and courteously toward catechists, adults, and other students. Inappropriate behavior includes disrespectful verbal and body language.
- Participate positively and be attentive in class.
- Respect parish property and the property of others.
- Follow the rules of the program and the class.

Parents will be contacted if their child repeatedly disrupts class. The catechetical leader, in consultation with the pastor, has the final say in all disciplinary situations.

Volunteer! Get involved!

There are lots of opportunities to participate in the life of the church. Here are just a few ways you or your children can get involved.

Please realize that all adult volunteers who work with youth must complete Protecting Youth requirements from the Diocese of Toledo. Contact Theresa Conley for more information or to sign up for any of these programs.

PSR

Parents can help us create a successful program by volunteering! We are still

accepting volunteers as hall monitors and substitute teachers.

Divine Mercy Youth Choir

Divine Mercy Youth Choir is open to all students in Kindergarten through 12th grade. Students sing the 1st and 2nd Sundays of the month from September through May at the 10:30 Mass in Paulding. Check out the enclosed flier for more information.

Liturgy of the Word for Children

Liturgy of the Word for Children is held from

September through May during the first 3 weeks of the month during the 10:30 Mass for children in grades K – 2. Students learn about the readings of the day and how the scripture message applies to their lives. Older students (6th grade or above) who want to help in this ministry will be paired with an adult.

Servers and Sacristans

Any young men in the parish, ages 9 through adult, can be altar servers. Altar servers assist in the celebration of Mass and sometimes at weddings or funerals.

Through their ministry and experience, they grow in their knowledge and relationship with God.

Young women in the parish can train to be sacristans. Sacristans work in the sanctuary and the areas used for worship. They help prepare for Mass and help maintain and replace candles, holy water, and other items used in church.

Liturgical Ministries

There is a need for adults in their 20s, 30s, and 40s to step up and become Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors in the parish. Please prayerfully consider this ministry!



Adults, middle school students, and high school students volunteer their time to help out in the crafts station at Vacation Bible School in July of 2016.

Homeschooling Options

Parents are the primary educators of their children, and this is certainly true for religious education as well.

If you are interested in homeschooling your child (of any age!) in religious education, please contact Theresa Conley for

information about textbooks and homeschooling guidelines. Our parish is happy to help you obtain the resources you need.

More information can also be found on our parish website: divinemercycatholic.com

Just click on the "Religious Education" tab at the top of the page.

"Catechesis is intimately bound up with the whole of the Church's life. Not only her geographical extension and numerical increase, but even more her inner growth and correspondence with God's plan depend essentially on catechesis."

— CCC 7



Catechist Dave Jones teaches the 7th and 8th grade Confirmation students in Antwerp about patron saints as they begin to think about their Confirmation names.

Please return this form
in the weekend collection
or mail to the parish office.

Divine Mercy Catholic Parish
Parish School of Religion Registration

Parent(s) _____ Primary Phone _____

Mailing Address _____ Secondary Phone _____

Email _____ Would you like to receive PSR emails
at this address? Yes No

Student _____ Birthday _____ Grade _____

Attending at (circle one): Antwerp Paulding Payne

Allergies or special needs? _____

Student _____ Birthday _____ Grade _____

Attending at (circle one): Antwerp Paulding Payne

Allergies or special needs? _____

Student _____ Birthday _____ Grade _____

Attending at (circle one): Antwerp Paulding Payne

Allergies or special needs? _____

I hereby authorize Divine Mercy Catholic Parish of Paulding County to publish photographs and video taken of me and/or my
minor children for use in promotional material in print form, on the parish website, or on the parish Facebook page.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE _____

**DIVINE MERCY
CATHOLIC PARISH**

**417 N MAIN ST
PAULDING, OH
45879**

PLEASE
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