

TO: Parents of St. Pascal's Children in Grade 2 and Older Needing
Sacrament Preparation (2020-2021)

FROM: Kim Roering, Pastoral Associate for Faith Formation
St. Pascal Baylon Catholic Church

DATE: July 21, 2020

RE: First Reconciliation & First Eucharist Preparation 2020-2021



I am writing to invite you and your child to participate in preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and/or Eucharist this coming year. The preparation is recommended for children in second grade and up.

Our process is designed to assure that children have an opportunity to prepare for and celebrate First Reconciliation prior to First Eucharist, according to Church requirements. The normal expectation would be that most of our young Catholics celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation prior to First Eucharist. However, provision is made for those who do not think an individual is ready for the Sacrament of Reconciliation without delaying First Communion. Parents, as the primary teachers of the faith for their children, are asked to determine the readiness of their child for the celebration of each sacrament.

Because sacraments are prepared for and celebrated within the faith community, sacrament preparation is done as a parish activity. Classroom teachers and catechists support the parish process but do not do the actual instruction. School and faith formation children and their parents participate in group preparation sessions. The purpose of these sessions is to help participants attain a deeper understanding of these sacraments. In addition, a book is provided for each sacrament for families to complete at home.

The calendar of sessions is on the reverse side of this letter, and the registration form is enclosed.

PLEASE NOTE

While I am hopeful that we will be able to have our sessions in person, I am also enclosing a "Disclosure, Authorization and Consent for Social Media or Other Electronic Communication Involving Minors" to be submitted with the registration form. While I expect that parents will be a part of any Zoom or other remote programming, should COVID-19 require that, it is still important for me to have this consent form.

The celebration of First Reconciliation is scheduled for Tuesday, December 1, at 7 pm. First Eucharist weekend is scheduled for April 24 & 25, 2021 (each family gets to choose which Mass they will attend). Enclosed you will also find a registration form for sacrament prep sessions. ***Please fill it out completely and return by Friday, August 21st!*** There is a materials fee of \$40 per sacrament. Fees are not due until the September parent meeting. Also, no one is turned away due to an inability to pay. Simply let me know about your situation. In addition, a baptism certificate should be submitted for each child. If your child was not baptized at St. Pascal's, contact the church of baptism and ask that one be sent to you, or directly to me at the parish office (1757 Conway Street, St. Paul, MN 55106).

Registration Forms are due by August 21st!
It is important that forms are in by this date so I can adequately plan for the preparation sessions and all necessary materials.

Should you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 651-774-1585 ext. 128 or kim.roering@stpascals.org. Thank you!