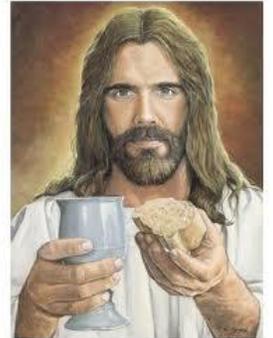


“FAQ’S” FOR PARENTS OF FIRST COMMUNION CHILDREN

ST. PATRICK PARISH

Please check our parish website frequently for any posted information during the coming months of preparation. This can be found under “First Penance/ Eucharist” at <http://bit.ly/Par3nts>

Eucharist Family Gathering for all First Communion Candidates and their parents will be held on Saturday, March 7th beginning with 9:00 mass and ending at 11:30. A morning of activities and reflection to focus our hearts on the Sacrament of Eucharist.



When are the practices?

Practice #1: March 28th

12:30 to 1:30 for group 1 (April 25) and group 2 (April 26)

1:45 to 2:45 for group 3 (May 2) and group 4 (May 3)

Practice #2

Wednesday, April 22nd 1:00-2:30 (for April 25th 5:00 mass group)

Thursday, April 23rd 1:00-2:30 (for April 26th 10:30 mass group)

Wednesday, April 29th 1:00-2:30 (for May 2nd 5:00 mass group)

Thursday, April 30th 1:00-2:30 (for May 3rd 10:30 mass group)

Where are the practices? in the church

What should children wear for First Holy Communion?

Being that First Communion is a Sacrament of Initiation, as is Baptism, the color of “white” has traditionally been associated with First Holy Communion, as it is with Baptism. However, over the years, other options have also become acceptable. It is always important whenever we attend Mass to be dressed in our “Sunday best” to honor the presence of our Lord, Jesus!

Here are some suggestions....

Girls should wear a dress and dress shoes. White, or dress with some white in it, would be appropriate. If the dress is sleeveless, a little sweater or shrug may be worn, especially if it is chilly.

(Veils or floral head-pieces are also appropriate, but not mandatory.)

Boys should wear a jacket and tie but they may be of any color. Boys may wear either suits or a sport coat with slacks and dress shirt and shoes. (In keeping with the theme of white for a Sacrament of Initiation, it is appropriate for a boy to wear a white tie if you so choose.)

Girls and Boys: No sneakers, please!

Also, please no gloves, flowers, corsages, pocketbooks, prayer books or rosaries with the children during mass. Please hold for them until after mass.

How long will the Mass be?

This will be a regularly scheduled Sunday Mass that will *probably* last about an hour or a little less. The Saturday evening 5:00 mass is the *Vigil Mass* for Sunday, which means it is the same liturgy as celebrated on Sunday morning. Saturday evening Vigil masses are considered Sunday masses. So, we also refer to that as a “Sunday Mass.”

When and where do the children need to be at church?

All children should report to the Lower Level of the church **20 minutes before their Communion Mass** is scheduled to begin. At the beginning of Mass the children will enter the Church from the lower hall in procession. *The children will be sitting as a group in the first few pews.*

Where does my family sit?

Each family will have a reserved family pew which will *seat 4 people*. Seating will be available in the non-reserved sections for guests not able to join you in your family-pew. (Remember, too, this is a *parish* Sunday liturgy and parishioners will also be in attendance at the mass.)

Will there be a photographer available?

Yes, a photographer will be present during the Mass to take photos of the children receiving their First Communion and other photos during the Mass. Each Communicant’s family will receive a coupon code for 2 digital images from the photo gallery on a password protected website. These 2 images are complimentary.

First Communion portraits will be taken on March 29th by Bradley Digital photography for those parents who wish to use this. The portraits will be taken in St. Patrick's church. Specific information will be forwarded to you from Bradley Digital.

*****Any special considerations...**

There are low gluten hosts available for anyone who has gluten intolerance. Please call the office for details or with any other concern (610-296-8899).

Thank you!

