

Dear families of our First Holy Communicants,

There has been a slight change in First Communion preparations. Fr. Jim would prefer that we not have traditional classes at this time. Due to the large class size and the need to stay socially distant, it is difficult for us to ensure that all safety measures will be followed with such a young age group.

Therefore, there will not be having class on Sept 13, 20 or 27. As an alternative, we would like to host a mini retreat on Saturday, September 26th from 9:30am-noon. We are asking one parent (grandparent or godparent) to attend with their child. By having parents there, we can all work together to ensure safety while preparing our youth for First Holy Communion.

To begin, we will meet in the church proper. From there, students will be given a schedule with various activities throughout the building. This will keep us separate, but together:) For example, one or two families may be in the fellowship hall making their pew banners while another family is in the church proper learning about the parts of the Mass, while another is in the classroom reviewing how to make a good confession. All families will rotate through activities and we will conclude in the church proper at 11:45 for a small rehearsal to prepare for First Holy Communion which is on October 4th at 1:00pm:)

I want to thank you for your patience and understanding. If you are unable to attend, just let me know and we can make other arrangements. In the words of Fr. Jim, "flexibility is the key to air power!" Thanks for being flexible.

God bless,
Laurie Muth

****Please reply that you received this email****

FAQ's

Q. How many family members can attend? A. We are asking each family to have no more than 10 guests on average.

Q. What should my child wear? A. It is traditional for girls to wear a white dress and boys to wear a suit or dress pants and shirt.

Q. What should I do to ready my child for First Holy Communion?

A. Two things: 1. Please arrange for your child go to confession, either at IC or another local Catholic church. Fr. Jim has offered to hear confessions on the retreat day from noon on. Additionally, Fr. Jim hears confessions on Wednesdays from 5:45-6:20pm, on Saturdays from 3:15-3:45pm, or by appointment. When we receive Christ in the Eucharist, we become a living temple and Christ resides in us! Therefore, it is important to instill in them the importance of

being free from sin prior to receiving. 2. Remind your child to fast 1 hour before receiving Holy Eucharist.

Helpful videos to prepare your child:

Blessed First Communion Session 1: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/blessed/first-communion/program-view/session-1>

Blessed First Communion Session 2: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/blessed/first-communion/program-view/session-2>

Blessed First Communion Session 3: <https://dynamiccatholic.com/blessed/first-communion/program-view/session-3>

Watch Session 4 and 5 on the Dynamic Catholic website

Video: How to go to confession https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eQTcUAWzF_U

Video: How to examine your conscious
<http://amazingcatechists.com/2014/11/examination-of-conscience-for-kids/>