



## **2020-2021 First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Sacramental Preparation**

Dear Parents,

This coming school year is bound to be a unique one. We are determined, nonetheless, to provide a quality Sacramental preparation for first Reconciliation and Holy Communion regardless of the pandemic.

Due to the desire to keep kids and families healthy and stop the spread of the virus AND the desire to refrain from overburdening kids with Zoom calls (Zoom-fatigue is a real issue!), we have decided to have children and parents work together, at home, through the content of the Sacramental Prep program. We will have Zoom calls with the catechist every other week for 40-50 minutes to check in on progress, form community, pray together and support you in your effort to teach the faith to your kids. These Zoom calls will have a small teaching component to re-inforce the teaching from the session covered at home over the previous two weeks, but the primary work will be done aside from these online meetings.

The preparation resources we will give you make it easy to teach and talk about the faith with your kids and the kids enjoy it! There are six sessions for Reconciliation and six for Holy Communion. The Zoom calls will be spaced out to allow for you to cover one “session” over the course of two weeks before checking in online. Each session has seven short videos that are watched as you go through the book’s content. You can look over this content, even a free pdf of the workbooks, at Dynamic Catholic’s website:

<https://dynamiccatholic.com/blessed/program-view>. We intend to supply you with hard copy books at the end of September.

Lastly, while it is not required for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and their parents, our new preK-5<sup>th</sup> grade Faith Formation program, *Project Nazareth*, is something I encourage you to look into and consider bringing into your home life this coming year. Information on this program can be found on our website: [www.hricatholic.org/Faith-Formation](http://www.hricatholic.org/Faith-Formation). You will be the judge of whether this is something you can feasibly take on alongside Sacramental Preparation, but please read through materials before deciding, as it is not what you might expect!

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to e-mail me at [agiard@newburyportcatholic.org](mailto:agiard@newburyportcatholic.org).

In Christ,

Aaron Giard

Director of Lifelong Faith Formation

**Zoom Meeting Check-ins for Children/Parents at Immaculate Conception (IC):**

Sundays, 10:30 AM – 11:15 AM, OR

Tuesdays, 6:15 PM – 7:00 PM

**Zoom Meeting Check-ins for Children/Parents at Holy Redeemer (HR):**

Sundays, 9:15 AM – 10:00 AM OR you may choose the IC Tuesday group (above)

**First Reconciliation Prep Check-in Schedule**

**IC and HR Sunday Morning Groups:**

**IC Tuesday Group:**

Introductions/Welcome Session: October 4<sup>th</sup>

October 6<sup>th</sup>

Session 1: October 18<sup>th</sup>

October 20<sup>th</sup>

Session 2: November 1<sup>st</sup>

November 3<sup>rd</sup>

Session 3: November 15<sup>th</sup>

November 17<sup>th</sup>

Session 4: December 6<sup>th</sup>

December 8<sup>th</sup>

Session 5: December 20<sup>th</sup>

December 21<sup>st</sup>

Session 6: January 3<sup>rd</sup>

January 5<sup>th</sup>

First Reconciliation Parent/Child Meeting: Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>

**First Reconciliation Group Services:** *Tentative dates:* IC: Jan. 9<sup>th</sup> HR: Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>

**First Holy Communion Prep Check-in Schedule**

**IC and HR Sunday Morning Groups:**

**IC Tuesday Group:**

Session 1: January 24<sup>th</sup>

January 26<sup>th</sup>

Session 2: February 7<sup>th</sup>

February 9<sup>th</sup>

Session 3: February 21<sup>st</sup>

February 23<sup>rd</sup>

Session 4: March 7<sup>th</sup>

March 9<sup>th</sup>

Session 5: March 21<sup>st</sup>

March 23<sup>rd</sup>

Session 6: April 11<sup>th</sup>

April 13<sup>th</sup>

**First Holy Communion Retreat**

Holy Redeemer Parish: Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Immaculate Conception Parish: May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Rehearsals TBD on a weeknight the week prior to your child's assigned First Communion Mass

**First Holy Communion Masses:**

Holy Redeemer Parish: May 2<sup>nd</sup>

Immaculate Conception Parish: May 8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> and May 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup>

**2020-2021 Fee**

\$150 per child