

Church of the Resurrection

6300 E. Dublin-Granville Road • New Albany, OH 43054

2023-2024

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION & YOUTH MINISTRY



*Partnering with families
to help children live the Gospel
of Jesus Christ.*

Our Mission...

...to meet children at their level of development, teach them the love of Christ and the joy of His forgiveness and salvation, help them learn the truth of His Word, and encourage their growth within the body of Believers

Our Vision ...

...that the children will know Christ, understand His Word, grow in their own spiritual walk, and be able to share the love of Christ with others.

Our staff and catechists are committed to nurturing the student's spiritual and moral growth with a strong foundation in the Catholic faith, so that they may live out the Gospel of Jesus in their daily lives.

Parish Offices

614-855-1400

(Office Hours: M-F 8:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm)

Pastor	Fr. Denis Kigozi	ext. 1015
Parochial Vicar	Fr. Anish Thomas	ext. 1029
Evangelization Coordinator	Brad Romantic	ext. 1017
Business Manager	Suzanne Larson	ext. 1013
Bookkeeper	Chris Roberts	ext. 1025
Communications Coordinator	Rachel Romantic	ext. 1017
Ministry Coordinator	Kathy Maguire	ext. 1010
Director of Music	Thom Wyatt	ext. 1018
Music and Administrative Assistant	Abby Porr	ext. 1022
Children's Ministry PreK-8	Peggy Kehres	ext. 1023
High School & Young Adult	Jessica Chokreff	ext. 1014
Maintenance Office		ext. 1020
Technical Coordinator	Chip Cogswell@aol.com	

Religious Education Offices

(Office hours vary. Please call ahead before stopping in)

ELEMENTARY PreK–8

614-939-1794

Children's Ministry Coordinator:

Peggy Kehres pkehres@cotrna.org

HIGH SCHOOL 9–12

614-855-0881

High School Youth Minister:

Jessica Chokreff jchokreff@cotrna.org

Parish Web Site

www.cotrna.org

Facebook Pages

Parish www.facebook.com/allrwelcom/

Church of the Resurrection CREED Families

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/197430334920627>

RISE Parents at Resurrection

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1105095922988483>

The information and regulations included in this handbook are pertinent to the success of the Religious Education Program. Catechists, staff, parents, and students can use this guide to achieve a successful learning environment. Please keep this handbook accessible, as it contains answers to frequently asked questions.

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS



(Church of the Resurrection Elementary Education Days) is our weekly faith formation program for children in grades PreK-5. The curriculum used for CREED is St. Mary's Press *Discover: Finding Faith in Life*. There are 5 sessions of **CREED** offered weekly from September through April.

PRESCHOOL & KINDERGARTEN - The mission for Preschool and Kindergarten children is to build a foundation of Catholic Faith. Through weekly instruction, in conjunction with the Allelu! program from Our Sunday Visitor, we use bible stories, crafts, videos and other hands-on activities that encourage the development of a basic knowledge of our Catholic customs, traditions, and values.

ELEMENTARY - Elementary school children, grades 1-5, are introduced to the basic teachings of the Catholic faith through weekly instruction using *Discover! Finding Faith in Life*. Published by Saint Mary's Press, this faith formation program puts *The Catholic Children's Bible* at the center. Founder Saint John Baptist de La Salle believed that God's word is powerful in touching hearts. *Discover* enables children to connect the dots and transform a learned faith into a joyfully lived faith!

WORD OF GOD

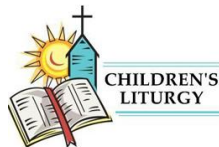


Journey with Jesus is our children's Liturgy of the Word program for children 3 years of age through 1st grade. This program is designed to teach the Sunday Mass readings at the child's age level. The children begin in the Church with their family and are sent forth as a group prior to the Liturgy of The Word. They return to the church during the Offertory.

No registration is needed. *Journey with Jesus* begins in September and runs through April.

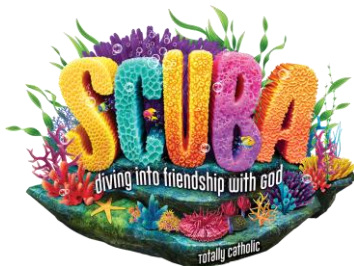
CHILDREN'S LITURGY

A Children's Liturgy is held the 3rd Saturday of the month at the 5:00 pm Saturday Mass October-May. grades 3-5 are responsible for serving as greeters, lectors, and offertory gift bearers. The Children's Choir is responsible for the music.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This highly successful program will be held June 23-28, 2024 with AM and PM sessions offered. Please see the parish website for more information.



SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

BAPTISM: Baptismal preparation is offered one Sunday a month following the 11:00 am Mass. Check the bulletin for the schedule or call the office at 614-855-1400 for more details.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION: Classes are available for children, grades 3 and up, who have not been baptized and/or received the sacrament of Eucharist and are above the age for which the sacrament is typically received. Contact the Religious Ed office to discuss your child's needs.

RECONCILIATION (A.K.A. "PENANCE" AND "CONFESSION"):
Preparation occurs in the 2nd grade CREED classes. Reception of the sacrament takes place on a Saturday morning in January. *Your child must be enrolled in CREED in order to receive this sacrament. They must also be attending Mass on a weekly basis.*

FIRST EUCHARIST (FIRST COMMUNION): Preparation occurs in the 2nd grade but is also available for older students that have been baptized but not yet received this sacrament. There is a Retreat for First Communicants and their parents held in the spring. The group masses will be celebrated in April/May. *Your child must be enrolled in CREED in order to receive this sacrament. They must also be attending Mass on a weekly basis.*

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROGRAMS

RISE

Inspired by Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati's motto "Verso L'Alto" (TO THE TOP), our Middle School program empowers our RISE'rs to apply the gospel to their lives. RISE meets on Sunday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00pm in the Ministry Center.



STAR SQUAD

Students in middle school are invited to attend STAR Squad for one week in the summer designed specifically for them. Students entering grades 6-8 are welcome to participate in this awesome week that includes daily Mass, games, service projects, small group discussion, and a lot of food.



HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAMS

IGNITE

At *Ignite* we explore the Truth of the Gospel and discuss how it applies to our lives. *Ignite* gives you the opportunity to: Ask tough questions; deepen your relationship with Christ; make friends who will encourage you, challenge you, and hold you accountable; become a better, stronger, happier person. It's so much more than a Sunday evening gathering! High school students are invited to come see what it's all about. *Ignite* takes place every Sunday evening from 6:30-8:00.

CONFIRMATION



We are called, we are chosen, we are sent by God to share His love and light to all the world! Welcome to the beginning of the next phase of your faith journey! God has big plans for you, and our Confirmation program helps you discern what those plans might be. We begin Confirmation in fall of freshman year (or older, if we missed you when you were a freshman!), and celebrate the sacrament of Confirmation in the spring. Sunday night sessions are designed to help you deepen your relationship with the God who made you, who loves you, and who calls you! Our peer leadership team (*Quo Vadis*) journeys with you through the year, developing life-long friendships and peer mentor relationships. Sessions take place every other Sunday evening from 5:00-6:30.

WINTER RETREAT

Although the message changes from year to year the theme remains, this is a time for our youth to rest, recharge and dig deeper in their relationship with Christ. This three day, two-night retreat gives our youth a change to unplug from the secular world and look to the heavenly one. The date varies from year to year but always falls within the middle of our year, a perfect time to reset.

GOSPEL ROAD

For one week each summer we travel down to Vinton County to spend 7 days and 6 nights serving the residents of the community. From replacing roofs to building wheel chair ramps, we do it all! Our youth, under the instruction and supervision of knowledgeable adult leaders, are empowered to step out of their comfort zone. We work hard all day, pray and grow as a community to serve our brothers and sisters. A week to disconnect and dig deeper in your relationship with our Lord. We are called to be the hands and feet of our Lord and this is a perfect way to serve his people.

FAMILY MINISTRY

FAMILY LITURGY

A Family Mass is held at the 5:00pm Mass on the 1st Saturday of the month from October – May.

All liturgical roles (greeter, lector, EOM, offertory gift bearers) are performed by students in grades 3-12 and their family members.



FAMILY CATECHESIS

Christian Initiation of Children (CIC) is for families of children (grades 3-8) needing the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Children will also attend CREED for continuing grade level religious instruction.

Utilizing *Pathways*, a family-based program from Faith and Family Life Catholic Ministries, families will be invited to grow into a deeper understanding of our faith. Pathways is a hybrid program consisting of at-home lessons along with periodic parish-led activities (including Reconciliation and First Eucharist Retreats).



COTR PLAYGROUP

The COTR Playgroup gives parents/caregivers the opportunity to meet other families with young children. Adults/children meet the first and third Friday of each month at various locations throughout the community weather permitting. During the winter months, the Playgroup meets in the Kindergarten room in the Ministry Center. All ages are welcome! Please note: This is not a drop off gathering. Caregiver(s) must stay and are responsible for their children at all times.

