

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – 2011-12
Updated 8-3-11

Sacramental First Reconciliation and First Communion are normally prepared for and celebrated as families in the parish. Second and third grade children and their families are involved. We also provide a special family preparation session for older children and youth who have not yet celebrated these sacraments. We call this preparation the Right of Christian Initiation for (older) Children (RCIC). RCIC families follow a different schedule. However, all First Communicants celebrate the two rituals and First Communion together with the community.

Preparations for second and third grade children take place from September through April during the regular Wednesday night Religious Education sessions. There are 3 family sessions – 2 having to do with First Reconciliation and the other 1 with First Communion. There is 1 ritual which takes place with the church community. Each family is expected to meet for a family interview with Fr. Curt. Each family is expected to take home the traveling chalice for a week. The traveling chalice is a way for families to focus on vocations of service within the church. And the children participate in a “joyful time of waiting” (2-session Retreat) the week prior to First Communion.

Please mark your calendars well in advance for the activities and commitments listed below. Keep this schedule posted on your refrigerator and let us know about any conflicts or concerns.

PREPARATION, RITUALS, AND CELEBRATION DATES AND TIMES

Wednesday, January 18, 2012

Family Session #1 – 6:30 p.m.

Families participating at the 4:30 session will need to attend this 6:30 session instead.

Video for parents and children together in the library – Review of Reconciliation followed by adult discussion group with Fr. Curt

Wednesday, February 1

During their regular class time, Fr. Curt practices Reconciliation with the children

Saturday, February 4

Family Session #2 – 2:00 p.m.

Sacramental First Reconciliation for the children

Sunday, March 18

Ritual #1 (Receive Bibles and Candles) – 9:15 a.m. Mass

Family Session #3 – 10:15 a.m. – Make family banners in room 202

Sunday, April 29

Children's Retreat – 12:00 noon - 3:00 p.m. – Kentucky Fried Chicken for lunch

Day #1 – The family celebrates Sunday Mass together at 11:00 a.m. The Retreat begins with a special children's lunch. Parents are free to leave after dropping the children off after Mass. Please return at 3:00 p.m. to pick up your children.

Wednesday, May 2

Children's Retreat – 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. – Hot dogs and macaroni and cheese for supper

Day #2 – The children profess their faith with Fr. Curt, share a meal, and participate in a meditation on the Parable of the Leaven. The children reflect on the Mass and rehearse for the Saturday evening ceremony.



