



THE ACADEMY OF ST. CARLO ACUTIS

DEUS NON EGO

August 2026

Dear Families in Our Catholic Community,

We are happy to welcome you to this year's Religious Education Program at the Academy of St. Carlo Acutis. Through this program, we have the privilege of sharing the beauty of our Catholic faith with children from our parishes who attend public schools or are homeschooled, nurturing their relationship with Christ and helping them find a meaningful place within our Catholic community.

Classes will be taught by experienced Catholic school teachers using many of the same resources used in the instruction of our full-time students. We will continue to have all grades available at all three campuses: Oglesby, LaSalle, and Peru. A handbook, calendar, and required forms are included. Please complete all forms, including the student registration and waiver forms, and provide an email and cell phone number for communication.

Tuition will remain the same as last year. Each family is asked to contribute \$100 per semester. This fee covers all children in the household. Please include the first semester tuition with your returned registration packet. If your family has any financial concerns that would hinder your participation, please utilize the tuition assistance form on our website, ascamiracles.org. You will find this information under the Religious Education section.

Registration forms can be placed in your church's collection basket or mailed to Holy Family Church, 311 N. Woodland Ave., Oglesby, IL 61348. We will also hold an optional in-person registration **September 13, 2026 from 1:30-2:30 p.m.** in the LaSalle Campus gym (650 Fourth Street). We will be able to assist you there in Spanish as well as provide an opportunity to pay the fee by cash or credit card.

Our first class will be **Wednesday, September 16, 2026 from 4:00-5:00 p.m.**

If you have any questions, please reach out. We look forward to a blessed year!

God Bless,


Heather Leffers

Director, ASCA Religious Education
hleffers@ascamiracles.org
815-200-1991 ext. 908

To pay by credit card, scan the QR code.
Registration forms are still required to be sent in.

