2018 - 2019



Parish School of Religion

Divine Mercy Catholic Parish

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PSR Calendar 2018—2019

Sept 5 Class I lan 9 Class 13 Sept 12 Class 2 lan 16 Class 14 Sept 19 Class 3 Jan 23 Class 15 Jan 30 Class 16 Sept 26 Class 4 Oct 3 Class 5 Feb 6 Class 17 Oct 10 Class 6 Feb 13 Class 18 Oct 17 Class 7 Feb 20 Class 19 Oct 24 Class 8 Feb 27 Class 20

Oct 31 NO CLASS: All Saints Day Vigil Mar 6 NO CLASS: Ash Wednesday

Nov 7 CULTURE PROJECT Mar 13 Class 21 Nov 14 Class 9 Mar 20 Class 22

Nov 21 NO CLASS: Thanksgiving break Mar 27 Class 23 Nov 28 Class 10 Apr 3 Class 24 Dec 5 Class 11 Apr 10 Class 25

Dec 12 Class 12 Apr 17 NO CLASS: Holy Week

Jan 2 NO CLASS: Christmas break

PSR Times and Locations

All classes meet on Wednesdays. Families can choose the time and location that works best for them. Please see page 2 for PSR fees.

Contact Theresa Conley with any questions or concerns.

Grades K - 5 in Paulding: 4:00 - 5:00 pm at the Paulding Ed Center Grades K - 5 in Antwerp: 6:30 - 7:30 pm at the Antwerp Center Grades 6 - 8 in Paulding: 7:00 - 8:00 pm at the Paulding Ed Center 7:00 - 8:00 pm at the Catholic School Grades 6 - 8 in Antwerp: 7:45 - 8:45 pm at the Antwerp Center

Fr. Poggemeyer visits with Elementary PSR students in Paulding during their snack

"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



Kindergarten PSR students in Paulding show off the Advent Wreaths they made in

From the Pastor

Dear PSR Families, +JMJ

Greetings in Jesus Christ! And welcome to another year of Parish School Religion - our formal parish religion program that aims to supplement in some small way the religious education you provide for your children in your own home. For a couple years now in bulletin letters I have written about the concept of "discipleship". For decades in the United States we have spoken about discipleship by breaking it into three headings: time, talent and treasure.

This fall we are hoping to take a step forward in the organization of our discipleship "talent" structure - hoping to connect and support all those people who are giving of their talent, their efforts to help the parish run. Although we have many people who volunteer generously, we also hope to increase that number, so that the necessary workload can be shared. We will be publishing a "discipleship talent/ministry booklet" so that people can see all the many ways parishioners can support the mission of the parish by volunteering their talent during Mass and beyond. This is the "talent" part of discipleship – giving of your efforts, your talents to help out in some specific area.

Then there is the "time" aspect of discipleship. This is best understood as time you put into prayer and

ongoing faith formation for yourself and your family. At the center, of course, is the time you give every week to the Holy Sacrifice the Mass. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life, so it obviously has to take center stage in each of our lives. But just going to Mass – as awesome as that is - is not enough to sustain a person in the Faith throughout life. Each of us needs prayer time daily - and not just prayer begging God for things we want and need. We need to share with Him heart-to-heart, and do our best to listen to his voice in our deepest self. Then we should seek each year to have something in place that advances our knowledge of the Faith. Maybe it's reading a paragraph of the Catechism of the Catholic Church with our family each day and trying to understand it through discussion. Maybe it's spouses committing to watching one of the faith formation programs on FORMED during Advent and Lent. Maybe it's going on a retreat. Maybe it's listening to Catholic radio. We need intellectual and spiritual Faith formation in an ongoing way throughout our entire life.

Finally, there is the "treasure" aspect of discipleship. All the way back into the Old Testament, we can see how God's faithful people were expected to give to the upkeep of the temple and the religious rites there; and they were expected to care for the needs of the poor in their midst. Although the Catholic Church does not teach "tithing" in the sense of an

absolute 10% taken off the top of your check, even before any other deductions and taxes, we do teach that everybody ought to be financially generous with God by considering the Church and the poor. Even when I was a child, I learned to give back to God financially, by using the children's envelopes we had in our parish. During the earliest elementary years I can remember, my allowance was something like \$.25 per week. But a portion of that went into an envelope for the Church each week. After significant enlivening in the Faith my freshman year of college, I decided actually to tithe 10% of my income, although I was putting myself through college. But I always had what I needed; and tithing has been part of my life ever since. This year, to help parents teach their children about the "treasure" aspect of discipleship, we're going to provide children's envelopes. Many parishes have them. and our parish is no different. But it seems our envelopes have fallen out of use. You will be hearing about those envelopes again, and we hope they will be a Faith formation tool for you.

