



THE COMMUNITY OF THE
Good Shepherd
A CATHOLIC PARISH

Sacramental Guidelines

First Reconciliation & First Eucharist

2019-2020



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(Updated: 7/25/2019)

Guidelines

- Children must be baptized before they make their First Eucharist. If they have been baptized in a different faith, they must be received into the Catholic Church before they receive the sacrament. Please contact Nancy Dallas, Coordinator of Sacramental Preparation & Liturgy of the Word, at 489-8815 ext. 761 to discuss.
- Families need to be registered members of The Community of the Good Shepherd.
- Children must be registered and attending either the Weekly Faith Formation program, or have attended the second grade Summer Faith Formation program.
- Before your child can receive First Eucharist, he/she must have been prepared to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Children should be **at least seven** years old.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Children are ready to receive this Sacrament when they understand the need to say “I am sorry,” are able to accept another's apology and are able to recognize when they hurt others.

First Reconciliation Schedule 2019

Dinner & Presentation

Date: Thursday, October 10

Time: 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Location: Community Room (enter building from outside through door #2 or #3)

Details:

- Parents & children attend the dinner.
- There will be a short presentation for the parents immediately following the dinner while the children enjoy a separate activity.
- Registration will take place for one of the two First Reconciliation workshops at this dinner.

Registration: Please register for the dinner online or in the parish office by **Tuesday, October 8.**



First Reconciliation I (cont.)

First Reconciliation I Workshop

Date: Saturday, October 26

Time: 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Parents do not attend this workshop, but join children at 11:00 a.m. in the church.

Location: Church (enter building from outside through door #1 - main entrance)

Details:

- Children attend **either** workshop I or II, but **not both**.

First Reconciliation II Workshop

Date: Saturday, November 2

Time: 8:30-11:30 a.m.

Parents do not attend this workshop, but join children at **11:00 a.m. in the chapel** (enter building from outside through door #5 or #6).

Location: Church ***Gather in church in the morning at 8:30 a.m.**

(enter building from outside through door #1 - main entrance)

Details:

- Children attend **either** workshop I or II, but **not both**.

Children's First Reconciliation Service

Date: Thursday, November 7

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Church (enter building from outside through door #1 - main entrance)

Details:

- Children and parents are to attend this special First Reconciliation Service.
- If your child is unable to attend the First Reconciliation Service, your child may attend individual confessions which are held on Tuesdays in the church from 5:30-6:15 p.m.

Sacrament of First Eucharist

Children are ready to receive this sacrament once they are carefully prepared so they understand the mystery of Christ according to their capacity and are able to receive the Body of Christ with faith, reverence and devotion. They are to be at least seven years old.

First Eucharist Schedule 2020

Dinner & Presentation

Date: Thursday, February 13

Time: 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Location: Community Room (enter building from outside through door #2 or #3)

Details:

- Parents & children attend the dinner.
- There will be a short presentation for the parents immediately following the dinner while the children enjoy a separate activity.
- Registration will take place for one of the First Eucharist celebrations at this dinner.

Registration: Please register for the dinner online or in the parish office by **Tuesday, February 11.**



First Eucharist (cont.)

First Eucharist I (Celebration Date: Sunday, April 26)

Children **must attend** the following:

* First Eucharist I Workshop/Classes

Date: Saturday, April 4

Time: 9:00 a.m.–12 noon

Location: Church (enter building from outside through door #1 - main entrance)

Details:

- Parents do not attend the workshop.
- Children signing up for the **second First Eucharist celebration** may attend this.

First Eucharist I Retreat

Date: Saturday, April 18

Time: 9:45 a.m.–12 noon

Location: Church (enter building from outside through door #1 - main entrance)

Details:

- **Children receiving First Eucharist on Sunday, April 26 must attend this retreat.**
- Parents **and** children attend this half-day retreat.
- Children, along with their parents, will design their altar cloth, bake bread, meditate on Jesus and practice receiving the Sacrament.

First Eucharist Session I (cont.)

Practice

Date: Saturday, April 25

Time: 8:30-9:15 a.m.

Location: Church (enter building from outside through door #1 - main entrance)

Details:

- **Parents and children** attend this day as the children practice processing into church and practice receiving the Sacrament.

Celebration

Date: Sunday, April 26

Time: 2:00 p.m. (celebration begins)

Children need to arrive at church by 1:40 p.m.

Details:

- This Mass uses the Sunday readings and fulfills your Sunday obligation.



First Eucharist Session II

First Eucharist II Workshop

(Celebration Date: Sunday, May 17)

Date: Mondays, April 20 & 27 and May 4

Time: 6:00–7:15 p.m.

Location: Church (enter building from outside through door #1 - main entrance)

Details:

* These three nights replace the Saturday morning workshop. This option has been made available to help those children involved in Saturday activities. Children **must attend all three** classes.

First Eucharist II Retreat

Date: Saturday, May 9

Time: 9:45 a.m.–12 noon

Location: Church (enter building from outside through door #1 - main entrance)

Details:

- Children receiving First Eucharist on Sunday, May 17 **must attend this retreat.**
- Parents and children attend this half-day retreat.
- Children, along with their parents, will design their altar cloth, bake bread, meditate on Jesus and practice receiving the Sacrament.

Practice

Date: Saturday, May 16

Time: 8:30-9:15 a.m.

Location: Church (enter building from outside through door #1 - main entrance)

Details:

- **Parents and children** attend this day as the children practice processing into church and practice receiving the Sacrament.

Celebration

Date: Sunday, May 17

Time: 2:00 p.m. (celebration begins)

Children need to arrive at church by 1:40 p.m.

Details:

- This Mass uses the Sunday readings and fulfills your Sunday obligation.

First Eucharist (cont.)

Additional First Eucharist Notes

1. Parents are asked to provide a baptismal picture and a current picture of the first communicant. You can submit your child's photos one of two ways:
 - a. Bring photos to church and turn them into Nancy Dallas or bring them to the parish office.
***Please write your child's first and last name on the back of each photo so they can be returned.**
 - b. E-mail digital .JPG photos to nancy.dallas@good-shepherd.org. Please submit digital photos that are crisp, clear and not dark.

Photos need to be turned in no later than the date of the retreat your child is attending.

2. Each child will be given a piece of felt that is 12"x18" to make a banner to be displayed the day of their celebration. They may be vertical or horizontal.
 - a. Please make sure your child puts his/her whole name on the banner.
 - b. Placing pictures on the banner is also wonderful. This helps the community know who is receiving Jesus for the first time.
 - c. Symbols and pictures of Jesus/Eucharist are appropriate.

Banners need to be turned in no later than the date of the practice your child is attending.

3. There are no dress requirements for First Eucharist, but please make sure your child's clothes are appropriate for church and this special day.
4. Pictures and videos are not permitted during Mass. We will have a photographer take a group picture after Mass. We also video tape the celebration. Pictures are \$10.00 each and DVD's are \$15.00 each.