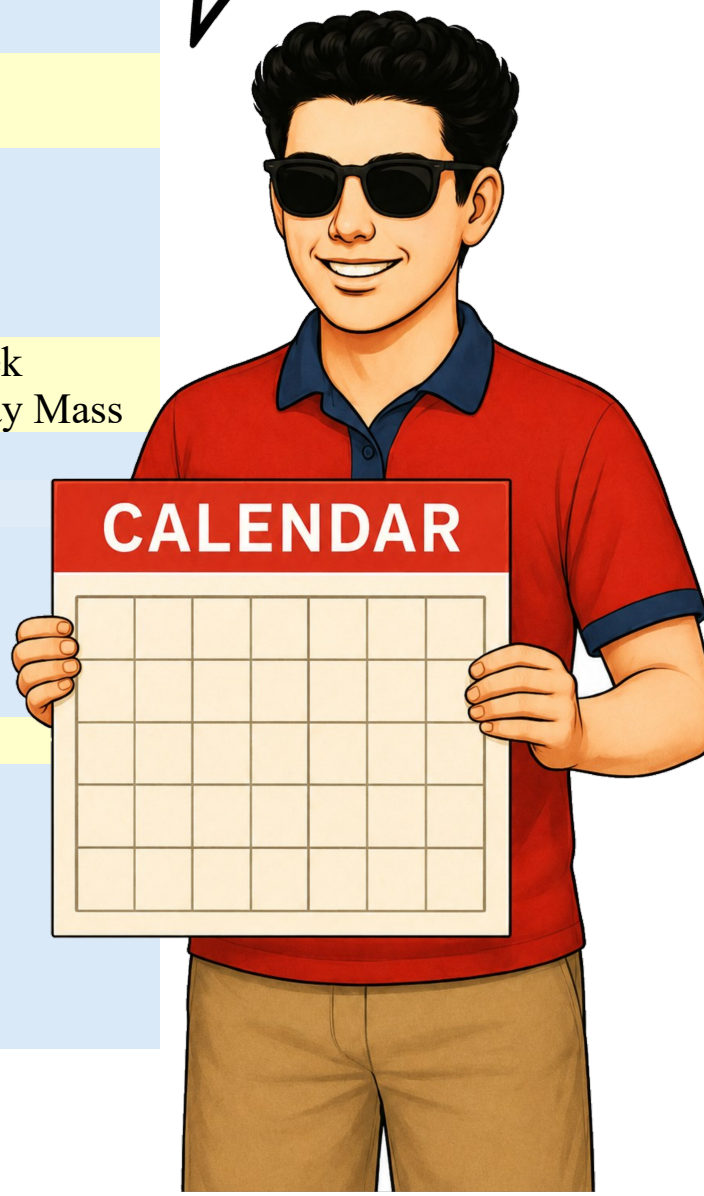


2026 / 2027

Religious Education Calendar

9/13/2026	Optional Registration/Info Meeting— LaSalle Campus Gym (1:30-2:30 p.m.)
9/16/2026	Class 1 (1st Semester Begins)
9/23/2026	Class 2
9/30/2026	Class 3
10/7/2026	Class 4
10/14/2026	Class 5
10/21/2026	Class 6
10/28/2026	Class 7
11/4/2026	Class 8
11/11/2026	Class 9
11/18/2026	Class 10
11/25/2026	No RE Class: Thanksgiving Break
12/2/2026	Class 11
12/9/2026	Class 12
12/16/2026	Class 13
12/23/2026	No RE Class: Christmas Break
12/30/2026	No RE Class: Christmas Break
1/6/2027	Class 14 (2nd Semester Begins)
1/13/2027	Class 15
1/20/2027	Class 16
1/27/2027	Class 17
2/3/2027	No RE Class: Catholic Schools Week
2/10/2027	No RE Class: Attend Ash Wednesday Mass
2/17/2027	Class 18
2/24/2027	Class 19
3/3/2027	Class 20
3/10/2027	Class 21
3/17/2027	Class 22
3/24/2027	Class 23
3/31/2027	No RE Class: Easter Break
4/7/2027	Class 24
4/14/2027	Class 25
4/21/2027	Class 26
4/28/2027	Class 27
5/5/2027	Class 28
5/12/2027	Class 29

Classes meet on Wednesdays
from 4 to 5 pm.
We can't wait to see you!





Academy of St. Carlo Acutis Religious Education Registration

Deus Non Ego

Welcome! Please complete and return in the envelope provided.

Registration Date

Family Information

Father's Name

Father's Cell

Father's Email

Mother's Name

Mother's Cell

Mother's Email

Mailing Address

Home Street Address

City, State

Zip Code

Emergency Contact

Emergency Adult Contact

Emergency Contact Relationship (eg: Grandparent, Aunt, etc.)

Emergency Contact's Cell

Family's Parish of Registration

Parish Name

Parish City

Campus Choice

☐

LaSalle

☐

Oglesby

☐

Peru

All grade levels are available at each campus

Texting Alert Number

Best family phone for text announcements

Student Information (First)

Student First NameLast NameMiddle NameSuffix

/ /

M

F

Goes By (Nickname)Date of BirthCity of BirthGradeGender

Year of BaptismChurchCity and State

Year of First CommunionChurchCity and State

Medical / Allergy Instructions

Student Information (Second)

Student First NameLast NameMiddle NameSuffix

/ /

M

F

Goes By (Nickname)Date of BirthCity of BirthGradeGender

Year of BaptismChurchCity and State

Year of First CommunionChurchCity and State

Medical / Allergy Instructions

Student Information (Third)

Student First NameLast NameMiddle NameSuffix

/ /

M

F

Goes By (Nickname)Date of BirthCity of BirthGradeGender

Year of BaptismChurchCity and State

Year of First CommunionChurchCity and State

Medical / Allergy Instructions

Medical and Liability Waivers

Please return this sheet with your registration.

AUTHORIZATION FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL TREATMENT

I understand that in case of illness or injury to my child, the parish will try to notify me or the person I have listed as an emergency contact. In case of said emergency, at a time when I or my emergency contact cannot be notified, I grant full power to the parish and school to 1) arrange transportation to a proper facility where medical treatment would be administered, and 2) sign releases as may be required in order to obtain treatment as is required in judgment of medical authorities at the facility. This Authorization for Emergency Medical Treatment is valid for one year from the date signed. This information will be kept in school files.

Print Name of Parent/Guardian

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

LIABILITY WAIVER

As a parent and/or guardian, I remain legally responsible for any personal actions taken by the above named student. I understand the risks this activity may present to my child, including, but not limited to, a serious personal injury or death. In consideration of my child being allowed to participate in this activity, I hereby release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Diocese of Peoria, the parishes, teachers, chaperones, volunteers, or representatives associated with the event and their employees and agents from any liability for injuries, damages, medical expenses, or any other loss to my child, family, or me (including attorney's fees) arising from or related to my child's participation in this activity.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

PUBLICITY WAIVER

On occasion, the parishes and school take photographs or make an audio or video recording of children and/or adults involved in parish activities. Such photographs or video records may be used by staff and participants to remember the activities or participants. In addition, such photographs and audio-visual records may be used in parish and school publications or advertising materials to let others know about the parish. Also, local news organizations may learn about the parish's activities or events, and the parishes may invite or allow when to photograph or record such events to be used, distributed, or displayed as the agents of the parishes and school see fit.

