

Sacrament of First Communion

Classroom preparation for the Sacrament of First Communion will take place within the child's regularly scheduled religious instruction sessions. They may be through:

- ◆ St. Christopher School
- ◆ St. Christopher Wednesday night RE/GIFT program
- ◆ St. Christopher parish-approved faith formation home school program

Jesus Day—April 9, 2022

- ◆ Children and parents gather for a morning retreat including prayer, reflection and fun.
- ◆ Jesus Day will be from 9am-11am in the school Dining Hall.

Picture and Rehearsal—April 20, 2022

- ◆ All the children are asked to come in full First Communion dress with a parent for a group picture of all our parish First Communicants. Following the picture will be a rehearsal of the First Communion Mass so that children and parents can feel confident and ready for the big day!
 - ◆ **Schwabe Studio will take the group picture at 7:00pm in the church.** Please arrive before that so we can ensure everyone is ready at 7:00pm.
 - ◆ If you desire to have an individual photo taken of your child, Schwabe will be at St. Chris at 5:00pm for individual shots.
 - ◆ A Schwabe order form will be sent home prior to this night. Bring the order form with you to the picture night.
 - ◆ *Please note when choosing your child's clothing that gloves and purses should not be included.*

First Communion Day—April 24, 2022

- ◆ First Communion will be at 2:00pm on Sunday, April 24, 2022.
- ◆ Please arrive around 1:45pm.
- ◆ Please enjoy this special day, breath easy and soak in the beauty of this moment when your baby enters into this most intimate union with Jesus in the Body and Blood of Christ.

I am the living bread that came down from heaven:
whoever eats this bread will live forever:

John 6



St. Christopher Second Grade Sacramental Prep



First Reconciliation
First Communion



Dear parents and guardians,

The big year has finally arrived – your second grader will be receiving Jesus through the Eucharist for the first time! This is a moment that will be cherished by your child, and remembered throughout their lives. It is also a perfect opportunity for you to explore your own faith life with a fresh set of eyes. Enjoy all of these special opportunities for you to grow with your child in the coming year.

We are honored to walk with you through this journey. Please share with us how we can best serve your particular needs. Your questions, insights and feedback are important to us. Enclosed is some information to help you plan for the coming year.

In the Peace of Christ,

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Second Grade Catechist

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Sacrament of Reconciliation

Classroom preparation for the Sacrament of Reconciliation will take place within the child's regularly scheduled religious instruction sessions. They may be through:

- ◆ St. Christopher School
- ◆ St. Christopher Wednesday night RE/GIFT program
- ◆ St. Christopher parish-approved faith formation home school program

Parent/Child Retreat and Reception of the Sacrament—Saturday, November 20, 2021 (9:00am—12:00pm)

- ◆ All 2nd grade children receiving the Sacrament and their parents are asked to attend this Saturday morning retreat as a final preparation that should be an uplifting and enjoyable time with your family and other families in our St. Chris community. The retreat will begin in the school Dining Hall.
- ◆ After the 2 hour retreat we will head over to church for the children and parents to receive the Sacrament in a service presided by Fr. John.

Helpful to know...

Sacrament of Reconciliation

- One of the Seven Sacraments of the Church, the celebration of God's forgiveness of sin, through which the sinner is reconciled with both God and the community of people (the Church).

Sacrament

- In Catholic life and prayer, the seven effective signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ through His actions in the Gospels.

Examination of conscience

- Prayerful reflection on and assessment of one's own words, attitudes, and actions in light of the Gospel of Jesus.

Sin

- Any deliberate offense, in thought, word or deed, against the will of God.

Penance

- An attitude of the heart in which one experiences regret for past sin and commits to a change in behavior or attitude.

Absolution

- An essential part of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in which the priest pardons the sins of the person confessing in the name of God and the Church.

Grace

- The free gift of God's loving and active presence in the universe and in our life.

Act of Contrition

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more and avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In His name, my God, have mercy.. Amen.