



The Roman Catholic Churches of  
Holy Name of Jesus, North Bay  
St. Alphonsus Liguori, Callander

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Holy Name of Jesus, North Bay

October 7, 2020

St. Alphonsus Liguori, Callander

## Sacraments of First Reconciliation & First Eucharist

Dear Parents/Guardians,

What a year! We are in the midst of different times, and hope that you and your families have remained safe. Each year, our parish community prepares students in Grade 2 and older for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. These are important moments in the spiritual development of your child. Through these Sacraments your child will first come to know God's forgiveness and loving mercy, and then be able to receive the real presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Eucharist.

We usually prepare our students for First Reconciliation over the Fall, and then continue in the new year with First Communion. We have decided to prepare our young people differently this year – but still offer the opportunity to receive these Sacraments.

**Sacrament of First Reconciliation (Confession):** This year, we ask that you help your child prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation from home. You can either pick up your child's preparation booklet, or we can mail it to you. We will provide updates for you and a checklist of where you should be in your preparation. Then, individual appointments to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession) will be scheduled for each child with Fr. Daniele this December 2020.

**Sacrament of First Eucharist (Communion):** In January 2021, we will re-assess where we are at in our current situation. If we feel comfortable welcoming our young people for in-person preparations at the church for First Communion in the new year, we will schedule those dates and notify you. If not, we may continue with at-home preparation.

**Who can register?** Our parish community invites young people in **Grades 2 and older** to register for these sacraments. By completing a registration form, your child will be registered for **both** sacraments.

**How do I register?** Registration is only available online on our parish website ([www.holynamestalphonsus.com/sacraments](http://www.holynamestalphonsus.com/sacraments))

**Baptism Certificate:** Each candidate **MUST** provide a **baptismal certificate** to the parish. If your child was baptized at Holy Name of Jesus or St. Alphonsus Liguori, their baptismal record will already be on file at the parish, and no further action from you is required. If your child was baptized at another church (Catholic or otherwise), you need to provide us with a copy of their Baptismal Certificate. If you have a copy of it, you can simply scan it or take a picture of it and email it to our parish office ([holynamestalphonsus@ssmd.ca](mailto:holynamestalphonsus@ssmd.ca)). If you do not have a copy, you have to contact the church where they were baptized and request a copy.

*Please know that if you as a family decide not to participate in the Sacrament Preparation this year, we will joyfully welcome your child next year. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to call or email the parish office.*

**Registration Deadline: October 30, 2020**

**We look forward to journeying with you in this new way in preparation of the beautiful Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.**