May the Lord abundantly bless and enrich all of your efforts to live for Him and grow in discipleship this coming year!

In cordibus Iesu et Mariae, Father Poggemeyer 2018—2019 Page 3

Religious Education Fees

PSR fees for the 2018-2019 year will be \$25 per student.

Elementary students in Paulding will also have a \$10 snack fee to help offset the additional cost of providing snacks each week after school.

Checks can be made out to Divine Mercy with "PSR" and your child's name in the memo line. Payment can be made in 3 ways:

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

3)Drop it in the weekend collection basket in an envelope marked "PSR"

Families who are unable to pay should contact Dianne Jones at the parish office: 419-399-2576.

Payment needs to be received by Wednesday September 26.

The Culture Project coming to Divine Mercy:



With financial support from Knights of Columbus Councils around the Diocese, we are excited to bring The Culture Project to Divine Mercy parish in November!

The Culture Project is an initiative of young people set out to restore culture through the experience of virtue. These young adults proclaim the dignity of the human person and the richness of living sexual integrity, inviting our culture to become fully alive.

Two Culture Project missionaries will be coming to Divine Mercy to give a presentation to parents on Sunday, November 4 at 7 PM in Paulding. This will prepare parents for the talk the missionaries will be giving the following Wednesday for students in

grades 6—12. We strongly encourage you to get this date on your calendar now! You will not want to miss this!

Then. two sets missionaries will be coming Wednesday, November 7 to present to ALL middle school and high school students. Dinner will be provided for all at 6:30 pm in the church basement Paulding and the presentations will be from 7—8 pm.

The missionaries will talk about Human Dignity. Their presentation is crafted to engage students' minds and hearts toward the inherent dignity of the human person. Through storytelling, real life examples, natural law,

and scientific evidence, we pose the question: What is it about human beings that sets them apart? We discuss the splendor of the human person and define human dignity as the unique value inherent to each of us. We celebrate the magnificence of human life with stunning images, state-of-the-art footage, and fascinating facts. We address modern-day violations of human dignity and ask the question: How do we reverse this? We empower students to understand that personal virtue has the power to humanize. And we close with an inspiring story, inviting each student to join us in restoring our culture.

Please plan on attending the parent session and watch for more information about this amazing presentation!

"Life with Christ is a wonderful adventure

— Pope Saint John Paul II



The Payne Confirmation class learns about the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.



First Reconciliation & First 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** First Meeting for Reconciliation will be on Sunday, October 21, at 7 PM in the Educational Center in **Paulding** (located one block North of the Catholic Church in At least one Paulding). 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 chose the date or location that works best for their families.

Monday January 14 at 7 PM in the church in Antwerp OR

Tuesday January 15 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 4, 2019 from 9am – 12pm in the Educational Center in Paulding.

First Communion will be celebrated at all the weekend Masses on the weekend of May 4 and 5, 2019. Each First Communion family will be able to chose which Mass their child will attend that weekend for First Communion. Each family will have one reserved pew at their chosen Mass.

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



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Middle School Youth Group

We are very blessed at our parish to have an active Middle School Youth Group that meets monthly during the school year. All our Middle School 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 Youth Group meets m o n t h l y o n Sunday afternoons and students participate in a variety of social events, educational discussions,

service projects, prayer experiences, and fundraisers.

Our Youth Group also utilizes Alpha for Youth, an excellent resource that encourages students to think about the big faith questions in their lives. Parents are encouraged to learn more about Alpha for Youth by going to alpha.org/alpha-youth-series/

Our first Youth Group meeting will be held on Sunday, September 9 after the 10:30 Mass in Paulding. We will gather in the church basement at Paulding. Lunch is

provided.

We are also hoping to do a couple fun trips this year, including ice skating and possibly canoeing on the Maumee river. We need adult volunteers to be drivers for these trips to be successful. All drivers and volunteers need to go through online VIRTUS training (about one hour of your time).

We are currently looking for a few more volunteers to join our Youth Ministry team. If you are an adult who would like to help out with the youth group, please contact Theresa Conley.



