

Dear Holy Angels Family,

This handbook has been designed to give you a general overview of the many programs that Holy Angels has to offer to you and your family. Please keep this handbook as a reference tool for your family to use through their formation years here at Holy Angels.

We believe that Christian formation is the ministry which enables ALL people to experience the love and faith of Jesus Christ so that they might make that faith their own.

The mission of Holy Angels Religious Education Office is to assist children and adults to achieve these goals. This dynamic process involves youth, family members, catechists and other parishioners. It is a continuous experience of God's love begun, primarily and most importantly, in the Christian family and supported by a more formal catechetical program. The formal education is intended to continue to build on and nurture the firm foundation parents have begun in their family life.

CHRISTIAN FORMATION is a lifelong process aimed at:

- **conversion**
- **growth in faith**
- **service to others**

Our Holy Angels Mission Statement reflects the four tasks of catechesis:

- community building -
 "an open and caring Christian community"
- proclaiming the Christian message-
 "to follow and share the teachings of Jesus Christ"
- leading people to prayer-
 "we will worship God together"
- motivating people to serve others-
 "to minister to one another's spiritual and physical needs"

Our staff strives to provide a caring, loving and enthusiastic atmosphere whereby children can experience and share in God's love. Children will be involved in a variety of endeavors that broaden and deepen their Christian faith. The text and learning resources invite the child to respond to all of life's experiences through liturgy, prayer, music, art and drama.

Thank you for sharing your children with us. Each and every child is truly a gift.

In Jesus' love,

Holy Angels Education Staff

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Kim McCoy.....Ext. 215
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GENERATIONS OF FAITH (GOF) ~ FAITH FOR ALL AGES

Holy Angels is participating in a model of faith formation called **Generations of Faith (GOF)**. Generations of Faith is a lifelong and intergenerational method of faith formation.

GENERATIONS OF FAITH BUILDS ON FOUR FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS:

1. Faith formation continues throughout our entire life.
2. The events of Church life, such as feasts and seasons, the sacraments, prayer and the works of justice and service, hold tremendous potential for learning and faith growth.
3. Intergenerational learning enhances the possibility for all members of the family to talk about and practice their faith together.
4. When people are prepared and understand what they are doing, their participation in Church events is more meaningful and enthusiastic.

Holy Angels will spend time each year learning together about one of the following: *Church Year Feasts & Seasons, Sacraments, Justice & Service, Prayer & Spirituality, Creed/Catholic Beliefs, or Morality*. Throughout the year, there will be gatherings for parishioners of all ages. Each gathering will be offered three times in order to accommodate as many families and individuals as possible. Gatherings will consist of the following;

- a prayer service and opening exercise focused on the topic of the gathering
- breaking out into age-appropriate groups or activity centers for in-depth learning
- re-assembling to share what was learned and receive take home materials

Shortly after each gathering the parish will celebrate a liturgical event related to the topic studied. Parishioners will be more knowledgeable about the event and will be ready and able to more actively participate in the liturgical celebration.

Generations of Faith is for EVERYONE ... EVERYONE ... EVERYONE!

A team of interested parishioners have participated in extensive training sessions for Generations of Faith. Their enthusiasm for this model of faith formation is great. "It's a perfect match for us at Holy Angels!" has been the response of many.

When you register your student(s) for Parish School of Religion (PSR), Partners in Faith (PIF - formerly Summer PSR); Family Home Schooling, Confirmation or *LAUNCH* program(s), *they*

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automatically become a "season pass holder" for the Generations of Faith gatherings. To register for each session, simply phone the Parish office (ext. 333) or fill out the Generations of Faith reservation form found in the gathering space to let our staff know how many family members will be attending. Generations of Faith gatherings are integrated right into the PSR and LAUNCH schedule. **ALL** members of our Parish are invited and encouraged to attend gatherings, since education in our faith should be a lifelong process.

Attendance will be taken at each gathering and recorded on attendance records. Children will be asked to sign in on appropriate sign-in sheets to assist in the process of accountability. Please be sure to have child/ren sign in at the beginning of each session. Also, please note that families who participate in Generations of Faith regularly will receive first preference in registering for Partners in Faith and Classroom PSR.

