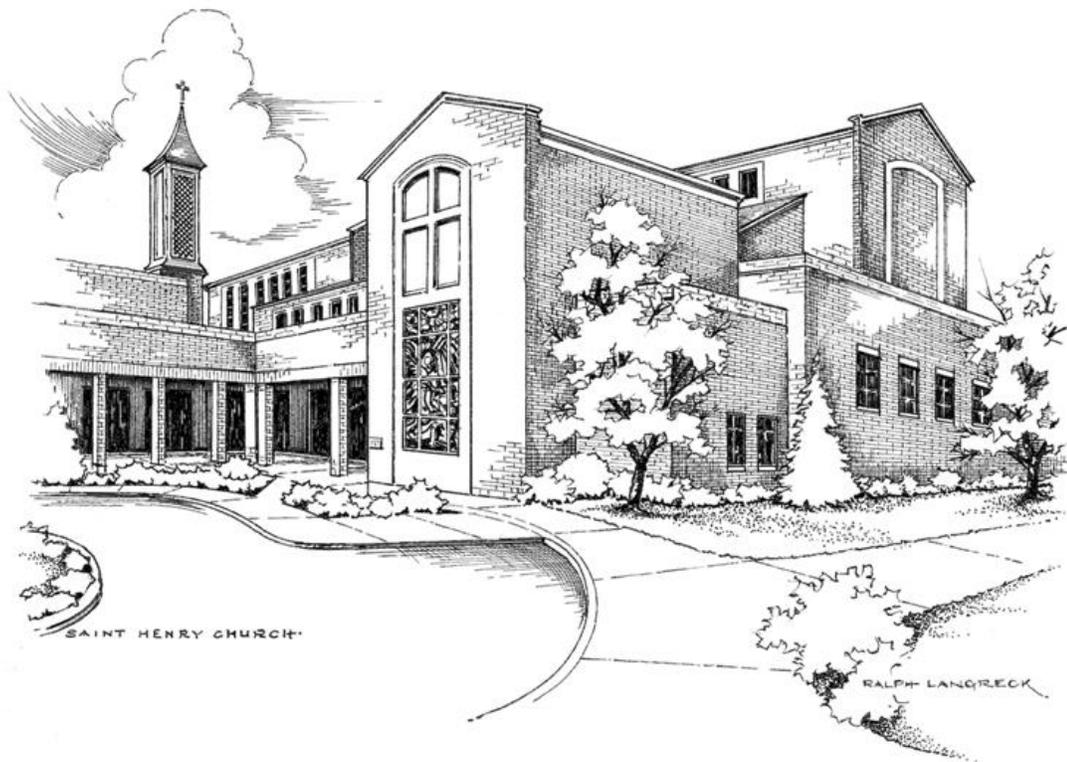


*St. Henry Church*  
*Religious Education Program*  
*2016 - 2017*  
*Parent/Student Handbook*





Welcome to the 2016–2017 Religious Education year at St. Henry Church. This handbook was compiled to help familiarize you with our program. Our hope is that each child will have transforming experiences of God’s love at home and in class.

Children learn to pray by seeing others pray, whether those are prayers of petition or thanksgiving. Children learn the meaning of love of neighbor by hearing people speak of others with respect and compassion and by watching people show mercy and generosity to those in need. So in very real ways you catechize your child each day in each and every experience.

In the Religious Education program the children learn about our faith through a spiral learning method that includes creed, sacraments, morality, and prayer. In addition they experience what it is to be a part of the larger Catholic community.

If you have questions about the Religious Education Program, please contact me at [reled@sthenry.org](mailto:reled@sthenry.org) or 615-353-0668.

