

Dear Parents of First Communicants,

As your child prepares to make their first confession and to receive Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament, there are a number of things I need to address. I first want to encourage your involvement during your child's time of preparation. Your support and encouragement is vital to your child's faith formation process. Ways to do this can include asking your child what they are learning in class, reviewing lessons with them, praying together as family, and most importantly attending Mass as a family every week.

In addition to your child's every other week classes, I have enclosed a schedule for other important dates. Please make sure to attend all parent meetings and to have your child attend class on a regular basis. The class schedule is available online or at the parish office. This year we will be hosting a short Saturday retreat for all students preparing for First Communion. Please keep the date open on your calendar and make sure your child attends. More details about First Confession and First Communion will be discussed as the dates draw closer.

Regarding the dress code for First Communion, girls often wear a white dress and veil; however, it is not mandatory. A modest spring dress is acceptable. The boys look dashing in dark slacks and white shirt and tie, but again, it is not mandatory. Slacks that are not jeans and a dress shirt are acceptable.

A requirement for your child to receive First Communion is a copy of their baptismal certificate. If they were baptized at Spirit Of Life, indicate that on the registration form and no certificate will be needed. If your child was baptized at another church, call that church and ask them to send us a copy or if you have your child's baptismal certificate, please bring in a photo copy to the office.

Finally, the parish is providing each child with a certificate, a candle, and a First Communion gift set which includes a Rosary, Missal, and Scapular in a vinyl case.

If you have any questions, please me at Spirit of Life (663-1660) or email at [karen@myspiritoflife.com](mailto:karen@myspiritoflife.com) . Know that you and your child will be in my prayers as your child prepares to receive these important sacraments.

In Christ,

Karen Eggers, Director of Religious Education