



St. Ignatius Loyola

Roman Catholic Church

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September 15, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am writing to you today about the Sacraments of Reconciliation (First Confession) and Eucharist (First Communion) which will both be offered to your son/daughter in Grade 2 this year whether they are attending school in person or via remote instruction. Please know that the parish is happy to offer whatever assistance we can to you as parents and families to make sacramental preparation in these challenging times less stressful and more spiritually uplifting.

We are celebrating masses on weekdays and Sundays with the church open 30 minutes before each mass on a first come first serve basis. Please visit our webpage <https://stignatiusloyolami.archtoronto.org> for our complete mass schedule and updates. You are always welcome and encouraged to attend with your family, especially this year as your child is preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.

An integral part of the student's preparation is a *home program* (with parental assistance) through the completion of two catechetical books entitled "*We Prepare for Reconciliation*" (for First Reconciliation), and "*We Share in the Eucharist*" (for First Eucharist). The Registration fee of \$40 per child covers the cost of both these resource books. While the parish and school (through our Grade 2 teachers and the religious education curriculum taught by our Catholic schools) will support you in the instruction of the sacraments, your participation at home in working through these catechetical books with your child is a critical element of their preparation.

The schedule below is, of course, subject to change depending on civil and Archdiocesan regulations and new directives for churches during COVID-19. I ask in advance for your patience and promise you that any changes to virtual meetings or date changes will be communicated to you through e-mail as well as through our parish schools.

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS

- 1. Registration Meeting (in person): Tuesday October 5 or Wednesday October 6**
Registration from 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in the church foyer
Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the church

We ask that the child attend and be accompanied by only ONE parent (for ease of social distancing). You will need to provide:

- 1. Your completed Registration Form (see attached...please print)**
- 2. A copy of your child's baptismal certificate (even if they were baptized here)**
- 3. \$40 materials fee for 2 catechetical books**

2. **Preparation for First Reconciliation (October - November 2021)**
 - Completion of "We Prepare for Reconciliation" book at home
 - Fr. Tim's visits to Grade 2 classrooms at St. Clare, St. Mark, All Saints Schools
 - for those not in our parish schools: attendance at four RCIC classes (see separate attachment)

3. **First Reconciliation Parent and Child Meeting (includes rehearsal at church)**
Tuesday November 23 or Wednesday November 24 at 7 p.m.
Attendance in mandatory.

4. **2021 FIRST RECONCILIATION CELEBRATION (child and ONE parent only)**
Saturday November 27, 2021 10 a.m. - Noon
Saturday December 4, 2021 10 a.m.- Noon
(Reservation of specific dates and times via *Eventbrite* to be announced in early November 2021)

5. **Preparation for First Communion (January - April 2022)**
 - Completion of "We Share in the Eucharist" book at home
 - Fr. Tim's visits to Grade 2 classrooms at St. Clare, St. Mark, All Saints Schools
 - for those not in our parish schools: attendance at six RCIC classes (see separate attachment...dates to be confirmed in January 2022)

6. **First Communion Parent and Child Meeting (includes rehearsal at church)**
Tuesday April 26 or Wednesday April 27 at 7 p.m.
Attendance in mandatory.

7. **2022 FIRST COMMUNION MASSES**
Sunday May 1, 2022 2 p.m. OR 4 p.m.
Sunday May 8, 2022 2 p.m. OR 4 p.m.
(Reservation of specific dates and times via *Eventbrite* to be announced in late March 2022, along with limitation on number of family members and livestream information for those family members unable to attend in person)

As parents, teachers, and priests our task is to work together in helping these little ones appreciate and celebrate God's loving mercy through reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and communion in Christ Jesus through the Sacrament of the Eucharist. It is a joyous task.

I look forward to seeing you each weekend at either the Saturday evening or Sunday Mass, and especially here at the church on the evening of either **Tuesday October 5** or **Wednesday October 6**.

Yours in Christ,

Fr. Timothy K. Hanley
Pastor