

General Information

First Reconciliation and Communion

Background of First Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation can be traced back to John 20:21-23 where Jesus gives the Apostles the gift of forgiving sins. Jesus, our savior, healed and forgave even the worst of sinners. Up until the 6th Century, Christians could only receive "Penance" once and usually just before death. After the 6th Century, Christians could receive "Penance" as often as needed. In the Middle Ages another shift occurred. Christians could be reconciled immediately after confessing. Today we celebrate the "Sacrament of Reconciliation". The emphasis is on healing and being reconciled with God, ourselves, and one another. We now celebrate our personal experience of our loving and merciful God!

Background of First Eucharist

The Eucharist is the central celebration and the heart of Christian life. The Eucharist grew out of a tradition of great importance to Jesus, the Passover Meal. For the Jewish people, the Passover Meal celebrates their intimate relationship with God. God saved their ancestors from slavery. The Jewish families thank God for their many blessings. They also look forward to a relationship with God, which grows deeper everyday. The meal is a sign of oneness with God and with God's people. For Christians, the Eucharistic meal echoes these same themes: we acknowledge our dependence on God, who saves us from sin. We thank God for the many gifts we receive and we become one with God and the Church community when we share in the Eucharistic meal.

Partnership with Families

Our Parish works to support families during Sacramental Preparation. We encourage parents to teach by example. Be forgiving and loving, a true model of our Lord. Help your children learn the difference between right and wrong. Participate in the life of the parish by attend Liturgy, going to reconciliation and receiving Communion. Explain the parts of the Liturgy to your children. Talk about the readings and the homily. Celebrate meals together as a family. Children live what they learn and see everyday. The catechists and teachers can only build on what is taught in your home. Please help us to be partners in preparing your child for first Reconciliation and Communion.

Saint Patrick Sacramental Preparation

In accordance with Diocesan Policies, Saint Patrick Sacramental Preparation requires the following:

1. Completion of all take home assignments
2. Attendance at all sacramental classes on Zoom
3. Learning prayers at home: The Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, and Act of Contrition
4. Regular participation in weekly Mass / watching weekly Mass via livestream
5. Participation in all special sacramental preparation events.

Important Dates to Remember:

First Reconciliation

Parent Meeting: Packet is attached

Zoom Classes (all are required; link will be sent via text/Remind):

January 17, 31; February 14, 28 @ 1:00 –2:00 pm

Sacrament: March 6, 10:00 am in Church

(See attached for specific guidelines)

First Communion

Retreat (Chalice Making): To Be Announced

Zoom Classes (all are required; link will be sent via text/Remind):

March 14, 28; April 18, 25 @ 1:00 – 2:00 pm

Rehearsal: May 2 (1 pm in Church)

Sacrament: May 9, 11:00 a.m.