In Christ,

Beth Holzapfel  
Director of Religious Education

## GOALS

- To teach the Catholic truth to our young through liturgy, instruction, and community in complete loyalty to the Magisterium of the Church
- To provide outreach opportunities in order to develop an awareness of the moral responsibilities to serve others
- To provide Sacramental preparation for our students in Pre K-12<sup>th</sup> grade to include First reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation

# St. Henry Church

## Religious Education

### 2016 – 2017 Class Calendar

\*Classes run weekly according to the schedule below

Class time is 10:10 – 10:55 for grades 1-12. Preschool classes are held during the 9:00 and 11:00 mass.

<b>September 11</b>	<b>First Day of Class</b>	January 8
September 18		January 15
September 25		January 22
October 2		January 29
October 9		February 5
October 16		February 12
October 23		February 19
October 30		February 26
November 6		March 5
November 13		March 12
November 15		March 19
November 20		March 26
<b>Nov. 27</b>	<b>No Class-Thanksgiving</b>	April 2
December 4		April 9
December 11		April 16
<b>December 18</b>	<b>No Class-Christmas</b>	<b>No Class- Easter</b>
<b>December 25</b>	<b>No Class-Christmas</b>	April 23
<b>January 1</b>	<b>No Class-Christmas</b>	April 30
		<b>May 7 Last Class</b>

\*Students must be registered to attend the Religious Education program. They must attend the class for which they are registered.

\*\*Preschool students are registered for the 9:00 or 11:00 class time. **In order to maintain an appropriate class size and enable planning by the catechists, students may not change class times during the year without prior approval from the Director of Religious Education, Beth Holzapfel.**

## **Sacrament Dates and Meetings**

First Penance Parent Meeting  
Thursday, November 3, 2016  
7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

First Penance  
Thursday, November 17, 2016  
7:00 p.m., St. Henry Church

Confirmation Parent Meeting  
Monday, January 23, 2017  
7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Confirmation Retreat  
Sunday, January 29, 2017  
10:00am-4:00pm

Confirmation  
Sunday, February 19, 2017  
2:30 p.m., St. Henry Church

First Communion Parent Meeting  
Monday, April 3, 2017  
7:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall

First Communion  
Sunday, April 30, 2017  
2:00 p.m., St. Henry Church

## Religious Education Staff

Beth Holzapfel

Director of Religious Education

### Grade

### Location

### Catechist

3 year olds (9:00)  
"Little Lambs"

Room 118

Sonia Castilaw  
Heather Ingram

4 year olds (9:00)  
"Little Saints"

Room 120

Stephanie Castrillo  
Sarah Knies

3, 4 year olds (11:00)  
"Little Angels"

Room 118

Amanda Lowery

5 year olds (9:00)  
"BIG FISH"

Room 119

Karen Cain  
Jennifer Pearson

5 year olds (10:10-10:50)  
J.A.M.

Room 205

Ann Hatcher  
Ray Pasek

Grade 1

Room 203

First Year Prep Class for First Penance and First Communion

Betty Krogman

Grade 2

Room 204

First Penance and First Communion

Patti Brown  
Shannon Alexander

Grade 3

Room 209

Sandra Thayer  
Rebecca Hawkins

**Grade****Location****Catechist**

Grade 4

Room 201

Sue Baumgartner  
Anita Zelek

Grade 5

Room 202

Susan Fouche

Grade 6

Room 101

Frances Fenelon  
Alice DeGuira

Grade 7

Room 103

First Year Prep Class for Confirmation

Patrick Higgins  
Ed Corby

Grade 8

Room 105

Confirmation

Jennifer Ragsdale  
Natalie Hanemann

Grades 9 – 12

Vespers Room  
Upstairs in Church  
Church OfficeAndrew Coombe  
To Linh Coombe

## Religious Education Guidelines

### Attendance

Families are required to be registered parishioners of Saint Henry Parish to attend Religious Education classes.

Make an effort early in the year to introduce yourself to your child's catechist and the director. Attendance is taken each week and parents may be contacted if a child misses two consecutive classes. **If your child must be absent, please contact your child's teacher or the Director of Religious Education, [reled@sthenry.org](mailto:reled@sthenry.org)** . Be sure your child arrives on time and strive for weekly attendance.

