

PARENT PAGE

NOVEMBER 2018

ASCENSION RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OFFICE
2001 Woodman Drive, Kettering, OH 45420 254-0622

NOVEMBER 1 –
All Saint's Day
Masses at 9-Noon-7

4 - Sunday
Daylight Savings Ends
9:45am Gr. 6-8
10:30am Early Childhood

5 - Monday
4:15pm Gr. 1-5

10 - Saturday
9:30-3:00 Women's Guild
Holiday Bazaar in the PAC

11 - Sunday
Coffee & Donuts
9:45am Gr. 6-8
10:30am Early Childhood

12 - Monday
4:15pm Gr. 1-5

17 - Saturday
GIVING TREE UP

18 - Sunday
9:45am Gr. 6-8
Thanksgiving Prayer Srvc
10:30am Early Childhood

19 - Monday
4:15pm Gr. 1-5
Thanksgiving Mass

25 - Sunday
NO CLASSES

26 - Monday
4:15pm Gr. 1-5
Gr. 2 & 4 Tour of Church -
Sacraments w/Deacon
Brian

A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Loving God,
We turn our hearts to you on this
day for giving thanks, mindful of
your many gifts.
For each one, we are grateful.
For each one, we are blessed.
For each one we are opened to the
abundance of your love.
May this Thanksgiving Day offer a
reminder to be generous with others,
as you are with us.
We praise you.
We rejoice in you.
We give you thanks.
Amen.

How to Protect Your Children from Child Abuse: A Guide for Parents and Guardians

A Document from the Archdiocese of Cincinnati.
Equipping parents to be vigilant and responsive is one of the best ways to ensure the well-being of children; this resource describes what parents can do to ensure the well-being of their children, signs of unhealthy relationships, types of abuse, safety rules and information,
[http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/How to Protect Your Children From Child Abuse AoC.pdf](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/How_to_Protect_Your_Children_From_Child_Abuse_AoC.pdf)



STEWARDS OF GOD'S CREATION

"Going green" can easily sound like a popular trend, one that is likely to fade when the next one comes along. In truth, care for our natural environment is an essential element of our faith. Catholic Social Teaching, which calls us to work for justice and peace as Jesus did, includes care for God's creation as one of its seven themes. Responding to this call means becoming stewards of creation, respecting and protecting the environment for future generations. Switching off an unnecessary light, recycling a newspaper and utilizing public transportation are all acts of stewardship. These acts—done by us and by others—add to a collective commitment that can make a difference in our vast and beautiful world.



Children love to learn about and care for creation. By participating in the care of creation, children feel a sense of empowerment that comes from contributing to the greater good. Their love of animals, delight in small wonders, and ability to show compassion make this theme of Catholic Social Teaching especially relevant.

*Advent begins on
December 2nd this year!*

Early Childhood Take Home Advent Projects will be coming home on December 2nd

The PARENT PAGE and other important information is coming home electronically. If we do not have your email address - please be sure to share it with us so you don't miss out on important information!

Growing Peace at Ascension

Through our **GROWING PEACE** at **ASCENSION** process, we promote the Christian virtues of peace and nonviolence in the classroom and in the family. Attached please find the Family Pledge of Nonviolence and a peace dove for you to cut out and write your name on after taking the pledge. Return to RE Office and it will be displayed on the wall outside the RE Office.



Students who are observed living out the pledge will be given a certificate of recognition, and the student's name will be entered in a monthly drawing to receive a "peace bear." Congratulations to our Peacemakers for October, Asher Bailey, Gr. 1 and Michael White, Gr. 4.

Early Childhood

Advent projects will be coming home with the students on December 2nd. The Advent celebration will take place on December 16. Information will be sent home on this later.

Middle School

Service opportunities in December: Christmas Gift Baskets - Help on Dec. 14th in the PAC from 4-8pm with setup and then on Dec. 15th from 8:30-Noon to help with transporting baskets to the recipients car. Each 7th grader should be turning in at least two short term service opportunities. 8th graders - should be continuing their long-term project.

