

Our Lady of the Angels Parish
1222 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01603
Religious Education Ministry

August 3, 2015

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Let me begin by telling you how excited I am to start my ministry here at Our Lady of the Angels Parish as Director of the Religious Education Program. I consider myself blessed to have been chosen to work among you in this parish community. Our Church considers parents and caretakers as **primary educators** of children in the area of faith development and Christian formation. It is from **you** that our children learn compassion, forgiveness, and love-true hallmarks of our faith in God. As director, I am here along with many volunteer catechists and aides to help and support you in this task. I look forward to getting to know you and your family and accompanying you on this journey to grow in faith, knowledge, love and service as disciples of Jesus Christ.

“Effective catechesis/religious education occurs when word, worship and service are so integrated that faith is proclaimed and becomes living, conscious and active through the light of instruction, formation, liturgy and service. The fundamental tasks of parish religious education remain:

- *To proclaim Christ’s message*
- *To participate in efforts to develop community*
- *To lead people to worship and prayer*
- *To motivate the community of believers to serve others.”*
(National Catechetical Directory)

PROGRAM VISION

Our Lady of the Angels’ Religious Education Program strives to provide complementary formational and information experiences to: foster, develop and nurture a mature Christian faith; to empower individuals to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today; and to draw individuals to responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the Catholic faith community. We dedicate ourselves to building up the Body of Christ and continuing Jesus’ threefold mission as Prophet, Priest and Servant-King through the ministries of Word, Worship and Service in the context of a parish faith community which explores, proclaims, celebrates, shares and lives faith together in the richness of our Catholic tradition.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION REGISTRATION

The end of summer is already in sight. As we look forward to the start of another school year, it is time to register your child(ren) for the Religious Education Program for the 2015-2016 school year. Please fill out the enclosed registration form and return it to the Rectory no later than August 24th. Registration forms are also available at the church entrances as well as on our website www.ourladyofangels.org Please note the following:

- Schedules for grades K-8 and 9-10 can be found on our website at www.ourladyofangels.org Click on the EDUCATION link at the top of the homepage. Then click under the Grades K through Confirmation under the schedule heading.
- Fees are listed on the Registration Form—next page after this letter.
- First day of class for Grades K-8 will be Sunday, September 13th.
- First day of class for Grade 9 will be Sunday, September 20th (**public school students only**)
- First day of class for Confirmation candidates (Grade 10) will be Sunday, February 21, 2016 (public and Catholic school students)
- We encourage parents to consider attending the 10:30 am Mass with your children, during which we have the Children's Liturgy of the Word for them. Snacks and juice are offered in the school gym after classes for those waiting to attend Mass. Weekly participation in Mass is one of the things that characterize us as Catholics. It makes little sense to be educating children about their faith if you are not worshiping and practicing the faith with them.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

A parent newsletter will be available four times a year. This newsletter is both educational as well as informative. It will include updated calendar events as the year progresses. Please provide us with a current email address so that we can send this to you.

VOLUNTEERS

Running a religious education program takes a large effort from many people. Therefore, the more people who are able to help, the better we are able to offer a quality program. Included in these materials is an **Adult and Student Volunteer Form**. Any student in Grades 7-12 and any adult are eligible to volunteer upon successful completion of a CORI check and SAFE Environment training. Please complete the form. We'll be in touch with you!

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SURVEY

In order for me to better understand the educational needs of this parish community, would you be so kind as to complete the enclosed survey which will assist me in future planning?

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 508-791-0951 (ext. 18) or email me at dfarlandola@gmail.com. I look forward to meeting you and your family.

May God Bless You!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Darleen Farland
Director of Religious Education

**OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION
Family/Guardian Information**

Office use only:

Date Rec'd

____/____/____

Pmt: Yes

No

NAME (Adult responsible for children) _____

Mailing Address _____

Zip Code _____ Telephone _____ Date _____

Note: if you move or change your telephone number please contact me ASAP to update information!

PARENT/GUARDIAN Information

Father's Name

Mother's First & MAIDEN Name

Business _____

Business _____

Bus. or Cell phone _____

Bus. or Cell Phone _____

Religion _____

Religion _____

E-mail _____

E-mail _____

Marital Status (circle one)

Marital Status (circle one)

married separated divorced

married separated divorced

single remarried deceased

single remarried deceased

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Contact Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____

Relationship to Child _____

Religious Education Fees

Gr. K & 1, & Gr. 3-9: \$45.00 one child; \$65.00 two children; \$75.00 three or more children.

First Communion and First Penance fee:

\$80.00 for each program (Gr. 2 parents do NOT pay the fees listed above for these children)

Confirmation \$45.00

No child needs to go without religious education because of inability to pay. We will accommodate your needs. Please make us aware of your situation.

All classes are on Sunday morning from 9:00 am. to 10:00 am. (All classes in OLA school)

PLEASE NOTE: IF YOUR CHILD WAS NOT BAPTIZED HERE AT OLA, PLEASE BE SURE TO SEND IN A COPY OF YOUR CHILD'S BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE (if you have not already done so). If you send in the original copy it will be returned to you promptly. You may even fax it to my attention at 508-753-9531).