Generations of Faith gatherings will be offered at the following times:

- Sunday Afternoon from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.
- Sunday Evening from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
- And
- Monday Evening from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Choose the time that best suits your schedule and mark your calendar.

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FAITH FORMATION OPTIONS

We offer three options for your child to participate in faith formation:

- ❖ **Option One:** The first option is the traditional **Classroom Parish School of Religion (CPSR)** sessions for grades Preschool through 5. Class sessions are held throughout the school year on designated Wednesday or Thursday afternoons or evenings.
- ❖ **Option Two:** A second option is **Family Home Schooling (FHS)** where parents are responsible for faith formation of their own children.
- ❖ **Option Three:** The last option is **Partners in Faith (PIF)** for Grades 1 through 5, which is a partnership, or blending, of both of the above models. Children attend classroom PIF for one week in the summer, and then parents agree to continue that faith journey with support of supplemental materials.

All three options include attendance at weekly Mass, participation in all Generations of Faith sessions, and other activities throughout the entire year.

GENERAL INFORMATION

The following general information on registration procedures, liturgical participation, and student conduct pertains to all of our programs. Please refer to the specific section in this handbook for additional details about each program option.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURES:

In order to participate in our **CPSR, FHS, PIF**, Generations of Faith, and Sacramental programs, families must be registered members of Holy Angels Parish. Re-registration for currently enrolled students (Grades Pre-5) starts in the spring for upcoming classes in the summer and fall. The PIF registration deadline is June 15th. The CPSR and FHS registration deadline is August 15th. A late fee is added to all registration fees received after the deadlines. Students of newly registered families are accepted into the program throughout the year. Newly registered families will not be charged a late fee for registration.



**Parish School
of Religion**

Note:

When registering for PSR, students are also signing up for all Generations of Faith (GOF) gatherings. Generations of Faith is for the entire family to come and learn more about their faith.

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LITURGICAL PARTICIPATION:

The Liturgy (Eucharist/Mass) is the center and foundation of our Catholic life according to Vatican II. Therefore, it is important that students participate in weekly worship with the parish community as well as participate in the weekly sessions of the CPSR.

****Participation in the CPSR session is not a substitute for participation in weekly Liturgy for children. ****

STUDENT CONDUCT:

The following is expected of all students attending CPSR, Partners in Faith or Launch programs at Holy Angels:

- Students are responsible for bringing their textbooks and pencils to class each week unless otherwise directed by the Catechist.
- **Students are expected to cooperate with classmates and staff**, following directives established for the well being and safety of all in the Holy Angels PSR program.
- Parents will be contacted if a student is consistently uncooperative with these directives.
- Chewing gum and eating candy during class are not permitted without permission from the Catechist.
- Ipods are not permitted at any time. Cell phones are permitted but must be “silenced” and in pocket; NO TEXTING is permitted during any part of Launch or PSR.
- Students are expected to be courteous to others, to speak and act in a Christian manner, and to be respectful of the classroom and all Holy Angels’ property.
- Students should not be in their classroom area unsupervised. If the teacher is not in the classroom area, please report to the PSR Principal.
- Students are to request permission of the catechist to leave the classroom area for any reason. (**Parents—please have your children use the bathroom at home prior to leaving for CPSR or PIF instruction**).
- Unfortunately, we have had to implement the “**Three Strikes—you’re out**” policy for uncooperative students. When a student acts in an inappropriate manner, the catechist will send that student to the principal. Should the student act inappropriately a second time, the principal will call their parent(s) and advise them of the situation. In the event there is a third occurrence, the parent will be required to attend all future CPSR or PIF sessions with their child for the remainder of that school year.
- Appropriate attire is expected at all times. Students are not permitted to wear hats indoors.

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CANCELLATION POLICY:

If Kenston does not have school on a particular day because of a holiday or snow day, there will be no CPSR.

