

# First Communion/Reconciliation Preparation Packet



## Anchorage, AK

2021-2022

Director of Catechetical Ministry, Mary Allison  
[mallison@st.patsak.org](mailto:mallison@st.patsak.org)

Sundays, 9:45am to 11:15am

## Introduction

Congratulations! You are preparing your child for his or her First Communion and Reconciliation!

This packet is designed to inform and prepare you for the sacramental preparation process. Each step is designed to follow the Archdiocesan norms.

Sacramental preparation is a two year process that requires a little more from families than other years of faith formation. As a parent, you are responsible for ensuring that your child completes all of the necessary steps before receiving the Sacrament.

This packet and First Communion/Reconciliation preparation is made in line with the Archdiocesan norms. Children should be 7 years old, or older, when receiving their First Communion.

**The safety of our children, our volunteers, our parents, and our staff are always our top priority.** Parents are always welcome in class and have the right to know what we are teaching your child. All volunteers and staff members are required to take Safe Environment training and pass a background check. They are also individually and group trained on a variety of other safety measures. If you ever have concerns or questions about your or your child's safety, please contact Mary immediately. You also have the right to report any abuse you see to law enforcement and/or the Archdiocesan Director of Safe Environment, Jenny Michaelson (907-297-7736) or the Victim Assistance Coordinator (907-297-7786).

If at any point in time you have questions, concerns, or comments, please reach out to Mary Allison, Director of Catechetical Ministry (DCM) at [mallison@st.patsak.org](mailto:mallison@st.patsak.org).

**Due to our facility and registration situation, we are combining 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade this year. 1<sup>st</sup> grade students are completing their first year and will return next year to complete their second year of preparation. 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will receive their 1<sup>st</sup> Communion at the end of the year. 1<sup>st</sup> grade families are strongly encouraged to attend that Mass in support of your child's classmates.**

# ***COMBINED CLASS***

## **Available Options**

### Conventional Faith Formation

Combined 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will complete the 1<sup>st</sup> grade text *Our Heavenly Father, Faith and Life*. A calendar will be provided at the beginning of the year. Parents should read the chapter with their child at home before the class and sign in the corresponding location. We will, throughout the year, randomly check the calendars and reward students with signatures with a surprise of some kind (often a donut and/or other appropriate gift).

We ask that you do not staple or otherwise mark up at the book, as your child will return it at the end of the year.

Sacramental preparation is supplemented with *Believe, Celebrate, Live* in the class.

### Home/Catholic School

For the first year of sacramental preparation, parents may choose to teach their child at home. In this case, parents will work through the book via *My Catholic Faith Delivered* online with their child. Second grade students must attend in person.

Children enrolled in Catholic school may count their religious education in school toward their first year of sacramental preparation.

### Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS)

Some families may choose to enroll their child into Catechesis of the Good Shepherd (CGS). Those children follow a separate style and curriculum for sacramental preparation.

## **Materials**

All 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> graders will receive a Bible. Families are encouraged to complete the 4 reading plans found in the back of the Bible.

2<sup>nd</sup> graders will receive a copy of *Mass in my Pocket*.

Parents are encouraged to complete *Presence* and *Forgiven* on Formed.org. Both include a video to watch with your child. Feel free to explore the movie section for family friendly movies and tv shows!

## **1<sup>st</sup> Grade Paperwork**

**Baptismal Certificate:** A copy of the student's baptismal certificate is due to Mary no later than *Saturday, April 2, 2022*. Copies should be emailed to [mallison@st.patsak.org](mailto:mallison@st.patsak.org) via scan, picture from smart phone, or PDF. Copies must be legible.

If your child was baptized at St. Patrick's, please be sure to email Mary the date (month/year).

\*\*\*Please note: a child cannot receive his/her First Communion without a copy of his/her baptismal certificate.

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Paperwork**

If you have not yet submitted a copy of your child's baptismal certificate, it is due **NO LATER THAN Saturday, September 26, 2021.**

## **Additional Requirements**

Second grade students are also required to attend a First Reconciliation workshop and a First Communion workshop with a parent.

**November 17, 2021 6:30pm-7:30pm:** First Reconciliation Workshop

**February 23, 2022 6:30pm-7:30pm:** First Communion Workshop

**First Reconciliation:** Saturday, March 26, 2022 (Time TBD)

**First Communion:** Sunday, May 8, 2022, 8am Mass

All families are expected to regularly attend Sunday Mass.

# ***Faith Formation Policies***

## **Attendance**

Children are expected to attend each class and all sacramental workshops. Two absences are permitted, barring emergencies. **We ask that parents bring children directly to their classroom and pick them in their classroom for safety's sake.**

We do ask that parents go to <https://stpatricks8.flocknote.com/signup/60651> to sign up to bring snacks. Please be sure to sign up for a couple classes. Snacks should be nut, gluten, and mess free!

## Communication

All communication will come from Flocknote, except for submitting baptismal certificates. Pictures of baptismal certificates should be emailed to [mallison@st.patsak.org](mailto:mallison@st.patsak.org).

Please text “ireland” to **84576** to join our Flocknote group. Be sure to join the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion group. All reminders, emergency notifications, etc. will be sent via Flocknote. Should we need to cancel class for any reason, we will notify you via Flocknote.



# Prayers to Memorize

## **Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
On earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
As we forgive those who trespass against us,  
And lead us not into temptation  
But deliver us from evil. Amen.

## **Hail Mary**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with  
you.  
Blessed are you among women, and blest is  
the fruit of your womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us  
sinners,  
Now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

## **Glory Be**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and  
to the Holy Spirit;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever  
shall be,  
World without end. Amen.

## **Act of Contrition (Contemporary)**

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my  
heart.  
In choosing to do wrong and failing to do  
good,  
I have sinned against you whom I should  
love above all things.  
I firmly intend, with your help, to do  
penance, to sin no more,  
and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.  
Amen.

## **Act of Contrition (Traditional)**

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having  
offended Thee, and I detest all my sins  
because of thy just punishments, but most of  
all because they offend Thee, my God, who  
art all good and deserving of all my love.  
I firmly resolve with the help of Thy grace  
to sin no more and to avoid the near  
occasion of sin. Amen

## **Grace Before Meals**

Bless us, oh Lord,  
And these, thy gifts,  
Which we are about to receive  
From thy bounty,  
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

## **Guardian Angel Prayer**

Angel of God,  
My guardian dear,  
To whom God's love  
Commits me here  
Ever this day  
Be at my side  
To light and guard,  
To rule and guide. Amen.