

Holy Angels High School Faith Formation Overview 2021-22 – Grades 9-10

Hello parents of 9th and 10th graders! First and foremost, we want to thank you for trusting us with your teen's faith formation. We are excited about partnering with you on your teen's faith journey, and we're certainly looking forward to having everyone back **in person** this year. We wanted to take the opportunity to give you some more detailed information about this upcoming year in Faith Formation. Some of this information will be a review and some will be new, so please be sure to read through everything here.

Each of the headings below details a part of the program, all of which are expected to be completed by year's end. We appreciate your help as parents in advance to encourage your teens to fully participate all facets of the program.

Communication

Please check your inbox during the year, as email (via the Flocknote program) will be our primary form of communication. We will send out reminders about sessions, volunteer opportunities, and Encounter Experiences as the year goes on. If either you or your teen has any questions at any point during the year, please reach out to me via email (maseb@hawb.org) or via phone (262-343-2370). We can also set up a meeting with you and your teen in-person or via Google Meet if you would like. We are here for you, and we are willing to work with you to accommodate any special needs or issues that may arise during the course of the year, but we can't address an issue that we don't know about – we appreciate your help to keep the lines of communication open.

Schedule

One major change we are making to the schedule this year is to separate 9th and 10th graders so they each have their own scheduled days. This takes away the option of multiple available dates that we've had in the past; however, it makes for a better session experience because the groups will be consistent each time, and that means each group will have a consistent leader as well. All the sessions will be on Saturday mornings from **9:00am until 12:00 noon**, taking place in the Cedar Room at Holy Angels School. Here is the schedule for both 9th and 10th grade for the year:

9th Grade

September 18, 2021
October 16, 2021
November 6, 2021
January 22, 2022
February 19, 2022
April 9, 2022

10th Grade

September 25, 2021
October 23, 2021
November 13, 2021
January 29, 2022
February 26, 2022
April 23, 2022

We certainly understand that conflicts can arise during the year with different events and other commitments, along with unexpected family or health issues. Anyone who misses a session will be expected to complete makeup work that coincides with the material presented to the large group; that makeup work will be due before the next in-person session on the schedule.

In-Person Session Format

We use a variety of different formats during each in-person session. Each session will have both large and small group components, as well as some time for group activities and prayer experiences, along with some time for individual reflection too.

Independent Study

In addition, there will be activities separate of the in-person sessions that will take place in an “independent study” type of format. These will include readings, some writing, and opportunities for reflection based on the topic that we’re covering; these are expected to be done on an individual basis at home, rather than in the group sessions. For the sake of clarification, this will NOT include any group-wide Google Meets like we had last year. We are including this format as a chance for each teen to take a particular topic and reflect on it at their own pace, which many teens find to be a valuable experience.

Encounter Experiences

In addition to the Small Group Sessions, we are also bringing back “*Encounter Experiences*” as part of our offerings this year. Each student must participate in **one** of these experiences during the year. They are designed to be a chance for you to encounter Christ in a way that you may not have had the opportunity to otherwise. We will maintain an ongoing list of events on our website at <https://www.hawb.org/encounter>. More dates will be added to the list as the year goes on, so please check back for updates. We do our best to include events that are at no or a low cost; if there is an additional fee to cover registration costs, those will be noted.

Service

Service has always been part of the culture here at Holy Angels, and our youth have always been a shining example of that culture, both locally at our Mission Camps and around the country with Mission Trips. All our high school students in Faith Formation and Confirmation Prep are asked to complete a total of **45 hours** of service during their 9th-11th grade years, averaging out to **15 hours of service per year**. This allows us to extend service opportunities to all our high school students.

When we learn of service opportunities here at Holy Angels, we will advertise them via Flocknote along with information on how to sign up for that particular event. We would also encourage you to seek out opportunities beyond our parish as well; each student will be responsible for completing service hours at Holy Angels AND in the community outside the parish. Hours you have served earlier this summer **will** count toward your total; simply track them with the link found on our website, www.hawb.org/reled.

Questions?

If any questions come up during the course of the year, we are an email or phone call (or text) away:
Brian Mase: email: maseb@hawb.org; phone/text: 262-343-2370