

First Reconciliation & First Communion Sacrament Prep

Policy

Parents are required to follow the process to prepare their child for the reception of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist for the parish of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception. *If the candidate was baptized in a church other than Catholic, he/she will need to be formally received into the Church by the pastor.*

Process for the reception of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

Parents

The Parents bring their child to Baptism and commit themselves to the responsibility to form their child in the practice of the Faith. The Family is the center of their child's Faith Life. The Family is where the love of God is lived, taught and celebrated. The demonstration of sorrow and forgiveness should be experienced within the family.

The Parents are expected to bring their child to the weekend Liturgy, to worship God and experience the community of believers.

Faith Formation

Parents are the primary educators of their child in the Faith. The parish Faith Formation Program is provided as a support to the parents in their child's development as Catholic Christians.

If their child is absent from any of the classes in Faith Formation, the parents have the responsibility to contact the Coordinator of Faith Formation to report their absence, to obtain the make-up material and to teach their child the missed lesson.

Preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist has three components.

In the fall of the year there is a mandatory meeting for the parents of children preparing to receive First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. The Pastor instructs the parents on the essential theological concepts of the sacraments. The Pastor, Pastoral Associate or Coordinator of Faith Formation gives the details of the process used in preparing their child for the reception of these sacraments.

Faith Formation Classroom Preparation

Faith Formation, Grade 2, follows the broad curriculum of the *Gospel Weekly Series*. This curriculum includes: Belief, Worship, Living, Praying and Celebrating the Faith.

Home Preparation

Home preparation begins with a meeting of the parents and their child with the Pastor, Pastoral Associate or Coordinator of Faith Formation. Parents are given the home study books for each sacrament. The parents are guided by the Pastor, Pastoral Associate or Coordinator of Faith Formation on how they are to develop their child's understanding of these sacraments.

First Reconciliation & First Communion Sacrament Prep

Retreat Preparation

In the spring of the year, there will be a two-hour reflection time for the parents and their child in church and the parish center for a more immediate preparation for the sacraments.

All missed classes must be made up before this retreat.

Celebration

Any time after the retreat, parents make an appointment with the Pastor to ascertain the readiness of the child to receive the sacraments.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation will be celebrated at this appointment. The parents are also invited to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at this time.

The celebration of First Eucharist will be scheduled at a time convenient to the family. The details of the celebrations will be discussed during this appointment.

**In order to meet the needs of all students in our Faith Formation program, individualized programs and/or instruction may be provided to students with exceptional needs.*



F
I
R
S
T

C
O
M
M
U
N
I
O
N
&
R
E
C
O
N
C
I
L
I
A
T
I
O
N