

Trinity Academy At the Father Walter J. Ciszek Education Center

233 West Cherry St. Shenandoah, PA 17976

INTRODUCTION

The Parish Religious Education Program (PREP) helps the parish to understand and live the Gospel Message of Jesus Christ. Such endeavors demand our best efforts of time, talent, and treasure. Divine Mercy Parish uses its resources in an effort to provide a quality religion education program for students Grades 1 - 8 who attend public school.

The specific objectives of the program are:

- to teach the Catholic faith in a loving atmosphere
- to develop a personal relationship with God, others, and oneself
- to help students worship God through prayer, sacraments, and sacred liturgy
- to help students to serve the needs of others
- to develop Christ-like attitudes in facing all aspects of life

Divine Mercy Religious Education Program (PREP) is dedicated to assist parents in teaching our youth to know, to love, and to serve God.

The philosophy of this program is to motivate the student to live God's plan by action and word as true Christians.

ADMISSION POLICY

This program is open to all the children, Grades 1 to 8, of families who are members of the parish.

REGISTRATION

Regular registration will take place Thursday, August 23rd at Trinity Academy at the Father Walter J. Ciszek Educational Center from 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM. The registration fee is \$40.00 for one child, and \$75.00 for two or more children. Families not participating in parish life will pay \$50.00 a child. Grade 8 - Confirmation Class will pay an additional fee of \$ 15.00 for the Confirmation Robes and a registration fee of \$ 15.00 for a total of \$ 30.00. A Baptismal Certificate is required at the time of registration for all new students.

CLASSES

Classes for grades 1 to 7 will be held on Thursday evenings from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM at Trinity Academy. Confirmation classes will meet on Sunday evenings from 5:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to attend ALL sessions. Parents may call the Trinity Academy School office before 3:00 PM at 570-462-3927 or Mrs. Peterine Wojcik at 570-622-9434 to notify us if a student will be absent. Attendance will be taken at each class period.

SAFETY

At 6:05PM, the main door will be locked for security reasons. If you are late, the door monitor will let you in. The student will sign in and report to class.

DISMISSAL

Older students will exit the building first. All students will leave at 7:28 PM and parents are asked to pick up your child in a **safety zone**. Please let your child know where you will be.

DISCIPLINE PROBLEMS

Behavior problems will be handled by the student's parents with home instruction for 2 sessions. On returning to the program, completed lessons will be handed to the class teacher. If more problems occur the student will be suspended for 4 sessions with home instruction. We are here to share the faith and disruption prevents this. Last step, the student will be dismissed for the rest of the year. For the next year to be readmitted, all work must be done for the classes that they missed. If you have concerns about your child at PREP, please call Mrs. K. Hornberger (Coordinator) or Mrs. Peterine Wojcik (Coordinator) to set up a meeting with her or a teacher.



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Special preparation will be provided for students preparing to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, and Holy Eucharist for the first time. These students will be required to attend TWO full years of religion instructions. They will receive these sacraments during the second year of instruction.

The Sacrament of Confirmation is administered by the Bishop every year. Along with the immediate preparation for Confirmation, candidates must have participated in all the previous religion education classes. Grades missed must be made up. The next Confirmation will be held on Tuesday, October 2nd at 4:30 PM at Divine Mercy Parish, Shenandoah, PA.

Parents are important to the spiritual formation of their children. The PREP Program recognizes and supports the efforts of parents. Parents are expected to participate in the special programs (TWO FOR EACH SACRAMENT) which will be held for them.

POLICY

Requirements for reception of the Sacraments in the parish are as follows:

FIRST PENANCE AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

- A minimum of (2) consecutive years in a religion education program (Catholic School or PREP).
- NO MORE THAN (4) excused absences per year. More than (4) absences may require alternate education program.
- Candidates and their families must display the proper Christian attitude; this involves regular attendance at Mass, especially fulfilling their Sunday obligation and have Mass attendance sheet signed.
- Final decision rests with the Pastors.

CONFIRMATION

- A minimum of (5) consecutive years after First Holy Communion in a religion education program (Catholic School or PREP). Years missed must be made up for Grades 3 to 8.
- NO MORE THAN (4) excused absences per year. More than (4) absences may require alternate education program.
- Candidates and their families must display the proper Christian attitude; this involves regular attendance at Mass in their parish, especially fulfilling their Sunday obligation and have Mass attendance sheet signed.
- Sponsors must be able to secure a certificate of eligibility from their Pastor.
- Final decision rests with the Pastors.

NEXT CONFIRMATION

Tuesday, October 2nd at 4:30PM at Divine Mercy Parish, Shenandoah, PA - Grade 8 and up.

BAD WEATHER CLOSING OR EMERGENCY

In case of bad weather or emergency, we will follow the public school policy. If the public school is closed, so will our program be closed. Listen to your local radio program.

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN

Each year the program will be presented to all grades in October. This year it will be on October 4, 2018. All parents are welcome to come for the 6:00 PM presentation and please notify us if you do not want your child to attend.