EMERGENCY CANCELLATION:

Should the need arise to cancel CPSR or Launch, we will broadcast that information on local radio and TV (channels 3, 5 and 8). If applicable, we will also make an attempt to call or email each family to notify them that CPSR or Launch has been cancelled.

FEES:

The following are tuition fees for students in CPSR, FHS and PIF (which includes the fee for Generations of Faith):

One Child	\$ 60.00
Two Children	\$110.00
Three Children	\$160.00
Four Children	\$210.00
Preschool.....	\$ 45.00 per student
Family Home School.....	\$ 45.00 for first child; \$35.00 for each additional child
Partners in Faith.....	Same as CPSR, with an additional \$10 fee per student for supplemental instructional materials

No family will be turned away because of an inability to pay fees. In the event of financial difficulty, please contact the Religious Education Office.

NOTE: There is an additional late fee of \$10 per student for registration of any returning student submitted after June 15th for Partners in Faith, or August 15th for CPSR, FHS, and Launch. This charge is to cover extra expenses incurred to special order textbooks.

Tuition payments may be made in cash, by credit card, or by check. Please make all checks payable to: ***The Church of the Holy Angels - Religious Education***

OPEN HOUSE:

On the first class day of CPSR and Partners in Faith, the parents are encouraged to come to their child(ren)'s room to meet the catechist. This time will allow the parents to meet the teacher (catechist) and know where students will be located in the building. At a designated time on the first day of classes, Fr. Dan Schlegel and/or Kim McCoy will address all parents in the Worship Space for a general information session. Students will remain in their classrooms for the entire class session.

CATECHISTS & AIDES:

Our catechists and aides are volunteers who give of themselves freely and devote their time to our PSR program because of their love of children and desire to pass on their faith. All catechists are fingerprinted, and have taken a Virtus training course on protecting God's children. They have also read the Diocesan Policies for the Safety of Children and the Code of Conduct in Ministry. Would you please consider being part of our catechetical team?

SCHEDULE:

Advance copies of our schedule for the upcoming CPSR and Generations of Faith will be made available through our website. Our website is: www.holyangelschurch.com

DROP-OFF AND PICKUP:

Parents must park and walk their child(ren) into the building each day for CPSR and PIF. When picking up from CPSR, parents should meet their student(s) in the Gathering Area. Parents should pick up PIF students in the classroom area.

Parents, children should be dropped off 5 minutes prior to their class starting, and must be picked up promptly.

THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NO PARKING ALLOWED ALONG THE SIDEWALK AT DISMISSAL. YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY IS OUR FIRST CONCERN!

CARPOOL INFORMATION:

If you choose to make carpool arrangements, please know that it is your responsibility to ensure the safety of your child(ren). Please talk with your child(ren) about what family friend or neighbor has permission to take them home. Children must be picked up promptly at the end of classes.

PSR TEXTBOOKS:

Faith First Legacy Edition, published by RCL Publishing, is the textbook used by CPSR, Partners in Faith and Family Home Schooling from Kindergarten through Grade 5. It has an excellent web site; check it out at www.FaithFirst.com. To find Scope and Sequence for all grades, go to the home page; click on the purplish-blue box, "Catechists and Teacher". In the pink background box, click on "Scope and Sequence", and then simply choose "Legacy Edition" for the appropriate grade level.

Faith First textbooks were chosen by the Catholic Press Association as First Place winners for all textbook series. Please take time to review lessons with your child/ren. There is a wealth of knowledge provided in each chapter.

In addition, each chapter has a "With My Family" section to be completed at home. **Please assist your child with this section weekly.** Doing this makes a statement that faith and church are important in your life. It will then become important to them.

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OPTION ONE: CLASSROOM **PARISH SCHOOL OF RELIGION (CPSR) AND** **GENERATIONS OF FAITH (GOF)**

(Preschool – 5th grades)

All CPSR classes will be held at Holy Angels Church at the following times:

Wednesday CPSR (Grades K – 5)

4:45 – 5:45 p.m. (after school session)

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. (evening session)

OR

Thursday CPSR (Grades K – 5)

4:45 – 5:45 p.m. (after school session)

6:00 – 7:00 p.m. (evening session)

PRESCHOOL:

The Preschool class is held twice a month on **Wednesday evenings from 6:00–7:00 p.m.** and **Thursday afternoons from 4:45-5:45 p.m.** at Holy Angels Church.

