

September 6, 2016

Dear Parents of Sacramental Candidates,

I'm writing to provide information to you regarding our Holy Angels sacramental preparation program, for your second/third grade child who will celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for the very first time this year. This is a joyous program and I am looking forward to working with your family! **Thanks for taking a few moments of your time to read this entire letter, as many questions should be answered for you.**

Enclosed is a Sacramental Registration form which has been pre-printed with most of the required information about your child. Please complete the form and make any corrections, if necessary, then bring the form to the first workshop in October (see below).

The Diocese of Cleveland requires that a child has completed two years of catechesis (PSR) in order to celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. **If your second grade child attends a public school, and there is no class schedule indicated on the blue form, please contact the Religious Education office at (440) 708-0808 to register your child for a PSR program as soon as possible.**

Please be aware that the primary responsibility for the sacramental preparation is yours as a parent, whether your child attends a parochial school or participates in one of Holy Angels' PSR programs. We offer a number of workshops, "Jesus Day" retreats and review sessions to assist parents in the sacramental preparation process, along with support from our team of PSR Catechists and Religious Education staff members. ***Here is an overview of the program and important dates:***

**1) Parent AND Child Reconciliation Workshop (MUST ATTEND ONE ~ NO NEED TO RSVP!):**

- Thursday, October 6, 2016 (6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, October 8, 2016 (9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)
- Saturday, October 8, 2016 (1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.)

**Bring to the Workshop:**

- \* Completed blue Sacramental Registration Form
- \* Sacramental registration fee of \$60.00
- \* Calendar
- \* Small (wallet-sized) photo of child with his/her name on back

**2) JESUS DAY ON RECONCILIATION Retreat (REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS):**

- Saturday, January 21, 2017 (10:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.) at Holy Angels  
*Parent helpers will be needed! Sign up information to be provided at workshops.*

**3) First Reconciliation Celebrations**

- Group Celebrations: Thursday, January 26, 2017 (7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.) or  
Saturday, January 28, 2017 (10:00 – 11:00 a.m.)
- Individual Celebration: Any Saturday during regular Reconciliation (3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
in Mercy Chapel)

4) **Parent AND Child First Eucharist Workshop** (**MUST ATTEND ONE ~ NO NEED TO RSVP!**):

- Monday, January 9, 2017 (6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.)
- Saturday, January 14, 2017 (10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.)
- Saturday, January 14, 2017 (1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.)

**Bring to this Workshop:**

- **NEWLY ISSUED** original Baptismal Certificate (dated on or after January 1, 2017) bearing the Baptismal church pastor's signature and embossed parish seal. *This is a new Diocesan requirement that we must follow; only needed if child was baptized at a different parish than Holy Angels.*
- Sacramental registration fee of \$60.00 if not yet paid;
- Calendar;
- Small (wallet-sized) photo of child with his/her name on back, if not provided already.

5) **JESUS DAY ON EUCHARIST Retreat** (**REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS**):

- Saturday, April 29, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the church  
*Parent helpers will be needed! Sign up information to be provided at workshops.*

6) **Practice for Large Group First Eucharist** (**REQUIRED for LARGE GROUP participants**):

- Thursday, May 4, 2017, 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. (One parent must stay with the child for practice)

7) **First Eucharist Review/Practice** (**REQUIRED FOR ALL STUDENTS AND ONE PARENT**)

*(Various dates ~ Sign-ups available at First Eucharist Workshop)*

8) **First Eucharist Celebrations: TWO OPTIONS:**

**Large Group Celebration:** Saturday, May 6, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

~ Or ~ **Small Group Celebration for 8 students** at designated weekend Masses (starting after the Large Group Celebration ~ see note):

- 1) Saturday, May 20, 2017 at 5:00 pm Mass
- 2) Sunday, May 21, 2017 at 10:00 am Mass
- 3) Sunday, May 21, 2017 at noon Mass
- 4) Saturday, June 3, 2017 at 5:00 pm Mass
- 5) Sunday, June 4, 2017 at 10:00 am Mass
- 6) Sunday, June 4, 2017 at noon Mass

**Note: Parents will be given the first opportunity to sign up for one of these Small Group Celebrations at the First Eucharist workshops in January, 2017 so please bring your calendar. Unless a Small Group date is requested, it is assumed that your child will celebrate with our Large Group on May 6, 2017.**

Additional information about our sacramental preparation process and celebrations can be found on our website at <http://www.holyangelschurch.com/grow/psr/first-sacraments>. As always, please don't hesitate to contact me at the Religious Education Office (440-708-0808) if there are any specific questions or concerns.

I'll look forward to seeing you all very soon. Many blessings to your family!

*Jeannie Daunch, Director of Elementary Faith Formation*