First Reconciliation

Parents will pick up the materials for candle after all Masses Dec. 15-16 or in the RE Office Dec. 17 for final preparations for First Reconciliation on January 19. Parents are reminded that it would be helpful to have all lessons in the student book completed by then.

First Communion

If you turned in the form with your choices for a First Communion date for your child, a notice should have come home with your child confirming your choice. If you haven't yet done so, please turn in your form with your date preferences.

Confirmation

Congratulations to all our 8th graders who were confirmed on October 11 - it was a beautiful celebration! Their final Sponsor Reflection is due on Oct 29th. Notify the RE Office. 7th graders will begin after first of the year with Rite of Invitation at the 8:30 Mass on Jan. 27. Parent & Sponsor meeting follows at 9:30 in the WC118.

Liturgy

Grades 1-5 will attend Mass on November 19 to commemorate **Thanksgiving**. Fr. Stretch will be our celebrant. Grades 6-8 will have a Thanksgiving prayer service led by the 8th graders during class on November 18.

Advent Prayer Services: For Elementary grades on December 17 and for Middle grades on December 16.

Collections

During the Thanksgiving prayer services/Mass, there will be a **collection** of canned goods for the GreenOak/Ascension food pantry. Donations will be used to make Thanksgiving baskets for those families in need. Thanks for your help and blessings to these folks!

Mission Education

Students in Grades 1-8 observed **MISSION SUNDAY** with visits from representatives from the above referenced outreach ministries here at Ascension parish. The students heard information regarding each ministry, what its focus is, how it helps people, what we here at Ascension are doing in our ministry and what they, the students, can do this year to support the ministry. Thank you to all our speakers who were so generous with their time and resources in sharing with our students. Take a look at the bulletin board outside the RE office as we highlight all of our ministries.

..also

There will be **NO CLASSES** on **Sunday, November 25, Thanksgiving**

Talking about Jesus at Home Why is GRATITUDE important?

Gratitude - feeling thankful for blessings in your life, big and small.

Scripture - Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:18

Quote - It is not happy people who are thankful, it is thankful people who are happy.

- Anonymous

Discussion—Have you ever done a kindness and the person did not even say “thank you?” If so, describe what happened How does God feel when most everything He does for us goes without our saying “thank you?”

Think of some simple things you can thank God for. (Psalm 28:7)



Ascension Athletics

Volleyball registration will open October 21, 2018 and remain open until December 2nd. Please sign up within this 6 week registration period so teams can properly be assigned. This is so important because CYO requires teams be set up very early in December and after that we cannot add teams to accommodate late signups. Go to <http://ascensionathletics.website.siplay.com/> to sign up. Also, take time to view updates on the Athletic SI Play Website

VIA AWAKE

Ascension Parish in partnership with the Office of Evangelization and Discipleship and Net Ministries is excited to present AWAKE, a Jr. High Youth Rally. This is open to Ascension students in grades 6-8.

When: Saturday, November 17

4:30-9:00 PM

Where: Witzman Center

Ascension Parish

Cost: \$15 (includes dinner)

To register, please go to

WWW.VIACATHOLIC.ORG/

Please call or stop by the RE Office if we can be of assistance. You are the most important influence in your child's faith formation; we are here to assist you! Sue Graham, Coordinator of Religious Education, 254-0622, sgraham@ascensionkettering.org

FAMILY PLEDGE OF NONVIOLENCE

Making peace must start within ourselves and in our family. Each of us, on this day, commit ourselves as best we can to become nonviolent and peaceable people. Please respond "We can and we will" after each statement.

TO RESPECT OURSELVES AND OTHERS

Can you promise to respect yourselves by caring for your minds, your bodies, and your spirits, and to respect others by doing acts of kindness and by avoiding uncaring words and behavior?

R. We can and we will



TO COMMUNICATE BETTER

Can you promise to share your feelings honestly, to look for a safe way to express your anger, and to work at solving problems in a peaceful manner?

R. We can and we will.



TO LISTEN

Can you promise to listen carefully to one another, especially to those who disagree with you, and to consider others' feelings and needs, rather than being bossy insisting on having your own way?

