

Trinity Academy At the Father Walter J. Cizek 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 22nd at Trinity Academy at the Father Walter J. Cizek Educational Center from 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM and Thursday, August 29th and September 5th at Trinity Academy at the Father Walter J. Cizek Educational Center from 5:30 PM - 6:00 PM and after classes. 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 6:00 PM to 7:00 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 (contact parish office 570-462-1968 for phone number) 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. 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 Thursday, October 10th at 4:30 PM at St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mahanoy City, 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 by Faith Building Blocks handed in at Mass each week.
- 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 by Faith Building Blocks handed in at Mass each week.
- Sponsors must be able to secure a certificate of eligibility from their Pastor.
- Final decision rests with the Pastors.

NEXT CONFIRMATION

Thursday, October 10th at 4:30PM at St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mahanoy City, 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 3, 2019. 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 (contact parish office for phone) 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

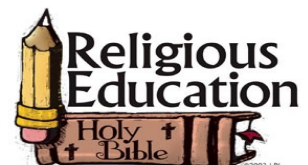
Parents are responsible to take their child/children to the Sacrament of Reconciliation **at least 4 times a year**. Likewise, the reception of the Sacrament will be made available during class time at least once a year.

Calendar for 2019-2020 PREP Classes

Registration: August 1st - 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 22nd	Teachers meeting -- 6:00 PM
August 29th	Class 6 to 7:30 PM ... Start of school year
September 5th	Classes 6 to 7:30 PM
September 12th	Classes at school - Our hero - Fr. Walter J. Ciszek
September 19th	Classes ... Catechetical Day - - Rev. Msgr. Ronald C. Bocian will bless books, students and teachers... School celebrate Confession for grades 3-7 at 6:15 PM
September 26th	Classes ... Sing Children of God - Mrs. K. Wufus
October 3rd	Classes ... Protecting God's Children - by grade in class ... Parents are welcome at school
October 10th	No Class ... Confirmation @ 4:30 PM - St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mahanoy City, PA
October 17th	Classes... Living Rosary 7:00 PM - school cafeteria - parents are welcome - Mrs. K. Wufus - music
October 24th	Classes
October 31st	Mass for Feast of All Saints... for class/church ... All students report to school at 6:00 PM ... Mass at Divine Mercy Church at 6:30 PM.
November 7th	Classes ... Saints Walk - Confirmation students
November 14th	Classes ... Confessions for grades 3 - 7 at 6:15 PM
November 21st	Classes... Sing Children of God - Mrs. K. Wufus - Music
November 23rd	First Penance at Divine Mercy at 10:00 AM
November 28th	Happy Thanksgiving - No Classes - "Give Thanks" Go to Mass with family & share God's Meal
December 5th	Classes
December 12th	Classes ... Sing Children of God - Mrs. K. Wufus - Music... Celebrating the Nativity 7:00 PM - parents are welcome
December 19th	No Class - Christmas Break
December 25th	Happy Birthday Baby Jesus!
December 26th	No Classes
January 1	Attend Mass with your family... Solemnity of Mary
January 2nd	Classes ... Three Wise Men - Celebration
January 9th	Classes ... Confession for grades 3-7 at 6:15 PM
January 16th	Classes
January 23rd	Classes
January 30th	Classes
February 6th	Classes ... Blessing of throats - St. Blaze
February 13th	Classes
February 20th	Classes ... Farewell to the Alleluia
February 26th	Ash Wednesday ... Lent begins
February 27th	Classes ... Ashes to be given to the students
March 5th	Classes ... Sing Children of God - Mrs. K. Wufus - music
March 12th	Classes
March 19th	Classes ... Confession for grades 3-7 at 6:15 PM
March 26th	Classes
April 2nd	Classes ... Living Stations and Divine Mercy Chaplet - 7:00 PM ... cafeteria - Mrs. K. Wufus - music lent parents are welcome
April 9th	No Classes ... Holy Thursday - go to Mass with family and share in the Last Supper
April 12th	Easter Sunday - Jesus is Risen "Alleluia's Return"
April 16th	Classes
April 23rd	Classes
April 25th	First Communion at Divine Mercy at 10:00 AM
April 30th	Last class ... Crowning of Mary - 7:00 PM ... Sing Children of God - Mrs. K. Wufus - music. Parents are welcome.

First Penance will be celebrated on Saturday, November 23rd at 10:00 AM at Divine Mercy Church
First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Saturday, April 25th at 10:00 AM at Divine Mercy Church
First Communion Class will continue to come on Thursday evenings from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM.
Confirmation Class will continue to come on dates to be decided... from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM.
Confirmation date to be announced... Fall 2020



DATES FOR THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Proposed Sacramental Dates for 2019-2020 - (May be changed)

Meeting for Parents of First Penance & First Communion - Tuesday, September 10th at 6:30 PM - Divine Mercy Parish

Sunday, September 22nd **Rite of Candidacy for Sacramental Candidates 10:00 AM at St. Casimir Church and Noon at Divine Mercy Church (Spanish)**

Saturday, November 23rd **First Penance Service - 10:00 AM - Divine Mercy Church**

Saturday, April 4th **Mandatory Family Retreat Day - 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM - Divine Mercy Church - Mass included**

- ◆ 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, April 22nd and 3:00 - 4:30 PM - Divine Mercy

Thursday, April 23rd 3:00 - 4:00 PM - Divine Mercy

Saturday, April 25th 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.....Sister Patricia ... sub teachers M/M Francis Green
- 5.....Mrs. Kay Hornberger
- 6.....Mrs. Ginny McAndrew
- 7.....Mrs. Peterine Wojcik

Grade 8 - Confirmation Class -- Sunday 6-7:00 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
Trinity Academy, Principal
Annunciation Convent
Mrs. Peterine Wojcik

Rev. Msgr. Ronald C. Bocian
Sister Margaret McCullough

Home

570-462-1968
570-462-3927
570-462-1024
contact parish office for phone

SPECIAL TITLES

PastorRev. Msgr. Ronald C. Bocian
Coordinator of PREPMrs. Peterine Wojcik
Principal of Trinity Academy Sister Margaret McCullough, IHM
First Holy Communion CoordinatorSister Mary, IHM

CONFIRMATION SCHEDULE FOR GRADE 8 and up

Registration: August 1st - 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: Thursday, October 10, 2019 - 4:30 PM - St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mahanoy City, PA

***** Students & sponsors, please be there by 4:00 PM**

GATHERING DATES FOR CONFIRMATION PRACTICE - ALL MUST BE PRESENT

Gathering time 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Divine Mercy Church
Bishop’s Questions and Practice for Confirmation - Dress Code

- September 8th Students and parents
- September 15th Students and parents
- September 22nd Students and parents
- September 29th Students and parents with confession at 6:45 PM
- October 6th Confirmation students and parents at 10:00 AM Mass at St. Casimir Church with Confirmation Robes
Presentation of Confirmation Candidates **(Must be at church by 9:30 AM)**
- October 6th Final practice - 6:00 PM - student and sponsor present. St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mahanoy City
- October 10th Confirmation Mass at 4:30 PM at St. Teresa of Calcutta, Mahanoy City, PA .. Students with robe and sponsor by 4:00 PM.
- October 13th Confirmation students and parents at 10:00 AM Mass at St. Casimir Church with robes - 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