



## First Eucharist Preparation 2021-2022 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 your child to receive sacraments. Preparation for the sacraments is done *in addition* to ongoing faith formation appropriate to the grade level of the candidate for the sacrament. Parents should attend the Parent Sacramental Preparation session listed below. *WE MUST HAVE A COPY OF YOUR CHILD'S BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE FROM THE CHURCH OF RECORD BEFORE THEY CAN RECEIVE ANY SACRAMENTS.*

- 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 you 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?
  - Is your child interested in receiving Holy Communion?
  - Does your child pray at home?
  - Does your child 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. Registration forms are available to download from our website under Formation on the menu bar.

4. **Complete homework before each sacramental preparation class. Homework assignments will be handed out with textbooks at the February Faith Formation class.**
5. **Prepare for and bring your child to each of the preparation classes:** All sessions held on Mondays, 6:30 – 8:00pm in the worship space.  
**March 7** – Class #1  
**March 14** – Class #2  
**March 21** – Class #3  
**March 28** – Class #4  
**April 11** – Class #5  
**April 25** – Class #6 – We will practice receiving Eucharist, the children will have a chance to taste the host. Parents are *required* to attend.  
**May 2** – First Reconciliation Review
6. **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 who God, Jesus and the Holy Trinity are.
  - Understands what prayer is.
  - Participates in and understands the Mass.
  - Understands and believes that Christ is 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.
- Readiness assessments by Zoom:** Monday, **May 9**, sign up for time slot at Gatherings 1-5.
7. **First Communion Mass Rehearsal:** Thursday, **May 12**, 6:30pm, all children and parents are *required* to attend. Children will again taste the host.
8. **Reception of First Eucharist:** Saturday, **May 14 or 23** 11:00am Mass Sign-up for Mass date at session 1-6.

**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 you 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 receiving the sacrament until the following year.**