

## **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION and RECONCILIATION**

Welcome to St. Basil's Parish. You have chosen to have your child receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Communion at our parish. Below are some facts that will help you guide your child through the process.

The Catholic Church teaches that the sacrament of Holy Eucharist is the true presence of Jesus Christ: body, blood, soul and divinity.

### **Who may receive the Sacrament?**

- Any baptized Catholic who has reached the age of reason (in Canada it is usually in Grade 2) or older
- All children from our parish family of schools- Christ the King, St. Basil, St. Gabriel as well as any other children who are members of our parish community

### **What if my child is not a baptized Catholic?**

- It is not too late!
- Please contact the parish office and make an appointment to speak with the pastor
- The office number is 519-752-0361

### **Who prepares my child to receive the Sacrament?**

- The parent(s) are the main faith educators of their children
- The parish and the Catholic school support the parent(s)

### **What if my child does not attend a Catholic school?**

- Please contact the parish office for additional materials to help you prepare your child for the reception of the sacraments

### **What should my child wear?**

- Good Sunday dress is the norm
- Some girls choose to wear white dresses and veils; this is the custom not the norm.
- Boys may wear suits and ties but again, this is custom not norm
- Remember good Sunday church clothes and shoes are the norm

### **What about pictures?**

- Mass is the most sacred prayer in the life of a Catholic, Therefore, pictures during Mass are not permitted
- The church and Father will be available after Mass for your personal family photos

### **What do we need to do on the day of the celebration?**

- Arrive at the church at least 20-30 minutes ahead of time and check in
- Seating is reserved for First communicants but not for the entire family so come early to get a good seat! ????
- Parking at the church is at a premium so please use the lot. Also, obey other signs regard to street parking
- As with any Sunday Mass, there will be an Offertory collection
- Certificates??

**Important dates that I need to put in my calendar**

**October 20, 2019**

First Communion Packages will be made available in the church

**December 29, 2019**

Last Day for registration form submissions at Mass

Saturday, 5:00pm; Sunday 9:30 am or 11:30 am

**Wednesday, March 25, 2020**

Celebration of the Sacrament of First Reconciliation

7:00 pm at St. Basil's Church

**May 16, 2020**

First Communion Rehearsal

10:00 am at St. Basil's Church

**May 16, 2020**

St. Gabriel's First Communion Celebration

5:00pm Mass, St. Basil's Church

**May 17, 2020**

Christ the King and St. Basil's

First Communion Celebration

11:00 am Mass, St. Basil's Church