



## CROSSINGS

**PSR Grades 6-8**

### **Parish School of Religion Parent Handbook**

#### **Mission Statement**

As defined in our Parish Mission Statement, the goal of the St. Gabriel Parish School of Religion is to offer the children attending public school an educational advantage for proclaiming the message of the gospel, for fostering the growth of the Catholic Christian community, and for becoming involved in service to others.

**When: Sunday evenings 6:00 - 7:30 PM**

**Where: All grades meet in the MPR  
(MultiPurpose Room located in the school)**

St. Gabriel Parish

9935 Johnnycake Ridge Rd., Concord, OH 44060

Religious Education Office: 440-354-7551

Parish Office: 440-352-8282

Email: [religiouseducation@st-gabriel.org](mailto:religiouseducation@st-gabriel.org)

Parish Website: [www.st-gabriel.org](http://www.st-gabriel.org)

*Welcome to “Crossings”  
PSR for grades 6, 7 and 8.*

*This program is entering it’s 4<sup>th</sup> year  
and is designed differently than the  
traditional classroom settings.*

*This interactive learning model centers  
upon Catholic beliefs, scriptures  
and morality.*

*Our number one goal is to help  
our young people grow in  
their Catholic Faith.*

*To help us achieve this goal,  
Crossing will offer prayer,  
small group discussion,  
skits, guest speakers,  
service projects,  
various media,  
scripture exploration  
and hands on experience.*

*Jeff and Karyn Lancaster*

Good and loving Creator  
you are the author of all that is good  
and holy.

We ask you to send your Holy Spirit upon  
our middle school youth and bless them with your  
patience, inspire them with your joy, and nurture  
them with your compassion.

In their journey to follow Jesus, encourage them  
with holiness and peace. In times of confusion  
and uncertainty, guide them with your wisdom and  
truth.

May they always look to you for  
strength and guidance. We also ask you to send  
your blessing upon Crossings, allow it to always be  
a source of inspiration, acceptance, and love.

May all those who minister in Crossings walk  
always in the light of Christ and bring our young  
people ever closer to your Son Jesus.

We ask this through Christ our Lord  
Amen

## 2011-12 BOKjr ACTIVITY SCHEDULE

### **SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18**

Youth Group Kick Off  
5:00 - 7:30 pm

### **SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1**

Cedar Point - Halloweekend  
9:00 am - 9:00 pm

### **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23**

BOKjr Fall Fest

### **SATURDAY / SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5-6**

BOKjr & BOK Leaf Raking Service Project

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 8**

Bowl making Night for the Souperbowl  
6:00 - 7:30 pm

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 15**

Snow Tubing - MLK Day on Monday

### **SUNDAY, JANUARY 22**

Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest - gr. 6-12

### **SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

Souperbowl ~ 5:30 - 8:00 pm

### **MARCH - Dates: TBD**

Volleyball Tournament  
3 on 3 Basketball Tournament

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 24-25 ~ Food Fast**

**JUNE 11 - 15 Jr. High Kingdom Kamp**

**JUNE 18 - 22 Vacation Bible School Leader**

## **PSR GRADES 6-8 COORDINATING STAFF**

**Jeff and Karyn Lancaster**  
Coordinators

**Lynn Hadesh**  
Administrative Coordinator

**Paul Kelly**  
Coordinator of Youth Faith  
Formation and Ministry

## TEAM OF "CROSSINGS" CORE MEMBERS

Bill Abraham  
Lisa Baker  
Maria Bazdar  
Mary Durra  
Val Gehalo  
Christine Horvath  
Sharon Hren  
Chris Hren  
Steve King  
Elizabeth Looman  
Kelli Messer  
Carolyn Rigo  
Karen Sanford  
Kim Scheuer  
Maria Shust

**2011-2012**  
**“Crossings” Schedule**  
**6:00-7:30 pm**

**September 18 5:00-7:30 pm**  
Parent and Student Orientation

**September 25**

**October 2**

**October 16**

**October 23**

**November 13**

**November 20**

**December 11**

**December 18**

**January 8**

***January 17 ~ 7:00–8:30 pm***  
***Called to Protect Parent Training***  
***and Informational Session***

**January 22**

**January 29**

**February 12**

**February 26**

**March 11**

**March 18**

**April 1**

**April 22**

**April 29**

**May 6**

**REPORTING POLICY**

**Principals and Coordinators are asked to publish the following reporting policy in all Faculty Handbooks:**

**Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect Reporting Policy**

If you know, believe or have a reasonable cause to suspect that a child under eighteen years of age or a mentally retarded, developmentally disabled, or a physically impaired child under twenty-one years of age has suffered or faces a threat of suffering any physical or mental wound injury, disability, or condition of a nature that reasonably indicates abuse \*\* or neglect of the child you SHALL immediately report that knowledge or reasonable cause to suspect to:

1. Lake County Department Job and Family Services @ 440-350-4000 and/or Lake County Sheriff's Department @911.

**You SHALL also:**

1. Immediately notify your Principal or Program Coordinator that a report has been made, or jointly make that call together; the Principal would then report the same to the Bishop's Office or Br. Patrick Shea.