Children must be four years old by September 30 to participate in this program. The class size will be limited to 10 students. The cost of this program is \$45 per student. Included in this fee is the student workbook that will be used in class and at home. Parents are permitted to stay with their child during the class time if necessary.

Preschool and Kindergarten are offered to our families, but are considered an optional year. Class sizes are limited, and may fill up in each of these grades.

Please call our Religious Education Office at (440) 708-0808 for information and/or registration of your child.

KINDERGARTEN – 5TH GRADE ATTENDANCE:

Students are encouraged to attend all scheduled classes and the Generations of Faith gatherings. If your child is absent on a regular basis from CPSR, you will receive a phone call. It is the responsibility of the parent(s) to see that any work, which was covered in the missed class, is made up. A syllabus is handed out at the beginning of each year for that purpose. Chapter reviews for the RCL Publishing textbooks can be found at www.faithfirst.com.

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OPTION TWO: FAMILY HOME SCHOOLING (FHS) & GENERATIONS OF FAITH (GOF)

(PRESCHOOL TO 5th grades)

Family Home Schooling is for those families who would like to take responsibility for presenting faith formation to their own child(ren). Holy Angels will provide the textbooks to assist parents in their efforts. In addition to presenting lessons to their child(ren), *the Family Home Schooling students will participate in the Generations of Faith gatherings, centered around designated themes.* Supplemental material for parents will be made available monthly for pick-up in the church library.

If this is a sacramental year for your child(ren), Family Home Schooling preparation will fulfill the "PSR" portion of the faith formation requirement, but there will be additional requirements for the Sacrament. Additional information on sacramental preparation is available on pages 11 and 12 of this Handbook.

Registration for Family Home Schooling is required so we can order the appropriate number of textbooks. Re-registering families must be signed up prior to the *fall meeting* when textbooks will be distributed. The meeting date and time will be announced in the bulletin. Only new parishioners will be admitted into the program after this meeting.

The Diocese of Cleveland's Office of Catholic Education Home Schooling Policy requires parents to inform the Pastor of the church in writing of their intent to assume responsibility for religious instruction in the Catholic Faith. Our Pastor is charged with the responsibility of insuring that all children are offered an opportunity to participate in Religious Education. This letter substantiates that you, as a parent, are assuming this responsibility on the behalf of your child(ren). The letter should include the names of the child(ren) that will be registered in Family Home Schooling. Letters must be attached to the registration forms when returned to Holy Angels Church. The office will forward these letters to our pastor.

Families opting for Family Home Schooling are to attend a mandatory information meeting at the beginning of the school year. At this meeting more details will be given about the goals and format of the program, and textbooks will be distributed.

The cost for Family Home Schooling is \$45 for the first child in the program, and \$35 for each child thereafter. This fee includes the cost for supplements that parents receive monthly. This fee also includes registration for all Generations of Faith gatherings.

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OPTION THREE: PARTNERS IN FAITH (PIF) & GENERATIONS OF FAITH (GOF) (1ST TO 5th grades)

Partners in Faith (PIF) and Generations of Faith is a program option for faith formation for our children in which the church and its catechists form a “partnership” or team, to insure that children receive their religious instruction throughout the entire year. During the summer, children will have PIF in the classroom for one week, either from 8:30 a.m. until noon, or from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., to receive instruction on the content in the Faith First Legacy Edition textbooks. We acknowledge that one week is not sufficient faith formation, so all parents have a responsibility to continue the faith journey throughout the year by:

- Attending Generations of Faith gatherings four times a year;
- Completing liturgical year activities in the back of textbooks;
- Supplement learning at home with material provided monthly;
- Attending Mass weekly;
- Working with child/ren in memorizing formal prayers.

