

# *Faith Formation Year 2: 2025-2026 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, October 18th, 9:00am-12:00pm OR 1:00pm-4:00pm

First Holy Communion Retreat: Saturday, March 21st, 9:00am-12:00pm OR 1:00pm-4:00pm

## *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: October 18th – First Reconciliation***

Meeting 1: October 26 – Handmade

Meeting 2: November 9 – The Fruit

Meeting 3: November 23– Lost and Found

Meeting 4: December 7 – Washed Clean

Meeting 5: December 14 – The Goal

Meeting 6: January 11 – Hearts and Stones

Meeting 7: January 25 – Healed



On **January 31st from 10:00am-12:00pm**, 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 1 – Gather

Meeting 2: February 8 – Forgive

Meeting 3: February 22 – Listen

Meeting 4: March 1 – Respond

Meeting 5: March 8 – Prepare

Meeting 6: March 15 – Transform

***Retreat 2: March 21st – First Holy Communion***

Meeting 7: April 12 – Share Peace

Meeting 8: April 19 – Receive

Meeting 9: April 26 – On a Mission

Meeting 10: May 2 or May 9 – Celebrate



At the end of each Mend and Nourish meeting, you will use the online platform, Martha, 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 weekly reminders. If the Holy Spirit is moving your family forward at a quicker pace, please feel free to continue ahead of the schedules above.

## *First Communion Dates!*

First Holy Communion Masses will be celebrated on **Saturday, May 2nd and Saturday, May 9th at 10:00am**. Parents will have the opportunity to choose which date works best for your family. Children will need to arrive at the Parish Hall at 9:00am. 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.

**In addition, to the above meetings and sessions, each family is expected to attend Mass every Sunday and on Holy Days at our parish home of Holy Trinity. It is also encouraged to attend at least one Family Gathering throughout the year. The goal is for Faith Formation Families and students to experience church as a Catholic Community. After all, WE ARE THE CHURCH!**