\*\*Examples include, but are not limited to, physical abuse, sexual abuse, and emotional abuse.

**Confidentiality Agreement:**

All details of suspected and/or reported abuse are to be kept strictly confidential except for reporting requirements. *(reviewed and approved by Bro. Patrick Shea, Legal Office, Diocese of Cleveland- Mar 17, 2010)*

## Called to Protect

Praesidium's "CALLED TO PROTECT" is a multi-media training program focused on matters of personal safety, abuse prevention and the creation of safe environments for children in Preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade.

It does not replace the **VIRTUS** training for employees and volunteers, but is supplementary to that. This first-ever program designed specifically for parents and children in Preschool through 12<sup>th</sup> grade is based upon the latest child development research on how children and youth can best protect themselves.

### PSR GRADES 1-8

Lessons will be woven into classes during regular class times. An annual parent meeting will be offered on January 17, 2012 at 7:00 pm in the MultiPurpose Room covering such topics as how offenders gain access to children, warning signs to look for in children and adults, and actions to take when noticed. The parent meeting is for parents new to our program and for those parents who missed the meeting last year. More information will be given to you later on in the year through the newsletter and website.

### ATTIRE

Casual attire or what your child wears to their school during the day is appropriate for Crossings. Please be mindful that the purpose of our gatherings is to grow in faith both individually and as a group. Clothes or accessories that may be distracting to that purpose or the Crossings mission statement should not be worn. On a night when your son/daughter is visiting the church, attire appropriate for a church celebration would be encouraged. Unacceptable attire are shoes with wheels, clothes with inappropriate writing/logos, or anything that shows the midriff.

### ARRIVAL PROCEDURES

The doors to the MultiPurpose Room (MPR) will be unlocked at 5:30 pm. Please drop your son/daughter off at these doors where they will check in at the Attendance Table and proceed inside. **The doors to the MPR will be locked at 6:15 pm.**

**NOTE: Should you arrive after that time, please go to the main entrance of the school.**

### DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

The MPR doors will open at 7:25 pm or 5 minutes prior to dismissal. Drivers **MUST** park their vehicle and walk into the school MPR. Students will be dismissed from their discussion table and signed out with adult leader. Please wait **QUIETLY** in the hallway until we open for dismissal.

### DISCIPLINE PROCEDURE

A verbal warning from the core team member will be given to the youth who is exhibiting bad behavior. If the conduct continues, the youth will be timed out of the group and would discuss the situation with Jeff/Karyn Lancaster. If the inappropriate behavior persists, the youth's parents will be called and the parents will be asked to pick up their child for the remainder of the session. A conference will be held with the parent to discuss the behavior problem before returning to the program.

### ELECTRONIC DEVICES

We ask that students **NOT** bring games, Ipods, cell phones or any electronic devices to Crossings as it will interfere with the activities taking place. Items that disrupt the session will be taken and returned to the parent.

### CARPOOLING

If you intend to carpool with another family or be picked up by someone other than the parent/legal guardian, **you MUST complete the Carpool Form.** No one other than the parent may pick the youth up unless this form has been submitted.

### EARLY RELEASE

Please have your son/daughter present a note to the person at the Attendance Table should they need to leave early. An adult will be present at the MPR doors to meet you at the designated time.

### SNACK POLICY

An occasional small snack may be given as part of a learning activity. We are aware that many students have food allergies and our goal is to keep everyone safe during our gatherings. Please make sure you share any important medical information on the **Parent Special Alert** form provided at Orientation.

### EMAIL

With much of our communication being done via email, we ask that you please make sure we have your current email address on file and that you check it regularly. A weekly notice will go out to families mid week of a Crossings session along with other notices that may need to be shared. Please call Lynn Hadesh in the Religious Education Office at 354-7551 or email her directly at: [lhadesh@st-gabriel.org](mailto:lhadesh@st-gabriel.org) if you are not receiving them.

### IMPORTANT FORMS

Parents are required to complete the **Student Emergency, KI Consent and Photo Release forms** for their youth registered in the Crossings Program. **Your cooperation in this matter is essential.**

### SNOW DAYS

Coordinators will confer by noon on PSR days as to whether or not the session needs to be cancelled. Closings will be announced on the radio (AM radio WBKC 1460, WTAM 1100), television (WEWS Channel 5, WKYC Channel 3), and the parish website ([www.st-gabriel.org](http://www.st-gabriel.org)).

### TEXTBOOK MATERIALS

Our students will be using the **Visions** curriculum from Pflaum Publishing, which is approved by the Diocese of Cleveland. **Visions** includes a weekly pamphlet to help with the learning of each session. Students will also receive a small booklet to help explain the changes in the Mass which will begin this Advent. We will continue to use our **Breakthrough** Bibles as a teaching and learning resource.

**BIBLES:** All 6th, 7th and 8th graders received a youth bible last year. Incoming 6th graders and any new students will receive their bible on September 25th.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: Students are to bring their bible to each Crossings session. Replacement cost is \$20.00.**