

Details regarding First Holy Communion

Information Form - Located in handbook and on website. To be completed and handed in prior to January meeting, with copy of Baptismal Certificate and Sacramental Fee attached.

Baptismal Certificate – A copy must be presented and verified *before* First Communion may be received. *Please secure a copy of your child's baptismal certificate PRIOR to the date paperwork due.* No certificate is necessary if your child was baptized at Good Counsel, as our office will verify this information to the Baptismal Register.

Sacramental Fee – The fee of \$50.00 is to cover miscellaneous costs of the program.

Liturgical Ministers – Any family with a commissioned altar server or Eucharistic Minister who wishes to participate in the liturgy must notify the RE Office by the end of January.

Concelebrants: Any family who has a priest family member or friend who they would like to concelebrate the First Communion liturgy, or assist at First Reconciliation is asked to notify the RE Office as soon as possible, so a formal invitation may be extended by the pastor.

Disability Seating: Any family requiring disability seating (wheelchair, walkers) must request the designated seating by contacting the R.E. Office no later than the January. Wheelchair and walker seating is located at the open pews in the middle of the church (at the break). At no time may strollers, infant seats, unattended wheelchairs, walkers, or oxygen tanks block the aisles. Ushers are available to assist families with special needs.

Please note: Disability seating is assigned to accommodate your guests with special needs, allow for distribution of the Eucharist, and to ensure that fire codes regarding unblocked aisles are met.

Seating :

Good Counsel School: Communicants sit together in front pews. Family / guests sit in assigned pews behind children.

Religious Education: Communicants sit with their families in assigned pews.

Tickets: A family pew will be reserved for your child's liturgy.

Attire – Girls usually wear white dresses. Gloves and carrying of flowers are discouraged. Boys wear suit jackets and dress shirts with a tie.

Reverence – Families are expected to observe a reverent demeanor in church during all liturgies.

Pictures – **Once Mass has begun, we ask that no pictures or videos be taken. Following Mass, pictures may be taken. Parents are asked to convey this message to guests.**

Cell Phones – Please be sure that all phones are turned off or set to silent mode during the Communion liturgies.

First Communion Certificates - Children will receive their First Communion Certificates at their assigned liturgy.

Donation of Communion outfits – Families are invited to donate their child's gently used First Communion outfits to the parish's outreach effort with needy inner-city parishes in Philadelphia.