

**PLEASE GET THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDARS ASAP.**

Those wishing to receive First Communion must be a registered member of a Catholic Parish (Archdiocesan Policy). Please submit documentation of this by **August 30, 2021**.

Those wishing to receive First Communion must be a baptized Catholic (Canon Law) Please submit a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate to the Parish Office, by **September 13, 2021**.

## Parent Meetings

1. Introduction to Sacramentality – **Wednesday, September 29, 7:00-8:30** at Holy Family
2. The Eucharist - **Wednesday, February 16, 7:00pm to 8:30pm** at Holy Family

These presentations will be given by Terry Nelson-Johnson and Laura Fields. They are designed for adult learners and will provide a contemporary exploration of Catholic sacraments, using music, multi-media, and ritual as well as spoken presentations.

**Note:** Materials for preparing children for First Eucharist and First Reconciliation will be distributed to the parents at the end of this presentation

## Session # 1 - Rite of Welcoming - **October 3, 11am Mass OR October 16, 5pm Mass.**

A 20-minute session will follow each Mass. **Be sure to arrive 15 minutes before Mass and check-in** with us in the Narthex BEFORE you attend Mass (no RSVP necessary) and **pick up your banner kits**. Parent(s) and child attend this Mass + session. We encourage you to invite extended family members and Godparents to this Mass.

## Session # 2 – Presentation on the Mass – two formats are offered, choose one

Children will learn about the reason behind our Catholic rituals during the Eucharist celebrations.

**Option 1:** Presentation during Faith classes or HFCA Religion class. **Dates TBA**

**Option 2:** An online version will be available for families to do at home.

## Session # 3 – Reconciliation and examination of conscience

This presentation will prepare children for Reconciliation Service on February 23. The presentation will take place during Faith classes or HFCA religious classes. **Dates TBA**

## Session #4 – Presentation of the Our Father – **Sunday, Feb. 6, 2022 at 9:00 am Mass**

Children will learn about the meaning of the Our Father and the place it holds in both worship and private prayer for Catholics. Parents and children attend this Mass together and are invited to serve as liturgical ministers. Extended family welcomed and encouraged to attend.

**Session # 5 – Celebration of First Reconciliation – February 23, 6:30-7:30pm.**

Children and parents will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation together in the context of a family friendly prayer service. Feel free to invite extended family members.

**Note:** Each family is asked to bring a loaf of bread (sweet or savory, homemade or store-bought). The bread will be blessed, exchanged with another family.

**Session # 6 – First Eucharist Retreat - Choose one of the two options**

**Option 1: Live event on Saturday, April 9, 2021 from 2:30-5:00 pm at Holy Family**

An afternoon packed with various activities / presentations that will focus on preparing ourselves to receive Jesus, a “Last Supper” skit, practice receiving Communion, getting our altar cloth ready, etc. Children attend this session as a class (with their catechist/teacher). Parents volunteer to help run the session are needed.

**Option 2: An online format families can do at home at their own pace.**

This format includes pre-recorded video presentations families watch together, projects families complete together and prayer experiences for families to do at home.

**MANY, MANY hands are needed to make this session work – let us know how YOU can help.**

**Don't forget to sign up for your child's Mass role (readers, gift bearers, etc.)**

**Celebrations of First Communion**

**Large Group Celebrations**

**Saturday, April 30, 2022 at 10:30am**  
(rehearsal **Thursday April 28 at 6:30 pm**)

**Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 10:30am**  
(rehearsal **Thursday, May 5 at 6:30 pm**)

**Regular weekend Masses**

**Plan on arriving 30 minutes early for a rehearsal**

**Saturday, April 30, at the 5 pm Mass**

**Sunday, May 1 at the 9am Mass**

**Sunday, May 1 at the 11 am Mass**