

Sacraments
of
**FIRST
RECONCILIATION
&
EUCCHARIST**



Church of Santa Maria
2009 - 2010

FIRST EUCHARIST SCHEDULE
Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Faith Formation Sessions

February 21 9:30a Liturgy / 11:00a Workshop / 12:10p Closing Prayer Ritual / 12:30p Dismissal	Presentation Ritual & Parent/Child Workshop Chapter 1 – We Belong
February 22/23/24	Chapter 2 - Invited to the Table
March 8/9/10	Chapter 3 - Gathering to Celebrate
March 15/16/17	Chapter 4 - Feasting on God’s Word
March 22/23/24	Chapter 5 - Offering Our Gifts
March 29/30/31	Holy Week / Easter Preparation and Formation
<i>April 5/6/7</i>	<i>Easter Break</i>
April 12/13/14	Chapter 6 - Remembering and Giving Thanks
April 18 9:30a Liturgy / 11:00a Workshop / 12:10p Closing Prayer Ritual / 12:30p Dismissal	Parent/Child Workshop
April 19/20/21	Chapter 7 - Sharing the Bread of Life
April 22 9:30a – 2:30p – Hall	First Eucharist Retreat
April 24 & 25	Celebration of the Sacrament of First Eucharist 5p liturgy on the 24 th – Monday’s Faith Formation Session 9:30a liturgy on the 25 th – Tuesday’s Faith Formation Session 11:15a liturgy on the 25 th – Wednesday’s Faith Formation Session
April 26/27/28	Chapter 8 - Going Forth to Love and Serve
April 26/27/28	Final Formation Session for the Year
May 7 6:30p Parish Hall	Faith Formation Family Night <i>Crowning of Mary / Pizza / Bingo</i>

FIRST RECONCILIATION SCHEDULE

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday Faith Formation Sessions

Chapter 1 will be part of the Faith Formation Sessions from the beginning of the year.

September 18 6:30p Parish Hall	Faith Formation Family Night <i>Pizza / Bingo / Parent Orientation</i>
October 4 9:30a Liturgy / 11:00a Workshop / 12:10p Closing Prayer Ritual / 12:30p Dismissal	Presentation Ritual & Parent/Child Workshop
October 5/6/7	Chapter 2 - We Celebrate God's Love
October 13/14 NO CLASS Monday the 12th due to Columbus Day.	Chapter 3 - We Hear God's Word
October 19/20/21	Chapter 3 - We Hear God's Word
October 26/27/28	All Saints and All Souls Formation
November 2/3/4	Chapter 4 - We Look At Our Lives
November 9/10 NO CLASS Wednesday the 11th due to Veterans' Day.	Chapter 4 - We Look At Our Lives
November 16/17/18	Chapter 5 - We Ask Forgiveness
<i>November 23/24/25</i>	<i>Thanksgiving Break</i>
Nov. 31 / Dec/ 1/2	Chapter 5 - We Ask Forgiveness
December 6 9:30a Liturgy / 11:00a Workshop / 12:10p Closing Prayer Ritual / 12:30p Dismissal	Parent/Child Workshop Chapter 6—We Go Forth in Pardon and Peace
December 7/8/9	Faith Formation Session w/ Visit to 4th & 5th Gr.
December 10 7:00p	Celebration of Sacrament of First Reconciliation
December 14/15/16	Christmas Preparation and Formation

RECONCILIATION & EUCHARIST TEAM

Coordinator

Tony Millette
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Catechists and Aides

Monday

Catechists—Mary Henderson and Finola Murphy
Aides—Lucy Barry and Susan Lundstrom

Tuesday

Catechists—Patricia Mahoney
Aides—Ann Kunczynski and Norla Turney

Wednesday

Catechist—Monika Hinse
Aides— In development.

Children Workshop Team

Jean DeWitt, Monika Hinse and Laura Lea

Adult Workshop Team

David Alvarado and Laura Traxler

RECONCILIATION and EUCHARIST PROCESS

The sacramental preparation of children is less about the formal communication of doctrine than it is about welcoming children into the sacramental life of the community. The process and the materials that we use involve families in the preparation for the sacraments and recognize the primacy of the family. These are grace-filled opportunities to catechize adults as well as children. Sacramental preparation is not intended to be a substitute for the ongoing faith formation of children. All children in the sacramental preparation process have to be enrolled and attending regular faith formation sessions.

