

# **ST. MICHAEL PARISH**

## **First Penance and First Communion Schedule**

### **2009/2010**

#### **for St. Michael School Children**

While preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist are addressed in the Catholic school curriculum of Religious studies for grade two students, the responsibility of providing parent meetings for both Sacraments, a retreat for the First Communion children and preparation of the liturgies falls under the duties of the parish Religious Education program.

Bringing the children together for these wonderful celebrations of Sacraments enhances our parish community and is a testimony to the unity we experience as a whole community of believers.

The following services are provided to the parents and children of St. Michael's School:

#### **PARENTS MEETINGS**

These meetings give us the opportunity to communicate with parents of our second grade children and to explain the current Church teaching and Archdiocesan guidelines regarding First Reconciliation and Eucharist. Therefore, parents are required to attend two (2) parents meeting during the year:

Meetings for the parents of St. Michael School students are held in the Grade 2 classroom on the following dates:

**First Penance Parent Meeting: Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2:30 - 3:30 pm**

**First Communion Parent Meeting: Tuesday, February 9<sup>rd</sup> from 2:30 - 3:30 pm**

In the event that a parent cannot attend one of these meetings in the afternoon, please contact the parish Religious Education office to schedule an appointment. We will be happy to accommodate your schedule.

#### **FIRST PENANCE - Saturday, December 5 at 11:00 a.m.** (upper church)

St. Michael School students traditionally participate in our 11 a.m. celebration of First Penance. However, the parish also holds a service at 1:00 p.m. Parents are welcome to switch times to convenience busy family schedules if needed.

#### **FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT:** (gym)

**Saturday, March 20 from 12 noon to 5:00 p.m.** (ends at the 4:00 p.m. Mass)

**or Sunday, March 21 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** (begins at the 9:00 a.m. Mass)

All First Communion children are required to attend one day of retreat. This special day offers an opportunity for the parish school children to join with the children of the parish Religious Education program to experience the fullness of their parish community.

The children will enjoy activities, games, music, prayer, lessons on how to receive the host and more. Lunch, including pizza, soda and a snack is provided.

#### **FIRST COMMUNION REHEARSAL:** Thursday, April 22, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Most rehearsals for the parish school children will take place during school hours. However, since they will be joining with a group of children from the Religious Education Program on First Communion day, it will be necessary to bring all the children together for this one rehearsal.

#### **FIRST COMMUNION DAY - Sunday, April 25, 1:00 p.m.**

St. Michael's parish celebrates First Communion on four consecutive Sundays in 2010, from April 25<sup>th</sup> to May 16<sup>th</sup>. We invite the parish school children to celebrate First Communion on April 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. However, if this date causes a problem for your family, you are welcome to contact the Religious Education Office (978-562-7662) to request one of the other dates.

We look forward to working with the children of St. Michael School First Communion class of 2010. Please feel free to contact the parish Religious Education Office if you have any questions or if we can be of service in any way.

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