



THE KINGDOM OF
HEAVEN BELONGS
TO SUCH AS THESE.

Matthew 19:14

September 6, 2024

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are delighted to introduce an exciting new initiative by the Diocese of Calgary to prepare your child(ren) for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

Our guiding theme for this sacramental preparation journey is inspired by Matthew 19:14 *“Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.”* This verse beautifully captures the essence of our pastoral renewal, affirming that **our children are called by God, they matter to Him, and they belong to the Body of Christ**, the Church - our parish community.

We deeply value your family and are dedicated to not only preparing your child(ren) for these important sacraments but also to support your family’s ongoing relationship with Christ and integration of faith in daily life.

To this end, we are introducing several new elements in our sacramental preparation process. Notably, instead of traditional classroom settings, each family will be part of a small group that will journey through the preparation process together. During our “Family Gatherings,” you and your child will engage in prayer, listen to the Word of God, participate in conversations and discussions, and enjoy fun and interactive activities and games that will help deepen your child(ren)’s understanding of the faith and the sacraments.

The preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist will include 16 gatherings, totalling 24 hours, from September through June. Please see the registration link and the following dates on the next page and mark them in your calendar.



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FIRST RECONCILIATION	
●	Parents-Only Gathering - Sunday SEPT 22, 630-800 pm
●	Family Gathering 1 - Sunday OCT 6, 630-745pm
●	Family Gathering 2 - Sunday OCT 20, 630-745pm
●	Family Gathering 3 - Sunday NOV 3, 630-745pm
●	Family Gathering 4 - Sunday NOV 17, 630-745pm
●	Family Gathering 5 - Sunday DEC 1, 630-745pm
●	Family Gathering 6 - Sunday JAN 12, 630-745pm
●	Retreat - Saturday JAN 25, 930 am - 1230 pm
●	Celebration of First Reconciliation - Wednesday JAN 29, 630 pm
FIRST EUCHARIST	
●	Parents-Only Gathering - Sunday FEB 9, 630-800 pm
●	Family Gathering 1 - Sunday FEB 23, 630-745pm
●	Family Gathering 2 - Sunday MAR 9, 630-745pm
●	Family Gathering 3 - Sunday MAR 23, 630-745pm
●	Family Gathering 4 - Sunday APR 6, 630-745pm
●	Family Gathering 5 - Sunday MAY 4, 630-745pm
●	Family Gathering 6 - Sunday MAY 25, 630-745pm
●	Retreat - Saturday JUN 7, 930 am - 1230 pm
●	Celebration of First Eucharist - Sunday JUN 8, 1100 am Mass

To REGISTER please fill out this online registration form:
<https://forms.gle/kxH8XzzQyyJbFVy16>

The first of two Parents-Only Gatherings is on Sunday September 22, 2024 from 630 pm - 800 pm at St. Joseph's Church. These parent meetings are part of the overall Sacrament Preparation Program. One parent is required to attend the Parents-Only Gatherings, though both parents are most welcome if feasible.

We warmly invite your family to join us on this sacred journey and look forward to supporting your children as they grow closer to Christ. Should you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you, and we look forward to journeying with your family!

Yours in Christ,

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