

2019-20 SMC & SOTH

2nd Gr Sacrament Handbook

IMPORTANT DATES

REC: Dec 9th (SMC) & 11th (SOTH)

RETREAT: Sat Apr 4th 9-11 (SOTH) 1-3 (SMC)

DRESS REHEARSAL: Sat Apr 25TH

9am (SOTH- ALL Mass Times) 11AM (SMC)

1st COMMUNION MASSES APR 25 & 26:

SOTH: Sat 4:00 or Sun 8:15 or Sun 10:30

SMC: Sun 2:00pm



CLASSROOM FORMATION

For the 2019-20 school year students will be using *Blessed* by Dynamic Catholic. This program uses a combination of textbook learning as well as animated clips created specially for Dynamic Catholic. More information about the program, a digital copy of their textbooks, as well as all of the clips from the dvd can be found at the following website: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/blessed>.

SOTH Day School students will be using *Blest Are We* by RCL Benziger. Parents are encouraged to explore the *Blessed* resources on Dynamic Catholic's website at home with their sons and daughters.

FORMATION AT HOME

You, as parents, are the most meaningful adult Christians in the life of your child. You show your love for your child and give witness to your faith when you share your convictions about life and living. In particular, your personal responses to God's love are showing your child that Eucharist and Reconciliation are part of their daily lives - not something that happens only as part of a special celebration day, or something just like anything else, but its very center. Please continue to be examples of faith to your child by bringing your child to Mass every weekend.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

First Reconciliation will be Mon Dec 9th (SMC) and Weds Dec 11th (SOTH) at 6:20pm in the Church for both Day School students and Religious Education Students. It is encouraged that at least one parent attends in support of their child. Parents are encouraged to lead by example and participate in the sacrament as well. Following the Reconciliation service parents are free to leave with their child.



RETREAT: SAT APR 4TH

The First Communion Retreat is for RE and Day School families. Children are required to attend with one parent or adult. Two retreats are run this day, but unless you notify the DRE otherwise, your child will be expected at the retreat of their parish. At the retreat the children will create a monstrance craft, learn more about the real presence of Jesus in the Eucharist, taste the bread and the wine, tour the church and the sacristy, and hear from Father. SMC communicants will also practice the song they will sing at First Communion. Snow date for the retreat is Sat April 18th at the same time.

COMMUNION DRESS REHEARSAL

Dress Rehearsal will take place on Saturday morning the weekend of your child's First Communion. At the rehearsal, we will practice lining up, coming forward to receive Communion, singing a song the children will sing at First Communion (SMC only), and lining up for photos. At least one parent must attend rehearsal. Your child should come in their First Communion clothes to rehearsal.

DRESS CODE

There is no specific requirements for First Communion clothing. Per Father Mark, communicants are asked to wear their Easter Best. Please no jean pants or t-shirts. Traditionally girls wear white dresses, but it is not a requirement. Gloves can be worn, but need to be removed before going up for Communion. Traditionally boys wear a white dress shirt and tie, but they are not required to wear a certain color shirt or tie. Blazers, vests, and no ties are also ok to wear.

SEATING

Each child and their family will have a pew reserved for them. Family members who do not fit in that pew may sit in any unmarked pew. The first two pews for SOTH will also have the pew to its left or right reserved because of the length of the front pews. It is important SOTH families let the DRE know which Mass time they plan on attending.

LENGTH OF MASS

We anticipate that the First Communion Masses will last approximately one hour. Please factor in a little additional time for pictures at the end of Mass.

PHOTOGRAPHY/ VIDEOGRAPHY

Photography is allowed during Mass as long as the flash is turned off. You may photograph your child receiving their first communion, but please do not go up the steps into sanctuary. At the end of Mass the children will assemble in front of the Altar for a group photo. At this time you may also take individual photos of your child. Official photos will be taken by the DRE at the end of the dress rehearsal on Saturday morning. The official photo will be emailed out by the DRE the week after First Communion.