I hereby expressly grant to the parishes and school and/or the Diocese of Peoria and Parishes the right, privilege and license to use the picture or likeness of my child/children in any photograph, movie, video production and to use the verbal or written statements or declarations of my child/children for the purpose of publicizing fostering and promoting the parish and its programs, or any other purpose in furtherance of the mission of the parish and/or the Diocese of Peoria.

Name(s) of Students

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Academy of St. Carlo Acutis Religious Education Policies

Religious Education Program Scope

The Academy of St. Carlo Acutis provides a diocesan-approved faith formation curriculum for all students, grades 1-8, who are members of a Catholic parish and attend public schools. Students in grades 1-2 will receive preparation for the Sacraments of First Confession and First Holy Communion; grades 6-7 will receive preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation with sacrament reception the Fall of their 8th grade year.

Parish Affiliation

This program serves the parishes of Utica, LaSalle, Oglesby, and Peru. Families from other parishes should talk to their pastor before enrolling.

Location

Classes are held in the Academy classrooms. All campuses (LaSalle, Oglesby, Peru) host classes in grades 1-8. Please indicate your choice of campus on your registration form.

Contact Information

School Phone: 815-200-1991
(ext. 908 for reporting absences)

School Addresses:

650 4th Street, LaSalle

336 Alice Avenue, Oglesby

2003 5th Street, Peru

Program Director: Heather Leffers
hleffers@ascamiracles.org

Class Sessions

Religious Education classes are on Wednesday afternoons, as listed in the annual RE calendar. Each session will begin promptly at 4pm and dismiss at 5pm. The doors open at 3:45pm. Please come early when possible.

Grade Level Assignment

Students are generally placed in the RE grade matching their public school grade. Sacramental preparation follows a two-year sequence: First Communion is prepared for in 1st and 2nd grade, and Confirmation in 6th and 7th grade—along with other parish-directed activities. Children who have missed a year will begin with the earlier class (for example, a 2nd grader may join 1st grade RE if they have not completed it). Older students who have not received First Communion or Confirmation should speak with their pastor about additional preparation, either through parish programs or private instruction.

Program Fees

Our classes are taught professionally by instructors who teach in our Catholic School or are associated closely with its program and have a background in education. They are trained and formed by Diocesan programs and implement both an approved Loyola Press curriculum and the Diocesan sponsored Circle of Grace curriculum for safe environment. We are investing heavily into this unified program and are striving to dedicate more resources to our young students who attend public schools during the day.

The RE fees do not cover the cost of this education, but they do help make the program possible. If your family has difficulty with the fees, please complete the Tuition Assistance form (available on the website) and we will do all we can to help.

Fees are due at the beginning of each semester.

All checks should be made payable to: Academy of St. Carlo Acutis. Payments can be returned in the enclosed envelope or paid online through the ascamiracles.org website.

Drop-Off / Pick-Up Procedure

Students should arrive by 3:50pm so class can begin promptly at 4:00pm. Because class time is valuable, repeated tardiness may result in dismissal from the program. For safety, please follow all posted traffic patterns so children do not need to cross in front of cars. Traffic helpers and barricades will guide you as needed. In Peru, please enter drop-off/pick-up driving west on 5th Street. In Oglesby, Alice Avenue is one-way in front of the school. In LaSalle, traffic must move west to east on 4th Street.

Attendance Requirements

Our Program has attendance and tardy requirements to avoid loss of instruction time in the classroom. Students are required to be in their assigned seats at the beginning of class, 4 pm. For safety and accountability, absences must be reported to the school by a parent/guardian. **Call 815-200-1991, ext. 908 to report an absence or late arrival.**

Excused absences or tardies are for illness, medical appointments, family emergencies, etc. While we encourage student involvement in extracurricular and athletic activities, absences for these events should be rare, as Religious Education time is a priority. We will gladly provide a Religious Exemption Letter for coaches or directors who require them. To maintain the integrity of our program, more than three unexcused absences and three tardies per semester the student may be asked to withdraw from the program.

Dress Code

Students should come dressed modestly and respectfully. Shirts must be simple, without offensive images or words. Shorts and skirts of modest length are permitted if in good repair. Pants should be free of rips or tears. Yoga pants, spandex, and leggings are not allowed. Shoes must be secure; flip-flops or strapless shoes are not permitted for safety reasons. Hoodies may not be worn in class.

School and Classroom Guidelines

Everyone has the right to come to school and have a good day!

Students are required to follow and respect each teacher's classroom expectations.

Personal cell phones or other personal electronic equipment are to be powered off in class. Teachers have the authority to collect the devices before class and return them at the end of class.

Students are not allowed to leave the classroom without a teacher's permission.

Parents will be notified by the program staff regarding unacceptable student behavior.

