

# PREP Newsletter

Issue: October 2020 St. Mary Magdalen Church

## Angels Watchin' Over Me

September 29<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of the Archangels – in Catholic tradition, Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael – and October 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Feast of the Guardian Angels! This is a great time to talk to your children about these heavenly messengers!

If you attended our Family Day on angels, you know that there are 9 different kinds of angels, and our belief in their existence is part of Catholic dogma. Since Guardian Angels are the ones whose feast is October, let's look at them!

A guardian angel has three roles; an angel of peace, an angel of penitence and an angel of prayer. As an angel of peace they protect us from danger, both bodily and spiritual. As angels of penitence they are charged with trying to correct us when we stray from the path. Angels of prayer take all of our prayers, both liturgical (mass) and private ones, to God. Padre Pio (quoted below) used to send his guardian angel to those he felt were in need of "extra" help, and other saints have said that angels always see the face of our Father in heaven, so be sure to ask them to carry our prayers!

During this time of pandemic, praying to St. Raphael, the patron saint of nurses and healers, might be a good idea! See his prayer on the next page! See you Sunday!

*Karen Yasik*

*"How consoling it is to know that we have a spirit who from womb to tomb never leaves us, even for an instant, not even when we dare to sin. And this heavenly spirit guides and protects us like a friend, a brother."*

*- Saint Pio of Pietrelcina*



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Director's message

COVID CHANGE REMINDERS

Arrival/dismissal/materials!!!

Calendar reminders

## OCTOBER CALENDAR

**CLASSES START AT 9:30 END AT 11:00**

OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup> – IN BUILDING CLASS BEGINS

OCTOBER 11<sup>TH</sup> – NO CLASSES COLUMBUS WEEKEND

OCTOBER 18<sup>TH</sup> – IN BUILDING CLASS #2

OCTOBER 25<sup>TH</sup> – VIRTUAL CLASS ONLINE – BE SURE TO WATCH FOR AN EMAIL FROM YOUR CHILD'S CATECHIST, IT WILL BE IN THE FORMAT OF [1PREP@SMMCHURCH.ORG](mailto:1PREP@SMMCHURCH.ORG) SEE NOTE NEXT PAGE!!!

**BE READY FOR THE TIME CHANGE 11/1!**

## **BRING TO CLASS EACH IN-HOUSE TIME**

Your activity folder (kindergarten)

Your text book (grades 1-5)

A notebook (grade 6)

Your Pflaum Gospel Weekly (grade 7)

Your folder (grade 8)

**PLUS**

Pencils, age-appropriate scissors, crayons, colored pencils or markers, your own Kleenex, a glue stick, a water bottle (if desired) and your MASK! We are not allowed to store these items in the classroom!

Although it's not the right time of year (it's usually done at Epiphany) one thing you can do to bring your faith home in a more concrete way is chalking the door! This blessing was meant to keep suffering and evil out of homes, and keep only positivity and faithfulness inside. After blessing the home, the priest uses chalk to write above the main entrance of the house the specific year, separated by the letters C, M and B (so for this year he would write 20+C+M+B+20) The letters stand for the Latin blessing, *Christus Mansionem Benedicat* (May Christ Bless this House) as well as the names for the three Magi: Caspar, Melchior and Balthasar, who came to visit Jesus in his first home! Since our homes are our place of worship right now, as many can't attend church, it's a nice reminder!

**Remember – your child's catechist is not allowed to email him/her directly! They will be emailing YOU invitations to join Google meetings, and once you accept it with your child they will need to rename themselves with their actual name so they can take attendance. I believe that once they are all in the class, it is easier – it's just getting them all in there to begin! While the first virtual class isn't until the end of October, they will be trying to get in touch before that – so be sure to check those emails and your spam!**

#### **CHANGES MADE TO ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL POLICY**

After speaking to several parents, and after observing how long the masses are running, I have changed what I sent out initially in the hopes that it will be safer for our students!

#### **ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL**

1. Respect social distancing for arrival and dismissal.
2. For arriving, we will have a moving car line out FRONT at the Sharpley Road entrance. You will pull up, stop, let your child out, and they will enter the building. When they go down the stairs, a sanitizing station is there, as well as at the classroom door.
3. For dismissal, catechists will bring the children to the MAIN entrance in the rear, beginning with the older children and ending with the younger. Only children will go to their parents' car, but those with younger siblings will wait to the side under the portico until their younger sibling appears so that they can walk together to the car. If you can put a sign with your last name on it in the front window, that would be helpful!
4. Parents/guardians are required to remain an appropriate distance from the school building/meeting space or in their vehicles at dismissal if possible.
5. A volunteer will be at the entrance door during PREP to monitor.
6. If a student requires an early dismissal, a request must be made in writing and an aide will bring them to the assigned door for dismissal. The parent may not enter the building.

**Blessed St. Raphael, archangel, we beseech thee to help us in all our needs and trials of this life, as thou, through the power of God, didst restore sight and give guidance to young Tobit. We humbly seek thine aid and intercession, that our souls may be healed, our bodies protected from all ills, and that through divine grace we may be made fit to dwell in the eternal Glory of God in heaven. Amen.**