

Sacramental Preparation for children First Reconciliation Schedule

1. Wednesday, December 1, 2010 - Meeting for final Preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation 6:00 PM St. Edward's church
2. Sunday, December 5, 2010 - Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (**communal**) 3:30 PM at St. Edward's church
3. Wednesday, December 8, 2010 – Catch Fire Faith Formation at St. Augustine begins at 6:00PM
4. Wednesday, December 15, 2010 – Catch Fire Faith Formation at St. Augustine begins at 6:00PM
5. Wednesday, December 22, 2010 – Family Movie Night with Catch Fire Faith Formation at St. Augustine begins at 6:30PM (The Nativity Story)

First Communion Schedule

1. Wednesday, January 5, 2011 – parent meeting with your First Communicant for First Communion information and books.
2. Wednesday, January 12, 2011 – Catch Fire Faith Formation at St. Augustine begins at 6:00PM
3. Wednesday, January 19, 2011 – Catch Fire Faith Formation at St. Augustine begins at 6:00PM
4. Wednesday, January 26 or Thursday, January 27, 2011 – First Communion Faith Sharing Centers will be set up from 2:30PM-7:00PM for First Communicants and their parents. Plan to spend about an hour experiencing these centers.
5. Wednesday, February 2, 2011 – Catch Fire Faith Formation at St. Augustine begins at 6:00PM
6. Wednesday, February 16, 2011 – Catch Fire Faith Formation at St. Augustine begins at 6:00PM
7. Wednesday, February 23, 2011 – Family Movie Night with Catch Fire Faith Formation at St. Augustine begins at 6:30PM
8. Wednesday, March 9, 2011 – Ash Wednesday (see bulletin for mass and prayer service times)
9. Wednesday, March 23, 2011 – Lenten Mini session #1 at St. Augustine beginning at 6:00PM.
10. Wednesday, March 30, 2011 – Lenten Mini session #2 at St. Augustine beginning at 6:00PM.
11. Wednesday, April 6, 2011 – Lenten Mini session #3 at St. Augustine beginning at 6:00PM.
12. Wednesday, April 13, 2011 – Lenten Mini session #4 at St. Augustine beginning at 6:00PM.
13. Wednesday, April 20, 2011 – Live Stations of the Cross at St. Augustine at 7:30PM
14. Wednesday, April 27, 2011 – Final Preparation for First Communion – 6:00PM at the church in which your child will be receiving his/her First Communion.

First Communion Weekends

Weekend of April 10 & 11

April 30, 2011 (Saturday) 4:00 PM Queen of Angels

April 30, 2011 (Saturday) 4:00 PM St. Augustine

May 1, 2011 (Sunday) 8:30 AM St. Edward

May 1, 2011 (Sunday) 9:00 AM Queen of Angels

May 1, 2011 (Sunday) 10:30 AM St. Augustine

Only one offered 2nd week

May 8, 2011 (Sunday) 10:30 AM St. Augustine

Celebrating First Communion

Parents: It probably seems like only yesterday that you presented your child for Baptism. At that time, those gathered spoke their willingness to journey with you as you brought your child up in faith. Today the community of faith is at your side as you journey with your child as he or she prepares to receive their First Communion.

Points to make:

1. Parents are the first and most important educators of their own children. The church views the role of parents in the religious formation of children as both a privilege and an obligation.
2. It is not only about cognitive learning, but more significantly it is about a period of spiritual preparation for the sacrament and about introducing your child into a life of faith and worship.
3. The Church puts forth the basic requirements for a child's understanding in the Code of Canon law. Canon 913.1 states that the child is required to have sufficient knowledge and careful preparation so as to understand the mystery of Christ according to their capacity, and can receive the Body of the Lord with devotion. First, the child must know that this bread and wine have indeed become the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ and that Jesus is truly present. Second, the child must be sufficiently prepared to allow for reception of the Eucharist with appropriate devotion and reverence.
4. Nurturing a Lifetime of Faith – The curriculum used for this part of your child's journey of faith is from LOYOLA PRESS, *God's Gift: Reconciliation and Eucharist* offer meaningful experiences that help children and their parents understand, prepare for, and celebrate the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. These fully integrated sacramental-preparation programs, available in English and bilingual versions, engage children's hearts and minds through multiple prayer opportunities, beautiful commissioned artwork, and unique interactive elements. **Features**
 - Prayers are presented in child-friendly text
 - Exploration of lessons includes reading, conversation, prayer, and fun-filled activities that appeal to all learning styles
 - Scripture stories and links to Scripture enrich the experience and connect children to the Bible
5. Reasonable expectations are:
 - ✚ To expect that the child has been participating in Sunday mass on a regular basis.
 - ✚ That the child has been participating in an ongoing faith formation and will continue to do so.

✠ That the child is beginning to know the responses and prayers of the Mass in particular the Our Father, the Holy, holy, holy acclamation, the memorial acclamation, and the Great Amen.

✠ That prayer is a part of the child's life and is experienced within the family as well as within the church community.

✠ That the child has the capacity for reverence that is necessary for sharing the Eucharistic banquet.