

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@stmaryscatherine.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: **TBD**

Q: When and where is First Communion?

A: May 19, 2019 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 18th 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.

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Q: Where should we sit at the Mass on May 19?

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.

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Information that your child must know for their interview:

1. Parts of the Mass:

Liturgy of the Word: First Reading (usually from the Old Testament),
Second Reading (usually from the New Testament letters), and Gospel

Liturgy of the Eucharist: Consecration (bread/wine -> body/blood),
Communion

2. Gospel:

Gospel means "Good News." Jesus came to bring the Good News of God's Kingdom where Love is the center.

3. Eucharist

In the Eucharist we are receiving the true body of Christ. It is the source and summit of our life as Catholic Christians and through it we are receiving the grace of God in a special way.

4. Mass Responses:

"And with your Spirit"
"Thanks be to God"
Etc.

5. Creed

They don't have to have the whole creed memorized, but they do need to know that it is the fundamental beliefs of the Church, particularly regarding our beliefs in the Trinity.

"I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

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For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen."

6. Trinity

Know that God is three persons in one God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit

7. Jesus

Jesus was both 100% human and 100% God

8. Memorize: The Our Father

"Our Father who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever
Amen."

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9. Memorize: The Hail Mary

"Hail Mary, full of grace.
Our Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb,
Jesus.
Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death.
Amen."

10. Memorize: The Glory Be

"Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen."

11. Memorize: The Ten Commandments

1. You shall have no other gods before Me.
2. You shall not make idols.
3. You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
5. Honor your father and your mother.
6. You shall not murder.
7. You shall not commit adultery.
8. You shall not steal.
9. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
10. You shall not covet.

12. Memorize: 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 to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen"

13. Receiving Communion

Children should practice at home going up to receive communion including the proper response ("Amen") and how to hold their hands