

Sacramental Policy

St. Mary Parish

Children preparing for the Sacraments of First Eucharist, Reconciliation or Confirmation are still dependent upon their parents. They learn primarily from the attitudes, words and behavior of their parents. For this reason parents have the primary responsibility for the education and preparation of their children for celebrating these sacraments.

The sacramental policies below outline the responsibilities of both the parents and the candidates wishing to celebrate a sacrament.

First Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the outward sign by which we celebrate a merciful and forgiving God and renew our relationship with Him and the community. It celebrates the fact that we can be forgiven at all times.

First Eucharist

Eucharist is a sacrament continuing the process of initiation, which began at Baptism. It is the sacrament in which the Christian community comes together to celebrate Christ's presence among us. As we are fed by the gift of Jesus in the Eucharist and by the people gathered together, we go forth to serve other as Jesus did.

Candidates for the celebration of First Reconciliation and Eucharist are to:

- be at least seven years of age and baptized.
- attend Mass regularly.
- attend and participate in a formal Religious Education program.
- attend all First Reconciliation & Eucharist sessions

Parents of the candidate are to:

- see that their children attend Sunday Mass regularly.
- attend the Parent Meeting and all Reconciliation & First Eucharist sessions
- support and cooperate with Religious Education Office by working with the child at home.

The preparation program for First Reconciliation and Eucharist consists of two workshops (one parent/child), one child's retreat, twenty stamped/signed Mass bulletins (to be turned in weekly), completion of the First Eucharist sacrament book and Gold Book.