HOMEWORK POLICY

Homework WILL be announced by each individual teacher. Parents are responsible for seeing that the work is completed.

GRADING POLICY

Progress reports will be issued TWO times a year. Parents are asked to sign the FIRST report, and have their children return it to their teacher. It is hoped that this will make our parents aware of the religious concepts that are being taught.

SPORTS

Sports are an important part of the student's life. We collaborate and not compete for students time. **Special programs will be made available with Mrs. Peterine Wojcik, the Religion Coordinator** during sport seasons. You must register for this program with Mrs. Peterine Wojcik (570-622-9434) and complete all the work.

HOLY DAYS

Parents are responsible for taking their child/children to Holy Mass and if it is during PREP then the child/children will be excused from class.

CONFESSION

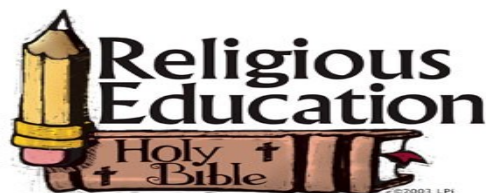
Parents are responsible to take their child/children to the Sacrament of Reconciliation **at least 4 times a year**. Likewise, the reception of the Sacrament will be made available during class time at least once a year.

Calendar for 2018-2019 PREP Classes

Celebrating God's Love And Mercy

Registration: August 23, 2018- 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM **Fee:** \$40.00 for the first child and for two or more \$75.00 Copy of baptismal certificate is needed for each child. **Schedule:** Classes are 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM

August 30th Teachers meeting -- 6:00 PM at Trinity Academy
September 6th Meeting with parents & students -- 6:00 PM at Church
September 13th Classes at school - Our hero - Fr. Walter J. Cizek - - 6:00 PM - Rev. Msgr. Ronald C. Bocian will bless books, students & teachers & Confession for grades 3-7
September 20th Classes - Catechetical Day - - School celebrate Confession for grades 3-7 at 6:15 PM
September 27th Classes - Sing Children of God - Mrs. K. Wufsus
September 30th Mass @ St. Casimir 10:00 AM - Confirmation students attend
October 2nd Tuesday - Confirmation 4:30 PM - no class
October 4th Classes - Protecting God's Children - Parents are welcome at school
October 7th Mass @ St. Casimir 10:00 AM - Confirmation students attend. Return Confirmation Robes & receive gift
October 11th Classes
October 18th Living Rosary -- 6:30 PM at Church - parents are welcome - Mrs. K. Wufsus - music
October 25th Classes
November 1st Feasts of All Saints - go to Mass with family - Classes
November 2nd Feast of All Souls - pray for the poor souls
November 15th Classes - Sing Children of God and Give Thanks - Mrs. Wufsus - Music/Saints Walk - Confirmation students & Confessions for grades 3-7 at 6:15 PM
November 22nd Happy Thanksgiving - No Class - "Give Thanks" - go to Mass with family & share God's meal
November 29th Classes & Confessions for grades 3-7 at 6:15 PM
December 6th Classes
December 8th Holy Day - attend Mass with your family... Feast of the Immaculate Conception
December 13th Celebrating the Nativity - Sing Children of God - Mrs. K. Wufsus - Music - 6:30 PM Parents are welcome -- Classes
December 20th No classes - Christmas Break
December 25th Happy Birthday Baby Jesus!
December 27th No Classes
January 1st Attend Mass with your family... Solemnity of Mary
January 3rd Classes - Three Wise Men - Celebration Litany of the Sacred Heart - School
January 10th Classes - Confession for grades 3-7 at 6:15 PM
January 17th Classes
January 24th Classes
January 31st Classes
February 7th Classes - Litany to Blessed Virgin Mary - School - Blessing of Throats - St. Blaise
February 14th Classes
February 21st Classes
February 28th Classes - Farewell to Alleluia
March 6th Ash Wednesday - Lent begins
March 7th Classes - Sing Children of God - Mrs. K. Wufsus - Music
March 14th Classes
March 21st Classes - Confession for grades 3-7 at 6:15 PM
March 28th Classes
April 4th Living Stations & Divine Mercy Chaplet - 6:30 PM - Church - Mrs. K. Wufsus - Music Parents are welcome
April 11th Class
April 18th No Class - Holy Thursday - Go to Mass with family and share in the Last Supper
April 21st Easter Sunday - Jesus is Risen - "Alleluia's Return"
April 25th Classes - Crowning of Mary and Sing Children of God - Mrs. K. Wufsus 6:30 PM Parents are welcome - Report Cards - Last Class



DATES FOR THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Proposed Sacramental Dates for 2018-2019 - (May be changed)

Tuesday, September 11th Parent Meeting - 6:30 PM - Divine Mercy Parish
Sunday, September 23rd Rite of Candidacy for Sacramental Candidates 10:00 AM St. Casimir Church
Rite of Candidacy for Sacramental Candidates Noon Divine Mercy Church
Saturday, November 17th First Penance Service - 10:00 AM - Divine Mercy Church
Saturday, April 13th Mandatory Family Retreat Day - 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM - Divine Mercy Church

- ◆ Welcome/Open Prayer (30 mins)
- ◆ Parent’s Conference in church with guest speaker (45 mins. - 1 hour)
Children’s Conference in school
- ◆ Family Activity in cafeteria (40-45 mins)
- ◆ Time for confessions, adoration, personal prayer in church (1 hour)
- ◆ Closing prayer (10 mins.)

