

## Why Family First?

How many nights a week do our families share a meal? sports, work, clubs, social activity... then, Faith Formation for our children. For some families taking up three separate nights a week. Our families are being pulled in every conceivable direction. We all know it. At the end of the week our heads hit the pillow next to our spouse and we think to ourselves, did I even get one good conversation in?

At Holy Angels we have listened to you, our parents. As mothers and fathers ourselves, we get it. We are right there with you. So rather than contribute to the problem, we have created a new Religious Education Program at Holy Angels, called *Family First*.

The primary goal of this program is to bring the family unit together. How are we doing that? By offering exactly what you asked for. In our parent and catechist meetings over the summer, mothers and fathers asked for field trips (Outings); opportunities of service for the whole family; and events for the whole family hosted here at our parish. These will be the core pillars of our program.

It is our aim to create engaging experiences for our families, encounters with Christ that speak to our hearts and inspire us; moments to laugh and play with our kids, our spouses, our friends. To see how this is all going to work take a look inside.

*"The future of humanity lies in the hands of those who are strong enough to provide coming generations with reasons for living and hoping."  
Gaudium et Spes (no.31)*

«**THE FAMILY IS CALLED TO BE THE TEMPLE, OR HOUSE OF PRAYER: A SIMPLE PRAYER, FULL OF EFFORT AND TENDERNES. A PRAYER THAT MAKES LIFE SO THAT LIFE BECOMES PRAYER**»

St. John Paul II

«**BUT THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING GOD MADE – SO THE BIBLE TELLS US – WAS THE FAMILY. HE CREATED MAN AND WOMAN. AND HE GAVE THEM EVERYTHING. HE ENTRUSTED THE WORLD TO THEM: "GROW, MULTIPLY, CULTIVATE THE EARTH, MAKE IT BEAR FRUIT, LET IT GROW". ALL THE LOVE HE PUT INTO THAT MARVELOUS CREATION, HE ENTRUSTED TO A FAMILY**»

Pope Francis

# Family First

K -12

Approach to  
Faith Formation

Church of the Holy Angels

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# Kindergarten- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

## [Who is in this Group?](#)

Elementary and Middle School students through grade 7.

## [When will they Meet?](#)

Twice per month typically on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> week.

Monday: Session 1. 4:45-6:00pm

Monday: Session 2. 6:15-7:30pm

Tuesday: 4:45-6:00pm

## [What will the Classroom Sessions look like?](#)

Each session will begin with a large group teaching in the Worship Space, opening with prayer and music. Our presenters will be different each session. We are bringing in the best dynamic multigenerational speakers our parish has to offer.

After the presentation, children will break into small groups by grade level. Each evening will end with a hands-on prayer activity, something that brings the lesson for the night to life, something that will really live in the memory of our children.

## [What about First Sacraments?](#)

First Eucharist and Reconciliation will remain largely the same. Registration for Sacramental Preparation will begin in September as usual.

## [How do I Register?](#)

To register your K-7<sup>th</sup> grader for *Family First*, simply pick up a registration form from the Information Desk or download one from the Holy Angels homepage, [holyangelschurch.com](http://holyangelschurch.com)

# The Whole Family

## [What Are Outings?](#)

Once per month all students and families will travel off site to gather at a religious destination. Some of these outings will be to holy sites, showing off the hidden religious gems of the Cleveland area. Other outings will provide opportunities to do service as families. List of locations, dates, & times on the Family First page of the website under the *Learn* tab.

### [Dates for Outings:](#)

Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>, Parish Service Day

Oct. 13<sup>th</sup>, St Stanislaus Walking With Saints

Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Windsor, OH

Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> TBD

March 8<sup>th</sup> TBD

## [What are Family Days?](#)

Once per month our families will gather here at Holy Angels for a unique family experience. These days will be filled with activities and opportunities to create fun memories at the church. Some examples of what we have in store this year are listed below. List of locations, dates, & times on the Family First page of the website under the *Learn* tab.

### [Dates for Family Days:](#)

Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> XLT (Learning to Pray as Family)

Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> Parish Feast

Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> Feast of All Saints (Trunk or Treat)

Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> Advent Wreath Making

Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> Family Mass: Student Liturgical Ministers

Feb 23<sup>rd</sup> Family Movie Night

March 22<sup>nd</sup> Live Stations of the Cross

April 26<sup>th</sup> Social Justice Night

# 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

## [When will they Meet?](#)

8<sup>th</sup> grade – 12<sup>th</sup> grade will meet on Sundays after the Noon Mass, 1:00–3:00pm twice per month typically on the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> week.

## [What will the Classroom Sessions look like?](#)

These meetings will have the same structure as the K-7 Classroom Sessions.

## [What about Confirmation?](#)

Confirmation will remain largely the same. Registration for Sacramental Preparation is now open on the Holy Angels website. 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades will meet together in the Worship Space for classes. These will begin in large group teachings and be split into small groups according to grade. Students registering or already registered for Confirmation need not register for *Family First*

## [The 12pm Sunday Liturgy](#)

We are excited to announce that the 12pm Mass will be taking a special interest in our young people. We are inviting all 8<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Gr. students to serve alongside our adult liturgical ministers. Teens who are interested in the following positions should contact Alex Yates. [alex@holyangelschurch.com](mailto:alex@holyangelschurch.com) Sign up as Eucharistic Minister, Reader, Usher, Cross-bearer, Cantor or Musician.

## [How do I Register?](#)

To register your 8<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> graders simply pick up a registration form from the Information Desk or download one from the Holy Angels homepage, [holyangelschurch.com](http://holyangelschurch.com)