Members of the Middle School Youth Group and their leaders stop for supper after Tobogganing in February of 2018.





Youth Group Dates:

September 9

December 9

March 10

October 14

January 13: Ice Skating

April 14

November 11

February 10

Teaching Safety Program

The "Teaching Safety Program" formerly known as the "Touching Safety Program" is a requirement for every Catholic parish and every Catholic school in the United States. This program is provided to us by the Diocese of Toledo, and is a part of our ongoing effort to help create and maintain a safe environment for children and to protect all children

from sexual abuse. Parents will have the opportunity to opt out if they do not want their children to participate.

The Teaching Safety

program will be presented at the PSR classes in Paulding on Oct 3, in Antwerp on Oct 10 and in Payne on Oct 17. More information will be sent home before these dates.



Ist grade PSR students in Antwerp work on a craft project with markers and stickers.

"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

Weather Cancellations

There are many ways to stay in touch with what is going on in our programs in 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.divinemercy catholic.com If you are ever unsure about any class or program, you can always call the parish office at 419-399-2576.

Whenever school is closed for any reason, PSR classes IN THAT LOCATION are cancelled as well. If the school dismisses early, we will also cancel classes.

If bad weather comes in late, we will notify families of PSR cancellations through Facebook and the parish app.

Homeschooling in Religious Education

A time-honored tradition within the Catholic Church is the "handing on" of the faith in the home by the example and instruction of parents to their children. Catholic schools and parish schools of religion came into existence to assist families in their responsibility for the education of their children. Some parents, however, choose neither Catholic

schools nor parish schools of religion, and thus provide religious instruction and sacramental preparation at home. 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.

Opportunities for Adult Education!



3rd grade PSR students in Paulding enjoyed their lesson and craft about prayer.

Adult Catholics need to continue to grow in their knowledge of the faith, too, if we are going to hand that faith onto our children! We have some exciting opportunities coming up this fall for Adult Catholics.

Beginning Tuesday, September 18 and continuing on Tuesdays at 7 pm in the Antwerp Center, we will be offering an amazing Bible Study called The Bible Timeline. The study will begin with session 9, but you do not have to have attended the first 8 sessions to participate.

Another exciting opportunity begins Sunday, September 30 at 12 pm in the Paulding Church basement. Fr. Poggemeyer

will be beginning a series of Apologetics classes for adults. These classes will explain about often misunderstood church teaching.

Watch the bulletin, parish Facebook page, or contact the parish office if you are interested in these or other opportunities for adult education.

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Divine Mercy Catechetical Policies

Attendance — 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 Wednesday nights, parents should contact Theresa Conley.

Arrival - 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 I are walked over from school.

Dismissal – 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 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 parent.

Cancellations - If school is canceled for any reason in the school district where classes meet, there will be 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 administer medication to students.

Discipline — 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.



4th grade PSR students in Paulding show off a craft they made while learning about the Beatitudes.

The goal of religious education at Divine Mercy Parish is to help turn hearts and minds to Jesus so that we may know, love, and serve God more every day.



5th grade PSR students at Antwerp pose in front of donations they collected for the TGIF giveaway. Students solicited, delivered, and organized donations for this service project.

Registrations are required for new students or for those whose information has changed.

Please return to the parish office by mail, collection basket, email or fax.

Divine Mercy Catholic Parish Parish School of Religion Registration

Parent(s)				Mother's Phone	
Mailing Address				Father's Phone	
				Other emergency # _	
Email					
	Student			Birth date	Grade
		Attending at (circle one):	[†] Antwerp	↑ Paulding	↑ Payne
		Allergies or special needs?			
	Student			Birth date	Grade
		Attending at (circle one):	[†] Antwerp	↑ Paulding	↑ Payne
		Allergies or special needs?			
	Student			Birth date	Grade
		Attending at (circle one):	[†] Antwerp	↑ Paulding	↑ Payne
		Allergies or special needs?			
•		ercy Catholic Parish of Paulding C rial in print form, on the parish w		• .	me and/or my minor children
		PAREN	T/GUARDIAN SIGNA	TURE	

Divine Mercy Catholic Parish 417 N Main St Paulding, OH 45879

Phone: 419-399-2576 Fax: 419-399-2577 Website: divinemercycatholic.com



PLEASE PLACE STAMP HERE