Practices for First Holy Communion

Wednesday, May 8th and 3:00 - 4:30 PM - Divine Mercy
Thursday, May 9th 3:00 - 4:00 PM - Divine Mercy

Saturday, May 11th First Holy Communion - 10:00 AM - Divine Mercy

RELIGION EDUCATION STAFF

GRADE.....TEACHER

1.....Mrs. Ellen Zapolsky
2.....Sister Mary
3.....Mrs. Angie Babatsky & Mrs. Michelle Mikita
4.....Mrs. Kay Hornberger
5.....M/M Francis & Teresa Green
6.....Mrs. Ginny McAndrew
7.....Mrs. Peterine Wojcik

Grade 8 - Confirmation Class -- Sunday 6-7:30 PM.....Mrs. Peterine Wojcik
Substitute.....

Coordinator for First Holy Communion.....Sister Mary
Music.....Mrs. Kathy Wufsus

FAITH FORMATION

GRADE.....COURSE OF STUDY

1.....We Believe: God Loves Us
2.....Penance & Eucharist
3.....We Believe: We Are The Church
4.....We Believe: God’s Law Guides Us
5.....We Believe: We Meet Jesus In The Sacraments
6.....Decision Point Text
7.....Review for Confirmation, 54 Catechism Questions,
Bishop’s Questions & Decision Point Text
8.....Review for Confirmation

CANDIDATES FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION: SUNDAY LITURGY

Must attend Mass each Saturday or Sunday.
Must use for attendance --- Faith Building Block

Remember to bring your Faith Building Block to Mass each week and place your block in the basket.

TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Divine Mercy Parish Office	Rev. Msgr. Ronald C. Bocian	570-462-1968
Trinity Academy, Principal	Sister Margaret McCullough	570-462-3927
Annunciation Convent		570-462-1024
Mrs. Peterine Wojcik	Home	570-622-9434

SPECIAL TITLES

Pastor	Rev. Msgr. Ronald C. Bocian
Coordinator of PREP	Mrs. Peterine Wojcik
Principal of Trinity Academy	Sister Margaret McCullough, IHM
First Holy Communion Coordinator	Sister Mary, IHM

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE FOR GRADE 8 and up

Registration: August 23rd - 5:00 PM to 8:00 PM **Fee:** \$ 15.00 **Robe Rental:** \$ 15.00 = **Total of \$ 30.00**

Classes will be held on a Sunday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Confirmation Date: October 2, 2018 - 4:30 PM - Divine Mercy Parish, Shenandoah, PA

DATES OF CLASSES

- 6:00 PM - September 9th - Students and parents - Divine Mercy Church - Dress Code - Bishop’s Questions - Measure for robes (school)
- 6:00 PM - September 16th - Students and parents - Divine Mercy Church
- 6:00 PM - September 23rd - Students and parents - Divine Mercy Church - Confession 6:45 PM
- 10:00 AM - September 30th - Students and parents at St. Casimir Church with robes - Presentation of Confirmation Candidates (**Must be at church by 9:30 AM**)
- 6:00 PM - September 30th - Students, parents and sponsors meet at Trinity Academy...line up and practice in church
- 4:30 PM - October 2nd - Students, parents and sponsors meet at Trinity Academy with robes for Confirmation Mass at 4:30 PM. Be there by 4:00 PM.
- 10:00 AM - October 7th - Students and parents at St. Casimir Church with robes - 10:00 AM Mass - Presenting the confirmed students. After Mass, hand in the robes to Mrs. Wojcik at Trinity Academy and receive a gift from the parish.

DRESS CODE

Boys and Girls will wear “Confirmation” Robes with dress shoes.
 Sponsors: **Men** please wear dress pants, shirts, tie and jacket or dress suit.
Women should wear dress clothing - not casual dress.

POST CONFIRMATION ACTIVITY

Join Your Parish Youth Group

The Chaplet of the Divine Mercy

Sign of the Cross

1. Opening Prayers
You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.
2. (**Repeat Three Times**) O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in you!
3. Our Father
4. Hail Mary
5. The Apostle’s Creed - I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead, he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty, from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.
6. Eternal Father, I offer you the Body & Blood, Soul & Divinity of Your Dearly Beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
7. On the Ten Small Beads of Each Decade - For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
8. Repeat for the remaining decades - Saying the “Eternal Father” on the “Our Father” beads and then 10 “For the sake of His sorrowful Passion” on the following “Hail Mary” beads.
9. Conclude with the Holy God (Repeat Three Times) Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
10. Closing Prayer - Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion -inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.