

## Sacramental News

### First Holy Communion:

First Holy Communion will be May 5th during the 11am Mass.

First Communicants will attend a retreat on **Sunday, April 28th 9:45-2:30pm**. The retreat begins with class for students at 9:45 where they will continue their instruction. The retreat continues as kids and families attend 11am Mass together. The students will take part in the liturgy. Following Mass, families are invited to the hall to share a meal together. We invite parents, siblings, grandparent, godparents, etc. to share in the meal as faith is something which begins and is shared in **families!** Following lunch, we ask that at least one parent (or other adult) stay with the child for the duration of the retreat. There will be activities that you will do together with your child and some that are separate for our own spiritual enrichment. The day will conclude at approximately 2:30pm.

### First Reconciliation:

First Reconciliation will happen at the conclusion of the retreat on April 28th.

First Reconciliation students will attend a retreat on **Sunday, April 28th 9:45-2:30pm**. The retreat begins with class for students at 9:45 where they will continue their instruction. The retreat continues as 2nd and 3rd grade students and families attend 11am Mass together. The students will take an active part in the liturgy. Following Mass, families are invited to the hall to share a meal together. We invite parents, siblings, grandparent, godparents, etc. to share in the meal as faith is something which begins and is shared in **families!** Following lunch, we ask that at least one parent (or other adult) stay with the child for the duration of the retreat. There will be activities that you will do together with your child and some that are separate for our own spiritual enrichment. Fr. Jim will begin hearing their confessions at approximately 2:15pm. Parents and family members are invited to return at 2:15pm to sit with their child in the church proper as their child prepares to make their First Reconciliation. We encourage parents to bring a small gift to celebrate God's mercy bestowed on us through this most beautiful Sacrament. Once they have made their first confession, you may take your child home and their religious instruction is done for the year.

### Confirmation:

**Confirmation Forms including Saint and sponsors due March 25. You can download and print them from our website if you misplaced yours.**

**Confirmation retreat:** Note date change: Confirmation retreat will be held on Saturday, **March 16th from 9:30-5:00** at St. Raphael Parish at 3840 Macklem Avenue in Niagara Falls. The keynote speaker will be Carrie Ford and the theme will be the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Confirmation parents are welcome to attend Mass with their child at 4pm and may take their child home following Mass. Otherwise, pick up is at 5pm.

**Interview:** Fr. Jim would like to take an opportunity to meet with each candidate, answer any questions they might have and simply talk to them about their faith and their faith journey. Fr. Jim will be hosting interviews, **April 27** from 2-3:15 and then after Mass from 5:15-6:30. Please call or email Laurie with your time preference and we will do our best to accommodate your schedule. Interviews usually last 15-20 minutes.

**Confirmation:** The date of Confirmation is Weds. May 15<sup>th</sup>. Students and their sponsors are asked to arrive at the church at 6:15.

**Confirmation rehearsal: TBD**