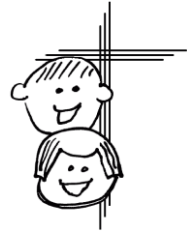
PARISH MINISTRIES

Religious Education works closely with various parish ministries, such as St. James the Less, Knights of Columbus, Women's Group, and Social Concerns. We encourage our young people to participate in the parish liturgical ministries. All ministries require some form of training and a few have age/sacramental requirements. Please contact the Parish Office at 614-855-1400 if your child would like to participate in a liturgical ministry.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

This choir is for students in grades 2-6 who like to sing and are looking for ways to actively participate in the mass.

The Children's Choir will provide music on the 3rd Saturday of the month at mass (October-May). The practices are on Sundays from 12:30-1:30.



In addition to developing the musical and spiritual needs of the young people of our parish, the Children's Choir also features many social activities (weenie roast, bowling, Christmas parties, etc.).

FAMILY CHOIR

This choir is for parishioners of all ages who like to sing and are looking for ways to actively participate in the mass with other families. It is open to all ages, but children through 5th grade must be accompanied by a parent/guardian.

The Family Choir will provide music at the Family Mass on the 1st Saturday of the month (October – May). There is one practice each month from 1:30-3:00.

This is a great way for your whole family to worship and serve the parish together. There will be family-centered events either before or after the Family Mass each month.

CHERUB CHOIR

Children age 3 through 1st grade are invited to participate in the Cherub Choir during the Christmas season.

Rehearsals are on Saturday mornings in December at 10:00am, and they perform during prelude at the 4pm Christmas Eve mass. Watch the bulletin for details.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Parent/Guardian and volunteer participation is welcomed and needed in various areas of the religious education program. We provide training and on-going support. All staff and volunteers are required to participate in Protecting God's Children, a diocesan sponsored program which addresses the issues of child abuse. All staff and volunteers must undergo a criminal screening and background check.

LEAD CATECHIST: Each grade level is supported by a "team leader" – an experienced Catechist that provides lesson plans and suggestions throughout the year. Lead Catechists are responsible for planning and executing these lessons each week in grades preK-5. All supplies needed are provided. Adults and students in grades 9-12 are welcome to serve as Lead Catechists.

ASSISTANT CATECHIST: Assistant Catechists are responsible for aiding the leader as necessary. Duties include attendance, maintaining student's take-home folders, bathroom duties, helping with set up and clean up, and assisting with proactive discipline as needed.

MIDDLE SCHOOL TEAM: RISE meets as a large youth group but breaks off into grade-specific groups for discussion. Each grade requires a lead catechist and several assistants. Catechists will also assist with occasional large group activities.

STUDENT ASSISTANT: Students in grades 6-8 are welcome to assist in the Preschool, Kindergarten, or Elementary classroom as an extra aide.

SAFETY MONITOR: Safety / Hall Monitors are needed during each weekday CREED session. Monitors are responsible for safe drop-off and pick-up of students, hallway safety and escorting classes to and from the church. Two safety monitors are needed for each session of CREED.

(All adult volunteers must comply with a one-time requirement of fingerprinting and attending a Protecting God's Children seminar.)



C.R.E.E.D. RULES FOR A SAFE ENVIRONMENT

As part of our on-going effort to maintain a safe environment for children, the following rules will be in place during all CREED sessions:

1. Per Diocesan policy, parishes/schools/agencies must follow a strategy of “two-deep” ministry with minors, where at least two (2) adults who are in full compliance with Diocesan safe environment policies are present at all activities and situations. For the purposes of this policy, “full compliance with Diocesan safe environment policies” means: (1) the person’s criminal background report is on file with the Safe Environment Office; and, (2) the person has completed the VIRTUS Protecting God’s Children training.
2. Students are to use the restrooms closest to the East doors of the Ministry Center. All adult catechists and volunteers will use the restrooms located closest to the Religious Education offices.
3. The interior of all rooms are visible from the outside at all times – either by keeping the door open or through a glass window in the door. All rooms without visibility (i.e. maintenance hallway, storage rooms) will be locked during hours when children are present.
4. A staff member or safety monitor will accompany a class being taken to the church building. A note will be left on the classroom door for parents regarding the whereabouts of the class.
5. Catechists must be notified by a parent, in writing, if someone other than the parent is to drop off or pick up the child. If an emergency occurs on the day of the class, parents must contact the Religious Education office with instructions.

