

2024 - 2025

# PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Divine Mercy Catholic Parish  
Paulding County Ohio



All PSR classes will take place from 6:45 - 7:45 pm at the Paulding Educational Center - 417 N Main St in Paulding.

## PSR Calendar

Sept 11: Class 1	Jan 8: Class 13
Sept 18: Class 2	Jan 15: Class 14
Sept 25: Class 3	Jan 22: Class 15
Oct 2: Class 4	Jan 29: Class 16
Oct 9: Class 5	Feb 5: Class 17
Oct 16: Class 6	Feb 12: Class 18
Oct 23: Class 7	Feb 19: Class 19
Oct 30: Class 8	Feb 26: Class 20
Nov 6: Class 9	Mar 5: NO CLASS Ash Wednesday
Nov 13: Class 10	Mar 12: Class 21
Nov 20: Class 11	Mar 19: Class 22
Nov 27: NO CLASS Thanksgiving	Mar 26: Class 23
Dec 4: Class PSR Confessions	Apr 2: Class 24
Dec 11: Class 12	Apr 9: Class 25
Dec 18: NO CLASS Christmas Break	Apr 16: NO CLASS Holy Week
Dec 25: NO CLASS Christmas Break	Apr 23: Class 26
Jan 1: NO CLASS Christmas Break	Apr 30: Class 27
	May 7: Class 28

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Theresa Conley  
Catechetical Leader  
419-399-2576  
tconley@dmcp parish.com



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



## PSR Fees

PSR fees for the 2024-2025 year will be \$30 per student.

You can pay with cash, check, or electronically.

To pay electronically, go to <https://members.myeoffering.com/> and select the fund “religious education fees.”

Cash can be brought to the parish office the first few weeks of classes. Checks can be made out to Divine Mercy with “PSR” and your child’s name in the memo line and mailed or dropped off to the parish office, or dropped in the weekend collection in an envelope marked “PSR”.

If you have any questions about the fees or need financial assistance to pay them, please contact Dianne Jones at the parish office at 419-399-2576. Payment needs to be received by Wednesday, September 25.

## Divine Mercy Children’s Choir

ALL children in grades 1—8 are invited to join the Divine Mercy Children’s Choir! No prior experience is required. Students will meet in the Paulding church once or twice a month beginning October 2. Practice will begin with Benediction at 6 pm and then go until 6:40 when students will then be walked down to the Ed Center for PSR classes.

Practice dates this fall will be October 2, 9, and 30, November 6, December 4 and 18.

There will also be a practice at 10 am at the Ed Center on the Sundays when the children’s choir will be singing at Mass. The Children’s Choir will sing the 1st and 2nd Sundays of every month, at the 10:30am Mass in Paulding beginning in October.

Students will be singing at Mass October 6 and 13, November 3 and 10, December 1

and 8. Students are also invited to sing on Christmas Morning at a 9 am Mass in Paulding (rehearsal will be at 8:30 am that day).

By participating in the choir, children will...

- SING beautiful hymns and songs that help them to learn, delight in, pray, and remember the truths of our Catholic Faith and the prayers of the Mass!
- DEVELOP foundational musical skills!
- SERVE the Divine Mercy Parish community and the Church as a whole!
- PARTICIPATE at Mass with greater attention and understanding!
- OFFER gifts of time and talent to Jesus!

Questions? Contact Jessica Schuster:  
jessica.schuster.155@gmail.com

# Opportunities for Adults

## A Minute in the Church

Our parish CAFE group -- Catholic Adult Formation and Education - is pleased to continue to offer opportunities for adults to grow in their faith at the [same time](#) as our PSR classes are offered! You no longer have to sit in your car for your child's hour of class.

Join us beginning Wednesday, September 18 from 6:45 - 7:45 in the church basement! We offer a casual atmosphere, great conversation, and an opportunity to grow in your faith!

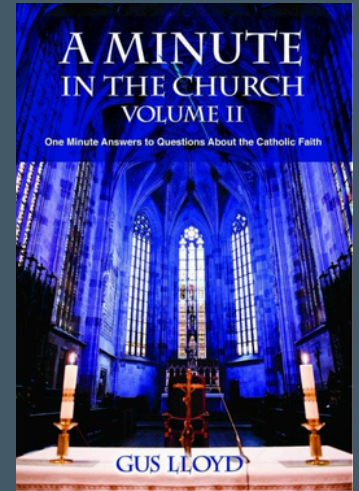
All adults are welcome as we work through "A Minute in the Church" booklet together. Books are provided for free! We will read through a short section and then discuss the



passage. "A Minute in the Church" addresses questions that many non-Catholics have, while also covering topics that many Catholics may be confused about, like annulment, capital punishment, embryonic stem cell research, homosexuality, cremation and much more.



