

Dear First Holy Communion Families,

Your child is in the process of living out a wonderful journey of faith – one in which they will experience God’s love. Both the Mrs. Benoit catechist at St. Joseph Church and Mr. Jim Modelski, your child’s teacher at St. Mary’s are in the process of preparing your child for the Sacraments of First Holy Eucharist. The date for First Eucharist will be Sunday, May 19th during the 10:00 am Mass here at St. Joseph Church. The mandatory First Holy Communion rehearsal is mandatory at St. Joseph Church. The date for the rehearsal will be during the week leading up to Sunday, May 19th. Please keep this in mind when scheduling during that week. I will let you know the date as soon as possible.

I have enclosed a registration form for Sacramental Preparation. Please return completed form to St. Joseph’s Parish Office as soon as possible. This is mainly for parish record keeping purposes upon the reception of the Sacrament of First Holy Eucharist. It also provides me with valuable contact information that will be useful as First Eucharist approaches. I will be communicating more frequently with you about the details of upcoming events. I try to do most of this by email as I know most of you are very busy people, if this does not work for you; phone will work also. Let me know your preference if email is not workable.

Your child must first have celebrated the Sacrament of First Reconciliation before he or she will be allowed to make their First Holy Communion. Please provide your child’s Baptismal Certificate directly to us here at St. Joseph’s Parish Office. Many have done so during the process of First Reconciliation, but if you have not; please do so as soon as possible.

This will be a very exciting year for your family. Please know that your family is in our prayers as the days and weeks pass before your child receives this most holy sacrament. We hope to do everything possible to make this a special celebration as your children prepare to acquire new graces and grow ever more deeply into their Roman Catholic faith. Also, your family will be invited to one or two parent meetings where you will be asked to sign up for a First Communion Reception duty of Decorating, Set Up, or Clean Up. The reception will follow in the parish hall directly after the 10:00 am Mass on Sunday, May 19th. You are asked to contribute food items for a lite lunch at this time. Cutlery and the cake will be provided by the parish.

Also, decorating for First Holy Communion will include: the church pews and an arrangement in front of the altar as well as any decorations in parish hall, such as the bulletin board, table covering, and flowers to name a few items. Please attend the reception meeting to help decide what food and decorations you would like for the reception. The decorations will be purchased by you as individuals to be split by the group. I will be seeking a committee chairperson to head up that responsibility to lead the meetings as well as act as the contact between parents and following up with me in the Faith Formation Office when necessary. This role has been very successful in the past to make for a smooth reception celebration. These items will be discussed in detail at one possibly two parent meetings as mentioned above drawing near First Holy Eucharist. Please attend the reception meeting to help decide what food and decorations you would like for the reception. Some of you have been through this process with your older children.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at 632-9625 extension 4. I have enclosed a copy of the dress code as you continue to plan for this special celebration.

In Jesus Christ,

Danna Schmitter

St. Joseph Church
606 East 4th Ave
Sault Ste Marie, Mi
906-632-9625 ex:4