Your family must be registered with the parish in order for your child to be enrolled in our religious education classes. If you are unsure if you are registered in this parish, please call the rectory at 508-791-0951. Thank you.

ATTENTION PARENTS OR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS: If you have one hour a week to share your faith with the children of the parish please consider co-teaching a class! This program would be unsuccessful if it weren't for the volunteers that teach the children our faith each week.

____ YES I am interested in finding out more information about co-teaching a class.

Name: _____

____ NO I am unable to teach this year.

(over)

(youngest to oldest)

First Student's Information

NAME: _____ Sex _____ Any ALLERGIES _____
Grade: _____ School _____
Email for gr. 6 and up: _____
Birth: ____/____/____ Birth City & State _____
Baptism: No _____ Yes _____ at what church _____
address of church _____
1st Communion: No _____ Yes _____ Church _____
Reconciliation No _____ Yes _____ Confirmation: No _____ Yes _____ / ____ / ____

Second Student's Information

NAME: _____ Sex _____ Any ALLERGIES _____
Grade: _____ School _____
Email for gr. 6 and up: _____
Birth: ____/____/____ Birth City & State _____
Baptism: No _____ Yes _____ at what church _____
address of church _____
1st Communion: No _____ Yes _____ Church _____
Reconciliation No _____ Yes _____ Confirmation: No _____ Yes _____ / ____ / ____

Third Student's Information

NAME: _____ Sex _____ Any ALLERGIES _____
Grade: _____ School _____
Email for gr. 6 and up: _____
Birth: ____/____/____ Birth City & State _____
Baptism: No _____ Yes _____ at what church _____
address of church _____
1st Communion: No _____ Yes _____ Church _____
Reconciliation No _____ Yes _____ Confirmation: No _____ Yes _____ / ____ / ____

Fourth Student's Information

NAME: _____ Sex _____ Any ALLERGIES _____
Grade: _____ School _____
Email for gr. 6 and up: _____
Birth: ____/____/____ Birth City & State _____
Baptism: No _____ Yes _____ at what church _____
address of church _____
1st Communion: No _____ Yes _____ Church _____
Reconciliation No _____ Yes _____ Confirmation: No _____ Yes _____ / ____ / ____

Fifth Student's Information

NAME: _____ Sex _____ Any ALLERGIES _____
Grade: _____ School _____
Email for gr. 6 and up: _____
Birth: ____/____/____ Birth City & State _____
Baptism: No _____ Yes _____ at what church _____
address of church _____
1st Communion: No _____ Yes _____ Church _____
Reconciliation No _____ Yes _____ Confirmation: No _____ Yes _____ / ____ / ____

**OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS PARISH
RELIGIOUS EDUCATION VOLUNTEER FORM**

“Not to be served but to serve.” (Matthew 20:28)

We can't run a successful program without help from many people! Please consider volunteering in our program! (Please note: all teenage and adult volunteers will be subject to a CORI review.)

STUDENT (Grades 7-12) AND ADULT VOLUNTEERS

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

HOME PHONE _____ WORK PHONE _____ CELL PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Here are some of the ways you can help our Religious Education Program:

Teacher	_____	Preferred Grade	_____
Teacher's Aide	_____	Preferred Grade	_____
Substitute Teacher	_____	Preferred Grade	_____
Hospitality	_____	Preferred Time	_____
Clerical Help	_____	Preferred Time	_____
Retreats	_____	Preferred Grade	_____
Music Ministry	_____	Vocalist	_____
		Instrument Played	_____
Field Trip Chaperone	_____		
Children's Liturgy of the Word (10:30 a.m. Mass)			_____
General Help (help where and when needed, from time to time)			_____
Other (please list)	_____		

IF YOU NEED MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT DARLEEN FARLAND AT: 508-791-0951
dfarlandola@gmail.com

OUR LADY OF THE ANGELS

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SURVEY

Please help us with our future planning by checking all that you think would be of interest:

- Adult Education Classes
- Adult Faith Sharing Group
- Adult Retreats
- Advent Prayer Series
- Being an Altar Server
- Being a Eucharistic Minister
- Being a Greeter
- Being a Lector
- Being a Music Minister
- Bible Study
- Book Discussion Group
- Catechist Training Opportunities
- Centering Prayer Group
- Children's Choir
- Children's Liturgy of the Word
- College Student Care Packages
- College Student Retreats
- Day of Prayerful Work/Service
- Extended Service Opportunities for High School Students (i.e. Young Neighbors in Action)
- Extended Service Opportunities for Junior High Students (i.e. Just Five Days)

- Field Trips to _____
(Please fill in destination)
- High School Retreats
- High School Youth Group
- Inter-generational Events
- Jr. High Retreats
- Jr. High Youth Group
- Lenten Prayer Series
- Liturgical Dance Troupe
- Musicals/Plays for Youth/Adults
- Post Baptismal Group for Parents of Children aged 2-5
- Pre-school Religious Education Classes
- Steubenville East Youth Conference
- Soul Fest Contemporary Music Event Weekend
- Vacation Bible School
- Website/Social Media Resources
- Other _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____