



First Reconciliation & Holy Communion

Immaculate Conception Church



Child's Name _____
First Middle Last

Age: _____ Date of Birth _____
Month Day Year

Baptism information:

Parish of Baptism* _____ Year of Baptism _____

Parish Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Please attach a copy of your child's baptism certificate

Family Information

Parish our family is currently registered at: _____

Father's Name _____ Religion: _____

Mother's Name _____ Religion: _____

Mother's Maiden Name _____

Parents are

Married in the Catholic Church* Civilly Married Common Law Other: _____

**Please attach marriage certificate*

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Postal Code _____

Parent Agreement

I have read and I support the attached diocesan guidelines regarding sacramental preparation.

Parent Signature



ROMAN CATHOLIC
DIOCESE OF NELSON

Catholic Pastoral Centre
3665 Benvoulin Road
Kelowna, BC V1W 4M7



October 2021

Re: Sacraments Preparation for First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation

Dear Pastors, Principals, Religious Education Coordinators, Catechists, Teachers and Parents,
Sacraments preparation for children requires collaboration between home, school and parish.

Parents are the first educators of their children and choose where their child receives religious education and preparation for sacraments, in a parish or school program.

Sacraments are celebrated by the Church in the family's parish; reception of sacraments is not a school event. To best meet children's needs, it is helpful for all to understand their roles.

PARENTS:

- Receive recognition and support for their vocation as first educators of their children
- Seek support from others in the faith formation of their children
- Choose where their child will receive religious education (school or parish)
- Take direction from the Church on issues of faith
- Guide, teach and form their children in the Catholic faith
- Model the Catholic faith through their own **active** practice
- Ensure their family is registered in their home parish
- Contact the parish to enroll their children for each sacrament (August/early September)
- Attend all meetings called by the parish for sacraments preparation.

PARISH (Pastors, Coordinators, and Catechists):

- Recognize there are two religious education programs, **school and parish**
- Acknowledge the efforts of schools who accommodate multiple parishes, each with their own expectations for sacraments preparation
- If the school is used for after-school parish catechism classes, ensure classrooms are left in the same condition in which they were found (teacher-student items untouched)
- Recognize schools and parish catechism programs have separate budgets for supplies
- **Coordinators: contact the school** to request names and home contact information of students registered in their parish – note re PIPA compliance: schools are only able to provide this information with the authorization of the parent

- **Inform parents registered in their parish (both school and parish)** regarding sacraments requirements and meeting dates
- Host meetings for all parents and children in their parish preparing for sacraments
- Provide all parents with any materials required for preparation at home
- Set and communicate to all parents and schools the date for celebrating each sacrament
- Organize the rite and celebration, involving school staff responsible for sacraments preparation (may not be feasible for schools with students from multiple parishes)
- Offer any special gifts to all children (both school and parish)
- Celebrate sacraments as a church community.


SCHOOL (Principals and Teachers):

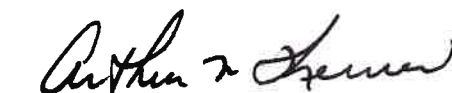
- Recognize there are two religious education programs, **school and parish**
- Request parent permission to provide each parish with a list of students registered to that parish and their home contact information; provide to parish for families who have authorized
- Inquire about parish dates for sacraments meetings and celebrations, and prepare children accordingly
- Forward parish communication letters as requested
- Support parents in the faith formation of their children
- Remind parents: celebration of sacraments is a parish event, not a school event
- Teach children about the sacrament (what is this sacrament, why and how we celebrate, effect, signs and symbols, relation to Christ and Trinity, etc.) and prepare them to encounter Christ sacramentally
- Receive direction from each parish with requirements (meeting dates, student retreats, etc.)
- Recognize schools and parish catechism programs have separate budgets for supplies
- As a school community, recognize and celebrate with particular joy when students receive a sacrament.

Please retain this letter as a guide for understanding the shared roles and responsibilities for sacraments preparation.

As a diocese, our goal is to encourage an effective collaboration of parishes, families, and schools, and a positive and transformational experience for the children.

Together in Christ,


 Yvonne Valiant
 Director of Office of Faith Formation


 Arthur Therrien
 Superintendent of Catholic Schools