PRESENTS



## Kingdom Builders

3rd Tuesday of each month \* 7:00 - 8:30 PM  
Beginning in the Paulding Church basement  
315 N Main St, Paulding OH

Building God's Kingdom within the heart of every woman  
through scripture, talks, prayer, and Eucharistic Adoration

## Kingdom Builders

Kingdom Builders invites all women to receive the Father's love through Scripture, Eucharist Adoration, and Planning Tools so they may embrace the beauty of their design. We meet for 90 minutes on the 3rd Tuesday of every month in the church basement at Paulding. We begin with a teaching that is relevant and applicable to any woman's life. We conclude with worship and a time for silent prayer.

Kingdom Builders is open to ALL women of ALL ages. You do not need to be a member of our parish or even Catholic to attend. We invite you to try it out!

Our next gathering is Tuesday, September 17 at 7 pm in the Paulding church.





# First Reconciliation and 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.

It is VERY important that children preparing for First Communion be attending Mass weekly with their families.

This year, the [Parent Meeting for First Reconciliation will be on Sunday, October 20, at 7 PM in the Educational Center in Paulding.](#) At least one parent is required to attend (students do not have to attend). If this date does not work for you, contact Theresa Conley as soon as possible to set up a separate time to meet.

As usual, we will celebrate First Reconciliation on two different dates so you can chose the date or location that works best for your family: [Monday, November 18 at 7 PM in the church in Paulding](#) OR [Tuesday, November 19 at 7 pm in the church in Payne.](#)

Our First Communion retreat will again be the Dragon Slayers Retreat

with Dr. John Wood! [The retreat is scheduled for Saturday, March 1 at the St. Patrick Gym in Bryan, OH](#) (610 S. Portland Street Bryan, OH). The retreat will go from 12:30 until 3:30 pm. There will be no lunch provided this year, so please eat before you arrive.

We have heard great feedback from parents and students who have attended the Dragon Slayers retreat and we promise that it will be worth your time! Please note: This retreat is for PARENTS AND CHILDREN. While at least one parent is required to attend the retreat with the child, we hope BOTH parents can attend.

Please note that sports practices and games are not adequate reasons for absence or tardiness on the day of the retreat, but if you know you cannot attend on March 1, please let Theresa Conley know and we can sign you up for a Dragon Slayers retreat on a different date. We will share more information about this Dragon Slayers retreat at our parent meeting on October 20.

New this year we will be having one more required event for First Communion families. [On Saturday,](#)

[April 5 we will host a Family Enrichment Day for First Communion families.](#) At least one parent should plan to attend, and all children within the family are invited to participate. The Enrichment Day will take place from 9 am until noon in the Paulding church. Included in the day will be crafts, snacks, a family scavenger hunt in the church, and practice for First Communion day.

[First Communion will be celebrated at all the weekend Masses on May 3 and 4.](#) 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.

**Add to your Calendar**  
Oct 20, 7 pm - Parent Meeting  
Nov 18 OR Nov 19 - First Reconciliation  
Mar 1, 12:30pm - Retreat in Bryan  
April 5, 9 am - Family Enrichment Day  
May 3 OR May 4 - First Communion



**“Jesus is my great friend, and the Eucharist is my highway to heaven.”**  
BL CARLO ACUTIS





## The Culture Project for grades 7 and 8

We are excited to bring The Culture Project back to Divine Mercy parish this year! In addition to speaking to our high school students, they will be giving two presentations to our 7th and 8th grade students!

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.

These young adult missionaries will be coming on Wednesday, October 16 to present on Human Dignity and again on Wednesday, January 29 to present their Sexual Integrity talk. These presentations will be held during our regular PSR class time.

More information will be coming home to parents about The Culture Project and about these specific presentations. Please direct any questions to Theresa Conley.

**"Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and, if true, of infinite importance. The one thing it cannot be is moderately important."**

C.S. LEWIS

## Homeschooling in Religious Education

A time-honored tradition within the Catholic Church is handing on of the faith at 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](http://divinemercycatholic.com)



Just click on "Religious Education for children".



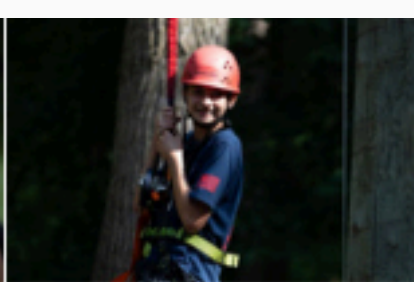


## Damascus Catholic Youth Summer Camp

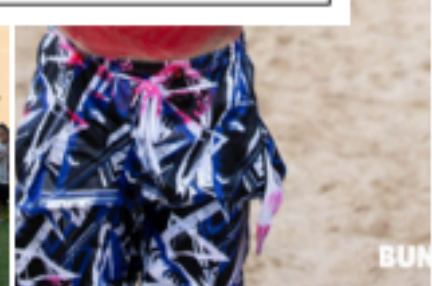
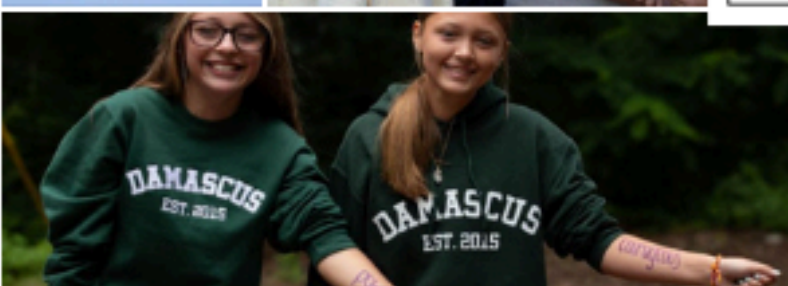
We are inviting the parents of ALL students in 5th grade through 11th grade to consider Catholic Youth Summer Camp for next summer! You won't want to miss this! We will be taking both a middle school and a high school group again this summer and we should have the dates for the camps soon!

Catholic Youth Summer Camp is a High Adventure camp experience. Activities include high ropes, paintball, archery tag, giant swing, and more! CYSC is founded in the Sacramental life of the Catholic Church, but their mission and work is anything but boring. You may come for the climbing wall and the zip lines, but you'll leave with a new Freedom only found in Jesus!

Fundraisers are available through the parish and scholarships are available through CYSC. Contact Theresa Conley at 419-399-2576 or [tconley@dmcp parish.com](mailto:tconley@dmcp parish.com) to reserve your spot. But don't wait long! Spots fill up quickly!!!



*Damascus Catholic Youth Summer Camp*  
- High School and Middle School -





## 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 on Wednesday nights, parents should contact Theresa Conley.

**Arrival** – Please do not drop your child off more than 10 minutes before class. 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 or in the hallways before or after class unless their parent is present.

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

When arranged with the parish staff or the classroom teacher, a responsible older sibling or cousin can pick up a kindergarten or 1st grade child from class and walk

them out of the building.

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 a student up from class, they will need a signed note from the parent.

**Cancellations** – If school is canceled for fog, classes will still meet in the evening. If school is cancelled for other inclement weather, religious education classes will be cancelled that day. We also try to post all closings on our parish social media and as an evangelus message.

If you are unsure about whether or not your child has class, please call the parish office at 419-399-2576 or contact Theresa Conley directly.

**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. Walking over to the

church is on-site and does not require permission slips.

**Health Concerns** – Health and allergy 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** — 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.

Registrations are only required for new students or for those whose information needs to be updated. Please scan the QR code or return this paper form to the parish office.

### Divine Mercy Catholic Parish — Parish School of Religion Registration

Parent(s)/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_ Father's Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Other emergency # \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Attending at (circle one): Paulding Payne

Allergies or special needs? \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Attending at (circle one): Paulding Payne

Allergies or special needs? \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Birth date \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Attending at (circle one): 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 parish social media.

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_

## Divine Mercy Catholic Parish

417 N MAIN ST  
PAULDING, OH 45879

PHONE: 419-399-2576

WEBSITE:

WWW.DIVINEMERCYCATHOLIC.COM

