

... all who have a part in the formation of children should consult and work together toward one objective: that even if children already have some feeling for God and the things of God, they may also experience in proportion to their age and personal development the human values that are present in the eucharistic celebration. These values include the community activity, exchange of greetings, capacity to listen and to seek, and grant pardon, expression of gratitude, experience of symbolic actions, a meal of friendship, and festive celebration.”
(Directory for Masses with Children, n. 9)

Welcome to Holy Spirit’s First Holy Communion process!

What an exciting time in your child’s journey of faith! The Sacrament of First Holy Communion – this day is important because of what we call it: *FIRST*. It’s the *first* of many, the *first* of a lifetime of coming to the Eucharistic table with God’s family for your child. During the process, parents will be invited to Parent Participation night, parent meetings, and student/parent retreats. Each piece of the preparation is intended to help you as parents assist your child as they make themselves ready to receive First Holy Communion.

Communion Requirements:

- Families of children preparing for a sacrament must be registered members of Holy Spirit.
- A baptismal certificate must be given to the FF office at the beginning of the year.
- Preparation for First Penance and First Eucharist begin indirectly in First Grade and continues through Second Grade. Students **MUST** have completed a year of Faith Formation prior to the year of sacramental prep.
- Attendance at necessary retreats and meetings.

DIOCESAN GUIDELINES FOR FIRST HOLY EUCHARIST

1. Children must be instructed in the Mass including the options and manner of receiving the Eucharist. These options are under one or both species; and the manner may be in the hand or on the tongue. (Appendix to the General Instruction of the Roman Missal for the Dioceses of the United States of America, n.240 and n.242).
2. The individual readiness of the child must be respected as a determining factor in the reception of the sacrament of First Eucharist (CIC 913 §1).
3. In order to facilitate the full involvement of parents or of those who take the place of parents, each parish is to provide access to an understanding of the celebration of the Eucharist so that they (parents or those responsible for the child) may renew and deepen their own belief in the real presence of Jesus in the sacrament of the Eucharist (CIC 777 n.1, n.5).
4. Children are to continue to be instructed through catechetical instruction and formation after the reception of First Communion (CIC 777 n.3).
5. Parents are to be supported in their own faith journey and in their role as the primary religious educators of their children after the celebration of their child’s First Eucharist (CIC 777 n.5).

Critical Outcomes:

The child:

1. has sufficient knowledge to understand the mystery of Christ according to his/her capacity (CIC 913 §1).
2. is able to distinguish the body and blood of Christ from ordinary food (CIC 913).
3. has a desire to receive the Lord Jesus reverently in Holy Communion with faith and devotion (CIC 913 §1).
4. has at least two years of catechesis prior to the reception of First Eucharist.

Holy Spirit Church---Sunday Mass Schedule

At the center of the Catholic Christian faith is the celebration of the Eucharist, the real presence of Christ in the bread, wine and the people who eat His Body and Blood. It is at Mass, at Liturgy, where we come together with all of our Catholic Christian friends to celebrate as one church. As the Eucharist is the heart of our faith, attending Mass every week is essential (and required) so you can spiritually prepare your child for the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

Saturday
5:00 pm

Sunday
8:30 am
11:00 am

Contact Information: Holy Spirit Catholic Church
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