



2026 - 2027 SCHOOL YEAR



**Religious
Education begins
Sunday,
September 20!**

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Divine Mercy Parish

44 East Main Street | Frostburg, MD 21532 | 301.689.6767

www.divinemercurymd.org



INTRODUCTION

The Religious Education and Youth Ministry programs at Divine Mercy Parish are designed to connect people of all ages to life in the Church and the joy of faith in Christ. Through active learning, prayer, and community connection, we share faith with each other to build the Kingdom of God in our world.

Our Program

This year, the Religious Education schedule will be similar to last year. We will continue to provide a consistent schedule for Religious Education with shorter sessions, possible volunteer opportunities for younger children, and our Journey in Faith program for parents and parish adults. In this packet, you will find a schedule for Religious education, as well as for Journey in Faith.

For Families of Bishop Walsh School Students:

At Divine Mercy Parish, we work in partnership with our BW families so that all of our children and youth have a connection and sense of belonging in their home parish.

During the time of preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation, students from Bishop Walsh will join with other parish students for Sacramental Prep. (*Registration for Sacramental Prep is included in this packet.*)

Participation in Mass

There are 5 precepts of the Catholic Church, and the first is that all Catholics must attend Mass on weekends and Holy Day of Obligation! Our Religious Education program is designed to allow children and families to attend Mass every weekend. Please plan to attend Mass with your child every week as an extension of their personal and familial Religious Education.



TUITION

\$35/student



Tuition for Religious Education for the 2026 – 2027 school year is \$35/student. This fee will assist the parish in the purchase of materials for Religious Education. However, students will not be denied a Religious Education due to cost. If you are in need of assistance, tuition fees will be waived for any family who requests a fee waiver. Simply email Fr. Scott: scott.kady@archbalt.org, Alison Lyons: alison.lyons@archbalt.org, or Carolyn Sires: carolyn.sires@archbalt.org to request a fee waiver.

Differing Educational & Social Needs

We believe that the children and youth of Divine Mercy Parish who have differing needs are important to our Religious Education program. We welcome all students into our Religious Education and Sacramental Preparation programs. If your child is in need of any type of accommodation, from those surrounding allergies to needs concerning their personal education, please indicate this on your registration form. We may contact you prior to the start of Religious Education if we have questions about how best to meet the needs of your child. We are committed to meeting the needs of any child who is enrolled in our program.



Sacramental Preparation



Divine Mercy Parish offers Sacramental Preparation to all students within the framework of Religious Education. Please see the details for each program below:

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist:

All students enrolled in Second Grade and who have been baptized Catholic are eligible for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. Preparation for both sacraments will be given during Sunday Religious Education sessions the third Sunday of each month and materials will be sent home with all students so that they may also prepare with their families. *BW Students: Please call the Parish Office to arrange pickup of materials.*

First Reconciliation will take place for all students on Saturday, November 21 at 9am. More details regarding First Reconciliation will be forthcoming in September.

If your student is NOT in second grade and needs to prepare for First Reconciliation and First Communion, please contact the Parish Office.

Confirmation

As we continue to lower the age of Confirmation to 9 years of age in accordance with the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Divine Mercy Parish will run 2 concurrent Confirmation preparation sessions this school year. Preparation for all students in grades 6-8 will begin in September, with a Confirmation date of June 5, 2027. Students in grades 4 & 5 will begin preparation in January and will be confirmed in November of 2027. Additional parent meetings have been scheduled and materials have been sent out to all students in these age groups; any parent with additional questions should call the parish office.

Confirmation preparation will be held the third Sunday of each month during regularly scheduled Religious Education. ***All Confirmandi, including those from Bishop Walsh, are expected to attend these sessions.***

If your students is older than this year's group of Confirmandi, but would still like sacramental preparation, please contact the Parish Office.