

HOLY



COMMUNION

First Communion Preparation 2025-2026 Schedule

All children and youth preparing for sacraments need a foundation in faith formation when coming to the sacraments. Parents will need to discern if their child is ready to begin preparation by prayerfully reviewing the questions below.

After completing preparation, parents will join catechists and staff to determine readiness of their child to receive the sacrament. The Sacrament of Reconciliation must have been received prior to receiving the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

- 1. Register for and attend grade level Formation Gatherings:** Held monthly on designated Sundays, see grade level formation schedule for dates.
- 2. Parental Discernment:** To help you discern if your child is ready to begin preparation for First Eucharist you should carefully consider the following questions:
 - Has your child been baptized?
 - Has your child reached the age of reason: 7 years old?
 - Has your child received First Reconciliation or will he/she be enrolled in preparation class for Reconciliation?
 - Is your child interested in receiving Holy Communion?
 - Does your child pray at home?
 - Does your child regularly attend and participate in the Sunday Mass?
 - Does your child relate to Jesus as one who loves and cares for them?
 - Does your child understand that they are to care for others?
 - Does your child have a sense of belonging to the Catholic community?
 - Are you committed to the sacramental preparation process and having your child attend each preparation session?
- 3. Register for First Eucharist preparation:** After you have carefully considered the discernment questions and you feel your child is ready to begin preparing for the sacrament you may register.
- 4. Attend the Communion Parent Orientation:** At least one parent/guardian attend the **First Sacraments Parent Session**, on Monday, September 22, 6:00 pm in the Commons, designed to help deepen the parent's understanding of the sacrament and prepare them for their role as primary teacher of the faith.
- 5. Complete homework before each sacramental preparation class.** Homework assignments are on the website under the "Sacraments" tab on the First

Reconciliation and First Communion webpage. Workbooks will be distributed at the February Faith Formation Class.

6. **Prepare for and bring your child to each of the preparation classes:** All sessions are held on Mondays, 6:00 – 7:30 pm in the worship space. Children **MUST bring their *BELONGING* workbook** to each class.

March 2 – Class #1

March 9 – Class #2

March 16 – Class #3

March 23 – Class #4

April 6 – Class #5

April 13 – Class #6 – We will practice receiving Eucharist, the children will have a chance to taste the host. Parents are *required* to attend the last 30 minutes of class. This class may run over a little.

7. **Discernment of readiness to *receive* First Eucharist:** Through a series of interview questions, catechists and office staff will determine your child's readiness to receive the sacrament using the following guidelines:

- Knows the Holy Trinity are: God the Father, Jesus the Son and the Holy Spirit.
- Understands what prayer is.
- Regularly attends, participates in and understands the Mass.
- Understands and believes that Jesus is truly present in the Eucharist.
- Realizes the difference between the Eucharist and regular bread and wine.
- Understands the importance of observing the Eucharistic fast.
- Knows how to receive the Eucharist reverently.
- Can express their desire to receive Eucharist.

April 20 – First Communion Assessment

8. **First Communion Mass Rehearsal:** Thursday, **April 23**, 6:00 pm, all children and parents are *required* to attend. Children will again taste the host.

9. **Reception of First Eucharist:** Saturday, **April 25**, 11:00 am is the dedicated First Communion Mass. Children check in at 10:30 am.

Note: Attendance at *all* classes is extremely important, *there are no make-up dates for missed classes*. The *only* excuse for missing class is illness or an emergency in the immediate family. Please notify Carole as soon as you know your child will miss a class. Any missed work must be made up at home. If your child misses more than one class, we will assess your child's progress. You may be asked to postpone your child's reception of the sacrament until the following year.