



# 2023 Holy Trinity Sacramental Prep Schedule

Preparing for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion is a family experience designed to bring light and life into your homes and hearts as you share the love of Jesus and why He gifted us these two special Sacraments. Most of the preparation process will take place at home through regular family meetings guided by Pathways Mend and Nourish.

There are two mandatory preparation retreats. Students need to attend both retreats with at least one parent. These retreats are designed to help parents refresh your own understanding and desire for the sacraments while experiencing the prep process with your child. All the materials needed for the home family meetings will be distributed at the retreats. Please understand that of these dates are important elements of the preparation process. Make up opportunities will be made available for emergency situations only.

## Please Save The Dates:

First Reconciliation Retreat: Saturday, December 3, 10:00am-12:00pm

First Holy Communion Retreat: Saturday, March 18, 10:00am-12:00pm

## *The Sacrament of First Reconciliation*

Mend is a First Reconciliation family experience designed to equip parents to teach, share faith, and pray with their children as they lead 7 family meetings in your home. Families will encounter Jesus and experience the beauty of Reconciliation as it connects to daily life by forming clay, making field goals, reading Scripture, engaging in meaningful conversation, and much more.

### *Retreat 1: December 3 – First Reconciliation*

Meeting 1: December 11 – Handmade

Meeting 2: December 18 – The Fruit

*Christmas: December 25 – No Meeting*

Meeting 3: January 8 – Lost and Found

Meeting 4: January 15 – Washed Clean

Meeting 5: January 22 – The Goal

Meeting 6: January 29 – Hearts and Stones

Meeting 7: March 7 – Healed



On March 11th from 10am-12pm, we will celebrate the Sacrament of First Reconciliation with a special Penance Service held only for Holy Trinity Sacramental Prep Students. Students must be accompanied by one parent or caretaker. Please add this date to your calendar. Each child must receive the Sacrament of First Reconciliation before receiving First Holy Eucharist



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## The Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Nourish is a First Holy Communion family experience. As you lead your family through 10 meetings, you will encounter Jesus and experience the beauty of the Mass as it connects to daily life by building puzzles, baking, reading Scripture, engaging in meaningful conversation, and much more. Traditional classroom learning will be enhanced by parent participation as faith transitions from the classroom to the living room.

- Meeting 1: February 19 – Gather
- Meeting 2: February 26 – Forgive
- Meeting 3: March 5 – Listen
- Meeting 4: March 12 – Respond
- Retreat 2: March 18 – First Holy Communion*
- Meeting 5: March 26 – Prepare
- Meeting 6: April 2 – Transform
- Easter Sun: April 9 – No Meeting*
- Meeting 7: April 16 – Share Peace
- Meeting 8: April 23 – Receive
- Meeting 9: April 30 – On a Mission
- Meeting 10: May 7 – Celebrate



At the end of each Mend and Nourish meeting, you will use an online accountability form to either upload a picture of your family activity, answer a question or, briefly share your experience with me. For your convenience, I will email everyone a reminder and link to the accountability form the day each accountability task is due. If the Holy Spirit is moving your family forward at a quicker pace, please feel free to continue ahead of the schedules above.

## New First Communion Dates!

**As of January 15, 2023 families will have their choice of celebrating First Communion Mass on either Saturday, May 6 at 10:00am or Saturday, May 20 at 10:00am. Please be sure to sign up for the Mass of your choice via the link in the Sunday emails.** Students will need to arrive to the Parish Hall at 9:15am. All First Communion Celebrants will process in at the beginning of Mass and sit together in the first three pews. A photographer will be present to capture their first moment receiving Jesus. Certificates will be available to pick up directly after Mass.

Questions please contact:  
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# *New First Communion Dates!*

## *A message from Father Michael...*

Hello Parents of our First Holy Communion kids,

January 15, 2023

Happy New Year to you and your families!

Fr. Charles and I are so excited for your child's First Holy Communion in May of this year, we can't wait! We are grateful to you as parents for your love and support of your child's formation here at Holy Trinity, as we are grateful to all our catechists who help prepare them.

With that said, Fr. Charles and I have a conflict that prevents us to be here on May 13 for the First Communion Mass. In light of these unforeseen circumstances, we need to change the date. We sincerely apologize, but this celebration is far too special to bring in a visiting priest who doesn't know your child and your family.

Beyond that, Fr. Charles and I want to celebrate this most important sacrament of Holy Eucharist with our kids.

We greatly appreciate your grace, understanding and flexibility in this matter. We hope that offering you the choice of two different First Communion dates will help lessen any inconveniences this change has caused.

You can choose to celebrate on Saturday, May 6 at 10:00am or Saturday, May 20 at 10:00am. Please use the link located in the Sunday email to select which new date works best for you.

Thank you for accepting our apologies. God bless you and your families.

In Christ's Love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael St. Paul".

Fr. Michael St. Paul, Pastor