These policies are put in place in order to have the safest possible environment for our children. We ask for your understanding and help in their implementation. Should you have questions related to these rules or any portion of our Protecting God’s Children program, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Business Manager at 614-855-1400.

DIOCESAN POLICIES

Harrasment Policy For Minors

5140.05

1. Harassment can take many forms. Harassment can occur at any parish activity, and/or can take place in classrooms, halls, cafeterias, gymnasiums, or even at programs sponsored by the parish at other locations. It does not include compliments of a socially acceptable nature. Harassment is verbal or physical conduct that embarrasses, denigrates, or shows hostility toward a person because of his/her race, color, religion, gender, sex, national origin, age or disability or other protected characteristics.
2. It is the policy of the Diocese of Columbus to maintain a spiritually enriching environment in all programs and activities, free of all forms of harassment and intimidation. No participant, volunteer adult leader, or parish staff member -male or female-should be subject to unlawful harassment in any form, and specifically not to unsolicited and/or unwelcome sexual overtures or conduct, either verbal or physical.
3. Conduct which constitutes sexual harassment is prohibited. Sexually harassing conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:> Offensive sexual flirtations, advances, propositions;> Continued or repeated verbal abuse of a sexual or gender-based nature;> Explicit or degrading sexual or gender-based comments about another individual or his or her appearance; >The display or circulation of sexually explicit or suggestive writing, pictures or objects;> Any offensive or physical conduct which shows hostility or aversion toward an individual because of gender or sex;> Graffiti of a sexual nature;> Fondling oneself sexually or talking about one's sexual activity in front of others;> Spreading rumors about or categorizing others as to sexual activity.

Sex harassment is not limited to conduct that is sexual in nature -it also includes harassment that is based on gender. Gender-based harassment, which is also prohibited, is conduct that would not occur except for the sex of the person involved. An example would be referring to a woman by or as a female body part, or a demeaning sex-based term, or treating people differently because of their gender. The same prohibitions apply with regard to inflammatory or offensive comments or behaviors which are based upon race, color, age, religion, disability, or national origin. In short, working relationships between employees and volunteers must be based on mutual respect.

Sexual harassment also includes the taking of, or refusal to take, any personnel or other action on the basis of a person's submission to or refusal of sexual overtures. No person should so much as imply that an individual's "cooperation" or submission to unwelcome sexual activity will have any effect on the individual's

employment, assignment, compensation, advancement, development, program evaluation, participation in parish programs or activities, or any other condition of employment or achievement.

Not all physical conduct is necessarily considered sexual in nature. (For example, a coach hugging a student after an accomplishment, a youth minister consoling an adolescent with an injury or physical conduct during athletic events would not be considered sexual conduct.) However, peer-based sexual harassment is a form of prohibited conduct where the harassing conduct creates a hostile environment.

4. A sexually hostile environment can be created by a parish employee, volunteer, minor, or visitor to the parish activity.
5. Any person who believes that he/she is subject to unlawful harassment or intimidation must contact the (a) program administrator, (b) pastor, or (c) diocesan director of religious education. A complaint must be filed in writing. In the event that an individual alleges harassment by a program administrator or a pastor, the individual may file the complaint with the diocesan director of religious education. All complaints will be promptly investigated, and the person initiating the complaint will be advised of the outcome of the investigation.
6. Where it is determined that harassment has occurred, the appropriate authority will take immediate disciplinary action against any program administrator, volunteer, or staff engaging in harassment. The response shall take into account the individuals and circumstances. Such action may include, depending on the circumstances, disciplinary measures up to and including termination of services.
7. No retaliation against anyone who reports harassment will be tolerated. The Diocese prohibits such retaliation and will take appropriate responsive action if retaliation occurs.

PARISH RESPONSIBILITIES

1. As a best practice, each parish shall give staff and volunteers a copy of the Harassment Policy. The staff and volunteers are to sign and return the Harassment Policy Verification Form.
2. Each parish program shall follow diocesan procedures for timely investigation and response to complaints.
3. Each parish shall periodically train program administrators, staff and volunteers to ensure that they understand which types of behavior constitute harassment, the prevention of harassment, and how they should respond in the event of experiencing such behavior. Records are to be kept of training dates and names of those in attendance.
4. Each parish program shall include the Harassment Policy in materials distributed to the program's staff/volunteers.