



Holy Trinity Sacramental Preparation

First Reconciliation / First Eucharist

Essential Information



Preparing for the Sacraments

Jesus Christ is truly present in our midst. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is an encounter with Jesus that forgives sins and restores us to grace. The Eucharist is the most profound way we encounter the real presence of Jesus Christ. In the Archdiocese of Washington, children celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation prior to First Eucharist. Many children prepare for and celebrate Reconciliation for the first time usually around the age of seven.

Is your son or daughter ready for preparation to celebrate these sacraments?

- ☐ Is he/she at least seven years old?
- ☐ Has he/she been baptized in the Catholic Church?
- ☐ Has he/she been enrolled for at least two years (including the 2018-2019 school year) in
 - A parish school?
 - A religious education program?
 - An independent Catholic school?

If the answer to all three questions is yes, then you can begin the preparation process!

- **Complete the enclosed registration form.** If your child was baptized at Holy Trinity, please indicate the day/month/year. If your child was baptized elsewhere, please provide a copy of the baptism certificate **with your registration form**.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Forms and baptism certificates are due by **August 1, 2018**.

- **Plan to actively participate in the preparation.** Part of the preparation for Reconciliation and Eucharist is the conversation and discussion you will have with your child at home. You will receive Sacramental textbooks that your child will complete with your help. In the fall, you will complete the Reconciliation text, with celebrations offered in November and December. In the spring, you will complete the Eucharist text, with celebrations offered during the Easter season. There are two parent meetings for each sacrament, and it is expected that parents attend both.

Dates of importance for sacramental preparation

	2018	2019
	Reconciliation	Eucharist
Parent Meetings	Sunday, September 16 Sunday, September 23	Sunday, January 6 Sunday, January 13
Celebration Dates	Saturday, November 17 Saturday, December 1	Dates/times TBD Easter Season April 7 – May 19
Teaching Liturgies		Sunday, TBD Sunday, TBD
Workshop for parents <u>and</u> children		Saturday, March 9 8:30 a.m. – noon