

St. Mary Church
Sacramental Preparation Policy
First Reconciliation and First Eucharist
2 year Program

The requirements for your child to receive his/her First Reconciliation (First Confession) and First Eucharist (First Holy Communion) at St. Mary Church are stated below.

1. A student must attend a religious education program approved by the pastor for two full years prior to reception of the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Excellent attendance is expected. If your child attended religious education classes in another parish or at a catholic school, please provide a letter from your former parish or school principal stating that your child attended classes.
2. The preparation process for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist begins in grade one during the month of September and concludes in grade two at the end of April. Each student is allowed four (4) absences in grade one and three (3) absences in grade two. And, for each class that is missed, the work must be made up and returned to the religious education coordinator within two weeks of the missed classes.
3. A student must attend Mass regularly.
4. A student entering the program as a second grader or older, and having received no previous formal religious education classes, will be placed in the first year of the program. After successfully completing both years of the program, the student will then be placed in his/her age appropriate grade the following September.
5. A copy of a child's Baptismal Certificate must be provided to the Office of Religious Education no later than December 1st. If your child was baptized at St. Mary's you do not need to supply a copy of the Baptismal Certificate; it is already on file with us.
6. The Coordinator of Religious Education will hold four parent/guardian meetings during the second year of preparation. These meetings are to share important information in order to support parents/guardians in their role as their child's primary teacher of the faith. These meetings are mandatory.
7. Students who have not been baptized must meet with a priest along with their parents/guardians before entering the religious education program.

If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact me or the pastor.

Blessings,

Kathy Canfield
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