



St. Mary-St. Catherine Of Siena

September 29, 2019

Dear Second Grade Parents and Guardians,

This is a big year for your child in celebrating our faith! The sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion are exciting and important. We want to ensure your children are fully prepared to receive these sacraments.

- The preparation for the sacraments is a two-year program. If your child did not complete our Grade 1 program, or another Religious Education program (including Catholic school), he/she will receive an additional packet of information. This information (e.g. learning The Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary prayers, etc.) must be reviewed and learned by **November 5, 2019**. During classes on Sunday and Tuesday of that week, your child will be asked to demonstrate knowledge of the information learned in Grade 1 of our program.
- If your child was not baptized at St. Mary-St. Catherine of Siena, we will need a copy of his/her baptism certificate. Please try to send this to us by **December 17, 2019**.
- Please be mindful of your child's attendance to Religious Education classes. If your child misses a class, please check the Grade 2 website for information covered in the class, or email me at kfleming@stmarystcatherine.org to get any materials needed. We want to ensure that all children are learning the material to be prepared for the sacraments.
- Attached to this letter is a list of Frequently Asked Questions related to the sacraments.
 - **First Reconciliation** is scheduled for **January 16, 2020 at 5:30pm at St. Mary's**.
 - **First Holy Communion** will be **May 17, 2020 at the 10:30 am Mass**.

Thank you for all your support. This will be a wonderful year!

Sincerely,

Katy Fleming
Pastoral Assistant for
Faith Formation

Bill Polska
Grade 2 Teacher

Dianne Ludy
Grade 2 Teacher

IMPORTANT DATES FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST COMMUNION PREPARATION

November 5/7	Assessment on info from Grade 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Know the 7 sacraments• Know the 5 church seasons• Make the Sign of the Cross• Say the Our Father, Hail Mary prayers
January 12/14	Assessment on First Reconciliation info <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What are the 10 Commandments?• What are the two most important commandments?• What is sin? What is forgiveness?• Make the Sign of the Cross• Say the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be prayers• Be able to read the Act of Contrition fluently• Know the 5 Steps of Reconciliation
April 1, 2020	COMMUNION BANNER MAKING PARTY
April 26, 2020	Assessment on First Communion info (All students come on SUNDAY) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Know the parts of the Mass• What parts are in Liturgy of the Word?• What parts are in Liturgy of the Eucharist?
May 3, 2020	All Students on SUNDAY – final class
May 16, 2020	10:30 am REHEARSAL
May 17, 2020	FIRST COMMUNION MASS! 10:30 am at St. Mary's Arrive at the church at 9:45 am

Important Events for First Communion

Dear Parents,

Though it may seem like a long way off, preparation for First Penance and First Communion is already under way! This letter contains some very important information about your child's First Communion. Please email Katy Fleming (kfleming@stmarystcatherine.org) or call the Parish Center (617-242-4664) and ask for Sr. Nancy with any questions.



Frequently Asked Questions about First Holy Communion

Q: When and where is First Penance?

A: **January 16, 2020 5:30pm at St. Mary's Church**

Q: When and where is First Communion?

A: **May 17, 2020 at 10:30 AM at St. Mary's Church**

Q: What should my son/daughter wear?

A: Girls: white dresses and veils/flowers and ribbons if desired
Boys: dress pants, dress shoes (no sneakers) with a white shirt and tie, or white suits and shoes are fine if desired.

Q: Will there be a photographer available?

A: St. Mary's is working to have a photographer at the mass to take pictures of the children receiving Communion. When more information is available, we will pass that along to you.

Q: What do I as a parent need to do?

A: 1. Review the religious education materials with your child each week.
2. Pick up any missed material from classes when your child was absent.

Q: Will there be a rehearsal?

A: Yes, **May 16th at 10:30AM** Father Ronan, Sister Nancy and Katy Fleming will conduct a rehearsal. It will not last more than 45 minutes. The students will be able to "taste" the host at this rehearsal and will go over the logistics for the next day.

Important Events for First Communion

Q: Where should we sit at the Mass on May 17?

A: Your family will be assigned a pew at church, labeled with a banner. Please sit with your immediate family in your assigned pew, and ask other family members to kindly sit elsewhere in the church. Your child will sit with you during the mass, and receive Communion before the rest of the congregation.

Q: Will my child have a role in the Mass?

A: Maybe ... Two students will do a welcome at the start of Mass, two students will read a reading, six students will read a petition/prayer of the faithful, and four students will bring up the offertory.

The teachers and students of Grade 2 are working hard this year to prepare for this important event. Please let us know if you have any questions.