Discipline Policy

Our students, through their personal conduct, should reflect Jesus and His teachings. Most of the time, this means simply treating one another kindly and following directions. As prepared professionals, our teachers use their own classroom management practices and procedures in accordance with Diocesan and ASCA policies. Our aim is to keep all students safe and focused on learning in a caring environment.

ASCA has jurisdiction over students during class sessions and at all school-related activities, on or off campus, i.e. church buildings. Serious misbehavior, including disruption in class or church, dishonesty, possession of unlawful substances or weapons, fighting, theft, property damage, intimidation, misuse of technology, gang activity, or bullying will result in detention, referral to the director, or dismissal. Parents will be notified if detention is assigned. Harassment and bullying of any kind are not tolerated and are addressed according to Diocesan policy. (See Diocesan Harassment Policy Appendix B; Diocesan Bullying Policy D-147 as Appendix F, cdop.org)

Curriculum

Students receive instruction with a variety of differentiated resources. Grades 1-7 will use Finding God-Loyola Press or Christ our Life as their primary textbook. Grade 8 will receive instruction from the Chosen Series-Ascension Press with resources from the Sophia Press curriculum.

Communication

The Academy of St. Carlo Acutis Religious Education program communicates by letter, website posting, email, and text message. Most updates will come by email, so please be sure your email is clearly written on your registration form. For urgent notices, such as weather cancellations, please also provide a cell phone number.

Assessment

To indicate active participation of the students, teachers may use a variety of formal and informal assessments throughout the course of the program. Examples may include: homework, quizzes, tests, essays, memorized prayers, and grade level knowledge of the Catholic Faith. Most likely, students will be required to complete some form of assessment each week at home or in class.

Safe Environment Training

Any adult acting as a teacher's assistant or a volunteer is required to complete a Safe Environment Training Course and background check. The course is offered to all parents/guardians through Catholic Mutual Group. Please contact the school if you have any questions. Diocesan volunteers can take the online training for Safe Environment on the following website: peoria.cmgconnect.org.

First Communion and First Reconciliation

Students in Grades 1 and 2 are enrolled in religious education as preparation for First Holy Communion.

First Communion is celebrated in the student's individual parish, typically on or near the First Sunday of May. Families should stay attentive to announcements from their parish of registration for the specific date, time, rehearsals, and other details.

First Reconciliation will be coordinated by the student's classroom teacher and will take place during the spring of the second-grade year. Details will be communicated to families at that time.

Confirmation

Eighth-grade students preparing for Confirmation will enroll in the ASCA Religious Education program for the fall semester and attend the scheduled RE classes prior to Confirmation as well as the Confirmation Retreat. These classes, along with the retreat, will serve as their immediate preparation for the sacrament and supplement the two-year Confirmation preparation completed in 6th and 7th grades.

This period of preparation will also allow students to complete the required Confirmation Application, Sponsor Information, Service Project, and Saint Project.

The regular \$100 per-family fall semester fee will apply to families with an eighth-grade Confirmation student. This fee will help cover the cost of instruction, materials, and Confirmation-related expenses, including fees associated with the Cathedral celebration.

Following Confirmation, eighth-grade students will have completed the regular ASCA Religious Education program and will not be expected to attend the remaining weekly RE classes. Families whose only enrolled student is an eighth grader will not be charged the second-semester RE fee.

Circle of Grace®

Safe Environment

Updated Curriculum Outline



Grade 1– Your Circle of Grace and Others
Grade 2– Being Safe in Your Circle of Grace
Grade 3 - Sacredness and Boundaries
Grade 4 - Social Media and Our Circle of Grace
Grade 5—Coping with Stress and Pressure
Grade 6 - Technology's Influence on our Relationships
Grade 7 - Saying "No" to Disrespect
Grade 8 - Morally Responsible in Today's Culture

Gr. 5- 8 Alternate Lessons

- ◇ Honoring Relationships
- ◇ Consequences of Technology *(new)*
- ◇ Circle of Grace and New Age Spirituality *(new)*
- ◇ Humility and Modesty *(new)*
- ◇ Navigating an "Anything Goes" Culture *(new)*
- ◇ Circle of Grace Retreat *(new- based on previous grade 6 lessons)*

The Diocese of Peoria has implemented a curriculum that presents one lesson each year geared toward student safety and well-being. Above, you can see some of the curriculum offerings specific to each grade level. Our teachers, especially those teaching multiple classes, will modify these lessons as appropriate.

The curriculum is not about sex education and topics relating to this are not taught or approached in this program. Even so, age-appropriate discussions about boundaries, social media, trusted adults, peer pressure, etc. will be covered.

The purpose of the curriculum is to help our students understand their value as loved children of God and know to seek help from you as parents when they feel threatened by internal feelings or external pressures. We hope it is a helpful addition to the regular religious education classes.

Please reach out if you have any questions or would like to review the curriculum.