R. We can and we will.



TO FORGIVE

Can you promise to apologize, ask forgiveness, and make amends when you hurt someone and can you promise to forgive others and keep from holding grudges?

R. We can and we will.



TO RESPECT NATURE

Can you promise to treat our environment and all living things, including your pets, with respect and care?

R. We can and we will.



TO PLAY CREATIVELY

Can you promise to choose activities and toys that support our school's pledge to peace and to avoid activities that make violence look exciting, funny, or acceptable?

R. We can and we will.



TO BE COURAGEOUS

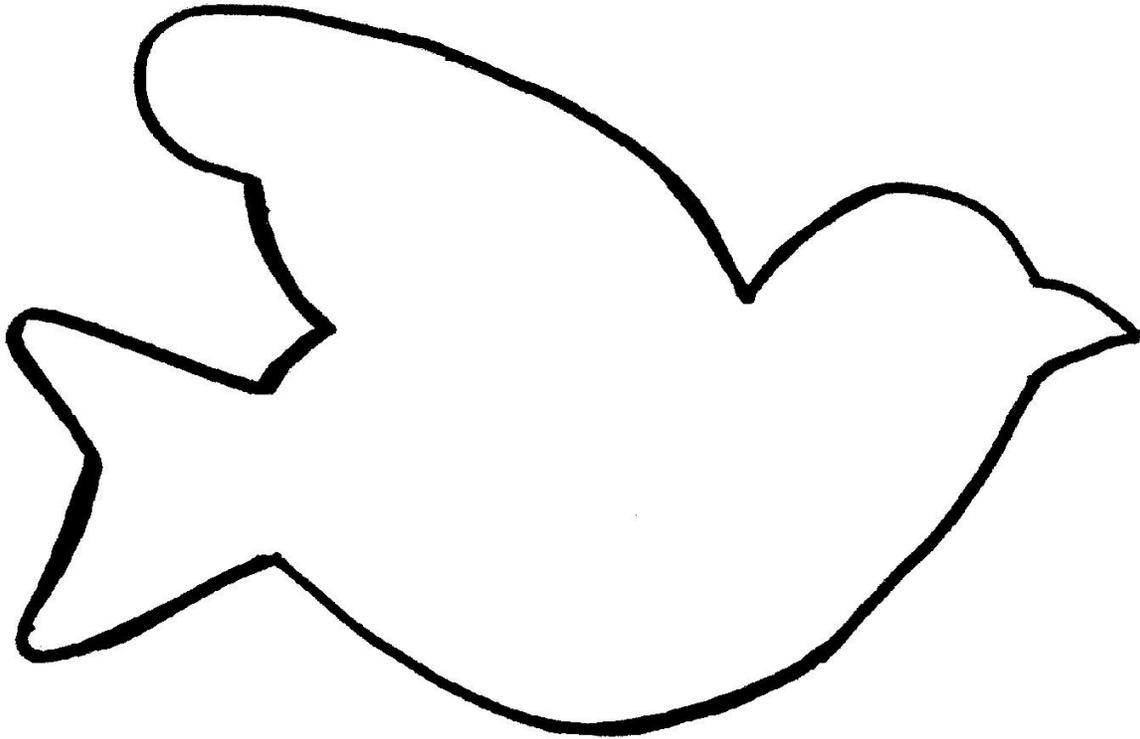
Can you promise to have the courage to stand up against all violence whenever and wherever you see it and to stand up for those who are being treated unkindly?

R. We can and we will.



This is our pledge. These are our goals. We will check ourselves regularly on what we have pledged. We will be at peace with ourselves and we will be building peace in our family and in our world.

Sign Peace Dove with Family Name, Cut Out and Return to RE Office



Growing Peace at Ascension

Each family is encouraged to take the Family Pledge of Nonviolence. (see page 4)

If your family takes the Family Pledge, you are encouraged to return the dove with your family name written on it. Cut out and return to RE Office.

The doves will be displayed on the wall outside the RE Office during the year.