**During sacrament years, it is vital to have regular attendance.** Excessive absenteeism may result in your child being unable to receive the sacrament.

### Drop off/Pick up

Parents are asked to accompany their preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade child to class each week. Students are asked to remain in the hallway until their catechist arrives for class. **Students are not to be left in the classroom until the catechist has arrived unless a parent stays with them.**

**When class is dismissed, parents of students in grades Preschool – 5, must return to the classroom to pick up their children. Children in those grades are not allowed to “meet” their parents in church, parking lots, etc.** Any student not picked up by 10:00 or 12:00 will be taken to the Director's desk (located downstairs in the school hallway) to wait for their parents. If you are running late please call Beth Holzapfel's cell at 615-948-0764 to let us know.

### Classroom Visitors

Children not registered in the program should not accompany your child to class. We do not have materials available for “drop-in” visitors, and in case of emergency we would not have important information pertaining to the visiting child.

## **Classroom Behavior**

A reminder concerning basic expectations for classroom behavior

*The Golden Rule: Love thy neighbor as thyself (What does this mean?)*

1. Follow directions and classroom rules.
2. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
3. No teasing, bullying or inappropriate language.

In order to facilitate spiritual growth, all the children deserve the most positive classroom climate possible. If a student chooses to disregard one of the listed expectations, or a classroom rule, he or she will receive the following consequences:

- First Time: Receive a reminder of rule(s)
- Second Time: A warning from the catechist
- Third Time: He or she will be sent to the director's desk to sign the Behavior Journal. One copy will be kept on file and one copy will be given to the parents. Student will return to class after completing the form and apologizing to the person he or she offended.
- Fourth Time: Parents will attend the next class with the child and thereafter if necessary.
- Severe Disruption: Immediate call for parents to pick up child and discuss the situation

## **Sacrament Preparation**

Reconciliation (Confession) and First Eucharist (Communion) are celebrated in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade.

Confirmation is celebrated in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Students are required to attend class sessions and complete all class assignments in preparation for the sacrament.

For those who will be preparing to receive the sacraments of First Penance, First Communion, or Confirmation it is necessary that the Religious Education Office have a copy of their Baptismal Certificate by **September 30, 2016**.

**Attendance for one year in the Religious Education Program is required prior to receiving the sacraments.**

### **Special Needs**

Some children have medical conditions, learning or behavioral concerns. It is our goal to provide a learning environment for all children. Please let us know if your child has any special needs. You may indicate this information on the registration forms so we can provide appropriate care. Parents may be required to attend classes with their child.

### **Safety Program**

In accordance with the Charter for the protection of Children and Young People of the United States Conference of Bishops, the Diocese of Nashville has mandated that every child enrolled in catholic religious Education programs has the opportunity to participate in a Diocesan approved child safety program. To fulfill the Church's teachings on Family Life education and child safety, we are pleased to offer the RCL Benziger Family Life Program to all children who are registered for Religious Education at a cost of \$15. If interested and the cost makes it prohibitive then please see Beth Holzapfel.

### **Confidential Information**

All information relative to a student's classroom performance or of a personal nature is confidential and will be treated as such by the catechists, office staff, and Parish staff.

### **Cancellations**

In the event of severe weather, classes will be cancelled if city officials are advising people to remain home. Please do not leave your child unattended on days with inclement weather until you are sure the teacher is able to arrive. The DRE will attempt to let everyone know of a cancellation vis email.

### **New Students**

Students transferring from another parish's religious education Program will be required to provide a letter of attendance from that Director of Religious Education.

## **Textbooks**

Preschool and Kindergarten classes use the "Allelu" text books published by Our Sunday Visitor.

Grades 1–7 uses "We Believe", a religious education series published by Sadlier.

Grade 8 uses "Decision Point" by Dynamic Catholic

Grades 9 – 12 uses "Understanding the Scriptures the Parish Edition" by Scott Hahn and published by Midwest Theological Forum