

Dear Parents, 5/20/19

 This is a very special sacramental year for your child. Please take some time to read the following information in regards to Sacramental Preparation in the Fall and Spring of this year.

**What Is It?**

At this time in your child’s life, they will begin to understand and experience two immensely meaningful and fulfilling sacraments: First Reconciliation and First Communion. Your child will begin to have a more developed understanding of Christ’s sacrifice and therefore a deeper connection and personal relationship with God. At this time, the Church extends an invitation to them that will allow them to participate in self-reflection through First Reconciliation in the Fall. In the Spring, they will experience spiritual nourishment through First Eucharist.

 I want you to know that I am here to help you through each step in this process. In order to make sure your child is well prepared to begin Sacramental Preparation, it is essential that they have previously received the sacrament of Baptism. If you are interested in entering the Catholic faith, or you would like to have your child baptized, please contact Sabina Carter, Director of Christian Formation at scarter@hffdl.org.

**Communication and Information**

The Sacramental Preparation Program will begin with First Reconciliation at the end of September. Before the first, and every meeting continuously throughout the year, reminders will be placed in the e-Ledger: please make it a priority to check the e-Ledger to ensure that you do not miss any of these important meetings. These meetings will also be advertised in the Holy Family bulletin, which will be available either at Mass or online. Another resource available on the Holy Family website is the Sacramental Preparation calendar. The **primary source of information** is the Holy Family App where reminders, updates, and class cancellations will be posted.

 As the calendar on the reverse of this page shows, there are a series of family meetings and parent only meetings for the sacrament of Reconciliation in the months of September through December. This is because the sacrament of Reconciliation is a prerequisite for the sacrament of First Communion. Then, in the months of January through April the process begins again with meetings for First Communion. In April, rehearsals are held for each specific Mass the week before the celebration of the sacrament.

**When to Register**

Please remember that registration opens on July 7 and the **last day to register is October 10**. **No** **late registrations will be accepted** as the priest team wants to ensure that your child has enough time to fully prepare for and reflect on these two sacraments. The form will be removed from the website at the end of the day on October 10 so if you attempt to register after that, you will be advised that you will have to wait until next year. This program is online registration only so please visit our website for the link and the calendar.

 If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to helping you and your child through this exciting time.

Blessings,

Amanda Cords

Elementary/Middle Formation Coordinator

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(920) 921-0580 ext. 133

**2019-2020 SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION CALENDAR**

\*REGISTRATION CLOSES 10/10/19

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| **Reconciliation Meetings** | **Who should attend?** | **Where?** |
| **Meeting #1**Three options are provided for you. Please select the date that will best suit your schedule.**September 28 (3pm)****September 29 (9am)****October 14 (4pm)** | Parent and/or parents and the child enrolled. | Holy Family Hall271 Fourth Street Way |
| **Meeting #2**There is only one time available for this meeting.Childcare is available, contact Amanda Cords in advance.**November 13 (6:30pm)** | Parent/s only. | Sacred Heart Church200 S. Peters Avenue |
| **Meeting #3**Three options are provided for you. Please select the date that will best suit your schedule.**November 23 (3pm)****November 24 (9am)****November 25 (4pm)** | Parent and/or parents and the child enrolled. | Holy Family Hall271 Fourth Street Way |
| **Reconciliation Night**(Optional)This event is held specifically for the students enrolled in the Sacramental Preparation program. It is a night that requires students to rotate through different stations throughout the two hours. If you choose not to attend this night, you must take your child to receive their First Reconciliation on your own time as it is a prerequisite to First Communion. Additional Reconciliation times can be found on the website.**December 6 (6pm-8pm)** | Parent and/or parents and the child enrolled. | Sacred Heart Church and School200 S. Peters Avenue\*We will begin in the church with a prayer service. |
| **Communion Meetings** | **Who should attend?** | **Where?** |
| **Meeting #1**Three options are provided for you. Please select the date that will best suit your schedule.**January 11 (3pm)****January 12 (9am)****January 13 (4pm)** | Parent and/or parents and the child enrolled. | Holy Family Hall271 Fourth Street Way |
| **Meeting #2**There is only one time available for this meeting.Childcare is available, contact Amanda Cords in advance.**January 29 (6:30pm)** | Parent/s only. | Sacred Heart Church200 S. Peters Avenue |
| **Jesus Day**Please attend the Jesus Day that corresponds with your child’s last name. This is a special retreat time for you and your child to grow in preparation and understanding of the sacrament of the Eucharist. (A-K) **February 22 (9a-11a)**(L-Z) **March 21 (1p-3p)***(en espanol)* ***March 21 (9a-11a)*** | Parent and/or parents and the child enrolled. | Sacred Heart Church and School200 S. Peters Avenue\*We will begin in the church.  |
| **Mass Location/Time** | **Mass Date** | **Rehearsal** |
| Holy Family (4:15pm) | Saturday, April 25 | Monday, April 30 (6:30pm) at Holy Family |
| Holy Family (10:15am) | Sunday, April 26 | Thursday, April 23 (6:30pm) at Holy Family |
| Sacred Heart (4:00pm) | Saturday, May 2 | Friday, May 1 (6:30pm) at Sacred Heart |
| St. Peter (4:00pm) | Saturday, May 2 | Tuesday, April 28 (6:30pm) at St. Peter |
| St. Mary (9:30am) | Sunday, May 3 | Thursday, April 30 (6:30pm) at St. Mary |
| **Spanish** Mass at Holy Family (Noon) | Sunday, May 10 | Thursday, May 7 (6:30pm) at Holy Family |