

# **OLPH Sacramental Preparation First Penance / First Eucharist Essential Information Preparing for the Sacraments**

Jesus Christ is truly present in our midst. The Sacrament of Penance is an encounter with Jesus that forgives sins and restores us to grace. The Eucharist is the most profound way we encounter the real presence of Jesus Christ. In the Archdiocese of Baltimore, children celebrate their First Penance prior to First Eucharist. Many children prepare for and celebrate these sacraments for the first time usually around the age of seven.

## **Is your son or daughter ready for preparation to celebrate these sacraments?**

- Is he/she at least seven years old?
- Has he/she been baptized in the Catholic Church?
- Has he/she been enrolled for at least two years in
  - A Catholic school?
  - A religious education program?

## **If the answer to all three questions is yes, then you can begin the preparation process!**

**Complete the registration form on the next page.** If your child was baptized at OLPH, please indicate the day/month/year. If your child was baptized elsewhere, please provide a copy of the baptism certificate with your registration form.

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Forms and baptism certificates (when required) are due by September 14. Allow time for your baptism certificate to arrive from another parish, if necessary.

There are two parent meetings for each sacrament, and it is expected that parents attend both.

## **Questions?**

Contact Deacon Herman at [hwilkins@archbalt.org](mailto:hwilkins@archbalt.org) or 443-203-1002.

**All registrations and baptism forms are due by September 14.**