As with Family Home Schooling, parents must sign a letter of intent directed to Fr. Dan Schlegel stating that they understand their duties and will assume responsibility to “do their part” in this faith formation journey.

Open House and Parent Meeting:

On the first day of PIF, parents are encouraged to come to their child/ren’s classroom(s) to meet the catechist. At a designated time on the first day, Fr. Dan Schlegel or Mrs. Kim McCoy will address all parents in the Worship Space to share additional PIF program information and requirements.

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SACRAMENTS

Sacraments of First Eucharist & First Reconciliation are offered to students who have achieved a minimum of 2 years of faith formation. Older students who have not yet received the Sacraments may become a part of our preparation program called “Catch Up” (see details on Page 12). The Sacrament of Baptism is a prerequisite for receiving these Sacraments.

Each fall, we will mail out information to those students that have been identified as eligible candidates. Identified candidates will be those currently enrolled in CPSR, PIF and Family Home Schooling programs. We will run notices in the bulletin inviting the parents of private school students to call our office to have their child(ren’s) name(s) placed on our mailing list.

For each sacrament, a parent/child workshop will be held. The workshop is offered on four different dates and times; watch the Bulletin for details. Parents may choose the workshop that best fits their schedule. *Attendance at **one** of these workshops is required.*

There is a one-time fee to cover the cost of the materials for both sacraments of First Reconciliation *and* First Eucharist. Fees are outlined on the sacramental registration form.

FIRST RECONCILIATION:

In the Sacrament of First Reconciliation, we celebrate God's mercy and forgiving love. Children may celebrate with one of our groups for Reconciliation Services or on any Saturday at the Parish.

At the fall parent/child workshop, parents will be provided with materials to prepare their child(ren) for First Reconciliation. At that time, the registration form, both sacramental fees and a **copy of the child’s Baptismal certificate** should be submitted.



Group First Reconciliation services will be offered on two separate occasions, or a student may choose to celebrate individually at a Saturday afternoon Reconciliation time (3:30 – 4:30 p.m.).

Parents will determine the readiness for First Reconciliation. PSR/PIF sessions will support parents’ training of this Sacrament; however, **the parents** are the primary instructors.

JESUS DAY ON FORGIVENESS *is required for those celebrating the Sacrament of First Reconciliation.* It will be held on a Saturday to help prepare the children for this Sacrament. Students will have planned activities that reinforce the lessons they have been learning about God’s forgiving love.

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FIRST EUCHARIST:

In this Sacrament, children are invited to share the Body and Blood of Christ at the Table of the Lord for the first time. At the parent/student workshop, parents will be provided with materials to prepare children for First Eucharist. Once again, this workshop will be offered at four different times to allow parents to choose the one that fits individual schedules. First Eucharist may be celebrated as part of a group on a Saturday in May, or parents may choose a family small group celebration on designated weekends starting after Jesus Day in April. Family small groups will consist of approximately 8 children. One row in the Worship Space will be reserved for each child. Additional details will be discussed at the Parent/Child workshops in the fall.

“YES” SERVICE:

Students will have an opportunity to celebrate their sacramental preparation together at the “YES” service and at “JESUS DAY” on Eucharist. The “YES” service is an *optional* opportunity for children to say “YES” to Jesus. Children will come to the church at 10:00 a.m. on a designated Saturday to learn and practice the song “YES, LORD, YES”, and learn corresponding motions. The children will attend Mass that evening and share their song with the Parish. ***Children must attend practice in the morning in order to sing at the 5:00 p.m. Mass.***



“JESUS DAY” ON EUCHARIST is a *required* part of the sacramental preparation. Students will bake bread, watch a video, make crafts and hear a story about God's love. This will reinforce and review the sacramental preparation that they have been learning from parent preparation, and supportive activities through PSR, Partners in Faith or Family Home Schooling. This program is presented to help children learn about Eucharist at an age-appropriate level of understanding.

