

**First  
Reconciliation**

**&**

**First Communion  
Handbook**

**2009 – 2010**

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Requirements for the Sacrament

1. Proof of Baptism
2. Weekly attendance at Sunday Mass. **Children must bring the form found in the back of the church, completely filled out, signed by Fr. Pat or the officiating priest, to class every week.**
3. Understanding of and desire for reception of the Sacrament
4. G.I.F.T. students are to attend Sunday religious education classes regularly with no more than 4 absences
5. Parents are required to attend Fr. Pat's 3 Sacrament meetings
6. Students are required to know basic prayers – Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be and Act of Contrition

### Dress Requirements

We have no dress requirements for First Communion other than we ask the children to wear their Sunday best. Boys should wear dress pants, dress shoes and a shirt and tie. Most girls do wear white dresses and veils, although veils are not required. Children are not allowed to bring purses, gloves, prayer books, rosaries, etc. to Mass with them when they make their First Communion. Please save these items for other Sundays.

### First Reconciliation

First Reconciliation will be on Saturday, January 30th, at 9:00 AM, in Church. We will gather in church. After receiving the Sacrament please pick up your child's certificate in the back of church.

### First Communion Rehearsal

Practice for First Communion will be in the church on Saturday, May 1st, at:

9:00 AM for those receiving First Eucharist at the 9:00 AM Mass

10:00 AM for those receiving First Eucharist at the 11:00 AM Mass

**ALL CHILDREN AND AT LEAST ONE PARENT MUST ATTEND.**

## **First Communion**

First Communion will take place May 8<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM and 11 AM. You will choose your Mass time in April.

## **Picture Taking During Mass**

During the First Communion liturgy we ask all families to refrain from coming up the aisles to take pictures since it distracts from the solemnity of the occasion. Limited pictures may be taken from the pews. Videos may only be taken from the balcony. No picture taking will be allowed from the center aisles or across the front of the church or in the sanctuary. Fr. Pat will be available for pictures in front of the altar after Mass. At that time, he will pose giving your child Communion, if you wish.

## **Sunday Mass**

First Communion Mass on Saturday does not fulfill the obligation for Sunday Mass. For whatever Mass your family attends for the weekend, all children present who have just received First Communion on Saturday are asked to bring up the gifts. We strongly encourage the First Communicants to wear their First Communion clothes to the weekend Mass. The First Communicants should come to the back of the church after the homily. The ushers will tell them exactly what to do.

## **IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER**

- Oct. 18th, 2009      Fr. Pat's 1<sup>st</sup> **REQUIRED** Sacrament meeting, in the Gym, at 9:55 AM
- Nov. 7, 2009      Make up for Fr. Pat's 1<sup>st</sup> Sacrament meeting, at 9:00 AM, in the "cry room" of the church
- Nov. 8, 2009      Fr. Pat's 2<sup>nd</sup> **REQUIRED** Sacrament meeting, in the Gym, at 9:55 AM
- Nov. 14, 2009      Make up for Fr. Pat's 2<sup>nd</sup> Sacrament meeting, at 9:00 AM, in the "cry room" of the church
- Jan . 10, 2010      Fr. Pat's 3<sup>rd</sup> **REQUIRED** Sacrament meeting, in the Gym, at 9:55 AM
- Jan. 23, 2010      Make up for Fr. Pat's 3<sup>rd</sup> Sacrament meeting, at 9:00 AM, in the "cry room" of the church
- Jan. 30, 2010      1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation at 9:00 AM, in church
- May 1, 2010      Rehearsal for 1<sup>st</sup> Communion in church, 9:00 AM for those making 1<sup>st</sup> Communion at the 9:00 Mass & 10:00 AM for those making 1<sup>st</sup> Communion at the 11:00 Mass.
- May 8, 2010      1<sup>st</sup> Communion at 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM