

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

EUCHARIST - FIRST COMMUNION:

First Communion is celebrated in the spring of each year. Two years of preparation is necessary to properly prepare children for this sacrament. Therefore, children should be enrolled in the program at the beginning of grade one to receive First Communion at the end of grade two.

A special program is available for children who have not participated in a religious education program for grade one. Children are enrolled in this class with the understanding that parents will cooperate fully in attempting to prepare the children for First Communion in one year. Enrollment into this program will be permitted only at the discretion of the program director in collaboration with the pastor.

Older children (grade three and up) who are in need of First Communion will be placed in their appropriate grade level and will be prepared in special classes during the school year. Every effort will be made to help older children feel comfortable and welcome in preparing for and receiving this most important sacrament.

Parents of all children in any of the above programs are required to attend one meeting prior to First Communion.

RECONCILIATION - FIRST PENANCE:

First Penance is celebrated in November or December of each year for grade two students. Students of any grade level can make First Penance at any time throughout the school year after being properly prepared by a catechist or parent.

Parents of children preparing for Reconciliation for the first time are required one meeting prior to First Penance.

CONFIRMATION:

Confirmation is celebrated in the spring of each year. Since our high school program is non-graded, preparation for Confirmation can take over a period of one to four years, depending on the student's willingness and ability to make a serious commitment to the program and to the parish. Candidates work with their Confirmation catechists, sponsors and parents in determining their readiness for this sacrament.