SCHEDULES & SACRAMENT BOOKS:

Schedules for the First Sacraments meetings will be mailed with the registration information and also will be available on our website at www.holyangelschurch.com. We will include a schedule of all pertinent dates for the year. Handbooks and Sacrament textbooks on First Reconciliation and First Eucharist will be distributed at the Parent/Child Workshops.

“CATCH UP” PROGRAM:

If your child is older than second grade and has not yet received sacraments, they will have an opportunity to participate in “Catch Up”, to help them prepare for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Preparation will be on an age-appropriate level for older children. Call the Religious Education Office to get details or to sign up your child/ren who still need these first sacraments.

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LAUNCH, CONFIRMATION & GENERATIONS of FAITH (GOF):

6TH, 7TH and 8th Grade Ministry

The **Launch** program is designed for young adolescents as they continue to grow in their faith and personal lives. It is meant to assist their parents who are the primary educators of their children in the faith.

Launch offers:

- opportunities for self-definition
- positive social interaction with adults and peers
- meaningful participation in families, school, church and community
- creative expression
- structure and clear limits
- personal faith/religious experience

The **Launch** format uses varied methods to challenge young people. Through the use of stories, music, small group discussion, questions and answers, and creative expressions, the lessons will help them to grow in their faith. Also, a mixture of prayer experiences allows them to strengthen their relationship with God.

Parents are expected to have an active role in Launch. They may serve as Catechists or Catechist Aides, or may volunteer on an as-needed basis. Parental involvement serves as a valuable witness to the youth regarding the importance of their ongoing faith formation.

Launch will meet twice a month, and *students and their families are also required to participate in the Generations of Faith gatherings throughout the year.* All regular sessions of Launch will take place in the Community Room on Sunday afternoons from 4:00 to 5:30, Sunday evenings from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., or Monday evenings from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. When registering, you may request a specific night; however, space is limited and assigned on a first-come-first served-basis.

The fee for *Launch* is \$75.00 per student. **There is an additional late fee of \$10 per student for registration of any returning student submitted after August 15th.**

Our **Confirmation Formation Process** is open to all 8th Grade students from our parish who have not been confirmed. Sacramental preparation is incorporated into the *Launch* program sessions. Confirmation candidates will also attend two retreats during the year.

Our mailing list is derived from active participants in the **Launch** program during their 7th grade year, as well as those who have notified our office to have their names placed on the mailing

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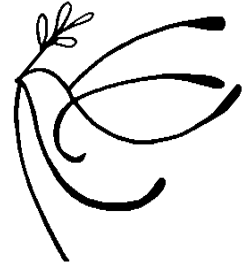
list. Bulletin announcements are published to help identify all other students that are eligible to join the process. **Youth attending private or parochial schools will be confirmed at Holy Angels.**

A registration form, parent covenant, and Confirmation guidelines will be mailed to potential candidates' homes in late summer. New parishioners who have not received Confirmation information are asked to please contact the Religious Education Office.

A mandatory parent meeting will be held in early fall, to provide parents with an overview of the sacrament and the formation process, as well as a schedule for the year. Parents will turn in their completed registration form, signed parent and candidate covenants, and a **copy** of the candidate's Baptismal certificate at that time.

FEE:

The fee for the Confirmation Formation Process is automatically paid with your child's *Launch* registration.



HAYGROUP (Holy Angels Youth Group) & GENERATIONS of FAITH (GOF):

HAYGroup is open to all teens in grades 9-12 of any Christian faith community. Call the Religious Education Office at (440) 708-0808 to be added to our mailing list. We meet on scheduled Sunday afternoons from 1:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. in the Community Room.

HAYGroup is...

drawing youth into the adventure of discipleship
 helping youth to make the right connections
 growing young disciples
 responding to the needs of youth
 seeing youth as gifted and growing
 seeing parents as partners
 a relationship, not just a program

HAYGroup provides the opportunity for the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person. Regular gatherings are primarily centered on topics selected by the “Lead Crew” and which are relevant to the lives of teens today. Sunday afternoon gatherings may include fun activities, guest presentations, small group discussion, music and a variety of other approaches. Each gathering includes a time for prayer experiences, refreshments and fellowship.

