**CHURCH OF THE GUARDIAN ANGEL**

**320 Franklin Turnpike**

**Allendale, NJ 07401**

Rev. Robert Salm, Administrator

Dear Religious Education Families, February 6, 2020

I hope this finds you and your families well and enjoying the blessings of the New Year.

I’m writing to let you know about important changes to our Religious Education Ministry which begin THIS SUMMER (just in time for *Angel Wings*!) These changes have been announced in our weekly bulletin and posted on our website; this said I am reaching out to provide you with further details on our **FIVE** changes. Such changes were made after careful discernment with Fr. Robert and parish staff members concerning the changing needs of our parish families and we believe they will help in your continuing efforts to educate your children in our Catholic faith.

**FIRST:** We have instituted a Kindergarten program. Families with children entering Kindergarten in September 2020 are welcome to register their child for **EITHER** *Angel Wings* **OR** our Fall Program. Our Fall Program will meet Wednesday **OR** Thursday from 1:30pm-2:30pm at the Rectory (when registering, please let us know which day works best for your family).

**The dates for our FALL Kindergarten Program are:** Sep 30/Oct 1, Oct 7/8, Oct 21/22, Oct 28/29, Nov 4/5, Nov 11/12, Nov 18/19, Dec 2/3, Dec 9/10, Dec 16/17

**SECOND:** We haveexpanded our *Angel Wings* program to include 6th grade. If your child is unable to attend 6th grade Angel Wings, he or she is of course welcome to join us for our FALL Program which will meet for 10 “SUPER SESSIONS” – from 7:30pm-9pm on Tuesday at the Rectory.

**The dates for our 6th grade FALL Program are:** Sep 29, Oct 6, Oct 20, Oct 27, Nov 3, Nov 10, Nov 17, Dec 1, Dec 8, Dec 15 **PLUS** completion of two OPTIONS (details to follow).

**THIRD:** For7th and 8th grade, we are offering a choice of a FALL Program **OR** a WINTER program. For each program, there are 10 “SUPER SESSIONS” that meet from 7:30pm-9pm Tuesday at the Rectory.

**The dates for our 7th OR 8TH grade FALL program are:** Sep 29, Oct 6, Oct 20, Oct 27, Nov 3, Nov 10, Nov 17, Dec 1, Dec 8, Dec 15 **PLUS** completion of two OPTIONS (details to follow). **WINTER program dates:** Jan 5, Jan 12, Jan 19, Jan 26, Feb 2, Feb 9, Feb 23, Mar 2, Mar 9, Mar 16 **PLUS** completion of two OPTIONS (details to follow).

**FOURTH:** The successful completion of 7th and 8th Religious Education is ***required*** for participation in our Confirmation program. Please contact our office if you have any questions or if your child needs to “catch up” on their Religious Education studies. We are happy to help your family grow in our Catholic faith!

**FIFTH:** The children of any parent who agrees to volunteer EACH WEEK as a Catechist for our Fall Program (21 weeks for grades 1-5; 10 weeks for grades 6-8) will be enrolled free of charge (exclusive of retreat fees). As you will be depended upon each week, it will be required that you attend a one hour catechist training session prior to the start of the catechetical year (it’s easier than you think!)

**ANGEL WINGS PROGRAM REGISTRATION IS OPEN!** We are currently accepting registration for our Summer Angel Wings program for KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 6th GRADE. You can register in person during our office hours (M, W and Thur 8:30am-2:30pm) or Tuesday March 10 from 7:30pm-8:30pm. You can also visit our website at [www.guardianangelchurch.org](http://www.guardianangelchurch.org) to download and print our registration forms. The completed registration forms along with payment can be brought to our office or mailed to us. (Registration for Angel Wings closes March 31, 2020.) **REMINDER: Parents are required to volunteer 2 DAYS PER CHILD during the Angel Wings program - NO EXCEPTIONS.** The tentative dates of Angel Wings are as follows: June 25, June 26, June 29, June 30, July 1, July 2, July 6-8. (Angel Wings classes begin the DAY AFTER the last day of school for the Allendale School District). Please join us for our closing prayer service on the final day which is followed by a “potluck” lunch in the Auditorium or outdoor BBQ (weather permitting). Also, there will be prizes and organized games for the children. Please plan on attending this fun and faith filled family event with your children!

**FALL PROGRAM REGISTRATION IS OPEN!** We are currently accepting registration for our Tuesday FALL program for KINDERGARTEN THROUGH 8TH GRADE. You can download and print our registration forms from our website. The completed registration form along with payment may be delivered to our office or mailed to us at your earliest convenience. (Registration closes June 30, 2020.) REMINDER: Parents are strongly encouraged to volunteer as either catechists or assistants throughout the catechetical year.

As always, I encourage you to please contact me with any questions or comments you may have concerning the changes we have implemented or about our particular programs. I’m happy to discuss such matters with you at a mutually convenient time.

Please follow us on INSTAGRAM: guardianangel360 for important reminders, updates and uplifting spiritual messages.

Peace and all good,

Frances Ferraro

***Director of Religious Education***

201-327-0352

***“I can’t change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination.” Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.***