

First Communion Requirements 2020/2021

There are **five requirements** for the reception of First Communion:

1. Submission of child's Baptismal Certificate (not a birth certificate).
2. Reception of the Sacrament of First Reconciliation with a Catholic priest.
3. Parish Membership at St. Anne is required before Sacraments are received here – please visit our “Registration Process” page under the “Visitor” heading of the St. Anne website.
4. A child must know the difference between ordinary bread and extraordinary Eucharist.
 - Children must recognize that Holy Communion is not like regular food; they must be able to distinguish the difference.
5. A child must believe that the Host is really and truly Jesus. He gives His Whole Self to us in the Eucharist -- **Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity**.
 - Children must believe that the Host is Jesus; they need not understand or explain His Real Presence, but they must believe in it (so must we!)

Attending our parents sessions and retreats make numbers 4 and 5 easy for families to accomplish. Please don't miss these opportunities to discover the richness of the Sacraments! This year, we are excited to launch a new sacramental preparation process for parents of First Communicants. **Our new program involves two required parent sessions** which are offered at varying times throughout the year. Please add the following dates to your calendar and make these events a priority for you and your child.

- **Forgiven Parent Sessions (Option 1)** | Saturday, October 3rd 8:30 am - 3 pm
- **Forgiven Parent Sessions (Option 2)** | Saturday, November 7th 8:30 am - 3 pm
- **Presence Parent Sessions (Option 1)** | Saturday, December 5th 8:30 am - 2:30 pm
- **Presence Parent Sessions (Option 2)** | Saturday, January 9th 8:30 am - 2:30 pm
- **November 21st or 22nd** | First Reconciliation Retreat for parent and child to attend together 1 – 4 pm. **This retreat is required.**
- **December 9th** | Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 6 pm.
- **February 20th or 21st** | First Communion Retreat # 1 for parent and child to attend together 1 – 4 pm. **This retreat is required.**
- **March 20th or 21st** | First Communion Retreat #2 for parent and child to attend together 1 – 4 pm. **This retreat is required.**
- **April 29th** | First Communion rehearsal from 5:15 - 8:15 pm.
- **May 1st and 2nd** | First Communion weekend