In addition to our regular gatherings, there is a Youth Ministry “Lead Crew” which is comprised of youth and adults who provide vision, direction, planning and implementation of our youth ministry program.

A service component offers many opportunities for our young people to demonstrate their faith in action, by serving our community and those in need. Various social activities are also scheduled throughout the year.

Annual retreats are held throughout the year and are planned by a “Retreat Team”.

Students participating in *HAYGroup* are also encouraged to attend Generations of Faith (GOF) gatherings throughout the year, as part of our lifelong and intergenerational method of faith formation.

For up-to-date information, ***HAYGroup*** calendar and permission slips, visit our website at holyangelsyouth.com.

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Holy Angels Religious Education Office
 18205 Chillicothe Rd.
 Chagrin Falls, OH 44023
 (440) 708-0808
 (440) 708-0787 fax

Cyndy Vogley.....Ext. 207
Director of Religious Education
Kim McCoy.....Ext. 215
PSR Principal
Libby Peterson.....Ext. 208
Youth Minister
Jeannie Daunch.....Ext. 209
Religious Education Administration

OTHER FORMATION PROGRAMS

ADULT CONFIRMATION:

Classes are available for adults and older teens that desire the Sacrament of Confirmation. These classes begin after the first of the year. Please call our Religious Education Office before then to request information be sent to you. Announcements will be made in the bulletin.

RCIA:

The process for the **Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (R.C.I.A.)** is for non-Catholics who wish to know more about the Catholic faith, or for baptized Catholics who never completed their sacraments of initiation (Confirmation and Eucharist). The journey involves learning about the teachings and traditions of the Church as well as sharing in its rituals, which outwardly express the community's blessing, joy and support. RCIA is active all year round. Participation is not an obligation to become Catholic; however, those who desire may be fully initiated as Roman Catholics at the Easter Vigil Mass.



TO REGISTER, call Adrienne Yates, (440) 708-0000, ext. 201.

Bible Study:

There are several Bible study groups that meet throughout the year. Information is located on the bulletin boards in the Library, in the weekly bulletin, on our website, or you can call the Religious Education Office for more information.

Vacation Bible School:

Holy Angels offers a Vacation Bible School program each summer. Children participating in this program must be going into kindergarten, up to 10 yrs. old. VBS will be scheduled for a week in June here at Holy Angels. Look for announcements in the bulletin. Space is limited; registrations are accepted on a first come, first served basis.

Junior High Camp:

Junior High Camp is a one-week, summer day camp for students entering sixth through eighth grades. Program announcement and registration information will appear in our church bulletin, distributed to our 5th grade PSR classes, and distributed through our *Launch* program. Additional registration forms will be available in the Library of the church, beginning in May.

Altar Servers:

Boys and girls in fourth grade or older are invited to sign up for training sessions to become altar servers. Watch the Sunday bulletin for announcements for the training sessions, or call the parish office at (440) 708-0000 for information.

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Catholicism 101:

This series is subtitled “Dare to know more about your faith than you learned in grade school!” Its goal is to provide Catholics with a more adult understanding of their faith based on Scripture, the Catechism of 1995 and the teachings of the early Church Fathers. Presentations are generally held once a month.

Please watch the Sunday bulletin for announcements on these, and other activities.

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POLICY ON DRUGS, ABUSE, WEAPONS, AIDS, AND GANGS

The Diocese of Cleveland has a policy regarding child abuse, weapons, AIDS and gangs. We have a copy of this policy in our office; and if anyone would like to review it, please call us at (440) 708-0808.

In addition to the above, Holy Angels Church is also participating in a national program called "Virtus." "Virtus" is a program designed to train catechists in practical methods, policies and procedures for Parishes to prevent wrongdoing, and to ensure the continued safety of all "God's Children."

All catechists are also required to read the "Diocesan Policy for the Safety of Children" and the "Diocesan Code of Conduct" to insure the well being of our children.

The Safety Procedures Handbook is on file in the Religious Education office.

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