CHILDREN REQUIREMENTS

1. Weekly attendance at faith formation sessions
2. Attendance at Faith Formation Family Nights
3. Attendance at each Parent / Child Workshop (4 total)
4. Working on take home material with parents
5. Attendance at First Eucharist Retreat
6. Weekly participation in parish Sunday liturgy. Weekly participation on Sunday in the Children's Liturgy of the Word at the 9:30 liturgy is recommended and encouraged

PARENTAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Attendance at each parent / child workshop (4 total)
2. Attendance at First Eucharist Retreat
3. Attendance at Faith Formation Family Nights
4. Use material received at workshops at home for self and for child
5. Weekly participation in parish Sunday liturgy with child
6. Participation in parish ministry of choice

BAPTISMAL DOCUMENTATION

A copy of each child's baptismal certificate is needed for the celebration of the sacraments.

Calendar

RECONCILIATION and EUCHARIST

Faith Formation Family Nights

Sessions

Workshops

Rituals

Retreat

Sacraments of Reconciliation & Eucharist

The following dates do not cover the other regular 2nd grade formation sessions which begin the week of September 14th and go through the week of May 2, 2010.

COMPONENTS OF THE PROCESS

FIRST RECONCILIATION

First Reconciliation will be celebrated at the Advent Communal Reconciliation Liturgy in mid December. Sacraments by their very nature are communal events. Children sharing in the sacrament celebrate this grace filled moment with the community in which they gather for prayer and formation.

A reception, sponsored by the parents of the First Graders, will take place in the parish hall following the liturgy.

FIRST HOLY EUCHARIST

The celebration of First Holy Eucharist is celebrated during the Easter season. Like Reconciliation, First Eucharist is a communal event celebrated at one of the regular weekend liturgies.

A reception, sponsored by the parents of the First Graders, will take place in the parish hall following the liturgy.

PARENT / CHILD WORKSHOPS

There are a total of four Parent / Child Workshops for the preparation of Reconciliation and Eucharist. These workshops are geared to the parents and the child—each at their own level. The parents will gather in the conference room of the school with a priest or the sacramental coordinator as the children gather with their catechists in another room. The children will continue with their sacramental preparation that they have started in their weekday faith formation sessions as the parents are informed about the sacramental ritual as well as updating their Catholic formation.

These workshops are on the schedule and are held after the 9:30a Sunday liturgy. Attendance at liturgy is part of the workshop. A closing prayer ritual, with parents and children, will conclude the workshop starting at 12:10p in the church.

During the workshop childcare will be provided by parents of First Graders in our faith formation program.

Reconciliation

Reconciliation Workshops October 4th & December 6th

Eucharist Workshops February 21st & April 18th

FIRST EUCHARIST RETREAT

The First Eucharist Retreat is an opportunity for the children to explore the sacrament and its meaning with a parent or other adult. The retreat also allows the parent to share the experience of First Eucharist with their child.

The retreat will bring children and adults together. The environment will stimulate thought and discussion about the meaning of the Eucharist and about how the Eucharist fits within the Catholic faith. The activities stimulate all of the participants' senses, thus providing a rich learning experience.

FAITH FORMATION FAMILY NIGHTS

At the beginning and end of the year all faith formation families will gather in a social setting to build community and faith. These evenings will include pizza and bingo—a great Catholic pastime. The first Family Night will also include an orientation of the upcoming faith formation year and the last Family Night will include a May Crowning of Mary.

Family Night **September 18th—6:30p**
Bing / Pizza / Orientation

Family Night **May 7th—6:30p**
Bingo / Pot-luck / May Crowning

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Children's Liturgy of the Word is designed to make the gospel message and the celebration of the Liturgy of the Word more age appropriate for young children. Every Sunday during the 9:30 liturgy the children are dismissed after the opening prayer to hear, reflect and respond to the gospel story of the day and then return to the main worship space for the remainder of the liturgy of the Eucharist.

Children involved in the preparation for Reconciliation and Eucharist are recommended and encouraged to participate in this weekly Children's Liturgy of the Word.

COMMUNION PROCESSION

Children preparing for First Eucharist are encouraged to take part in the communion procession at Sunday liturgy. The children are asked to join their parents and process to a minister of communion. The children should cross their arms over their chest when they approach the minister of communion. This gesture signals to the minister that he or she is to bless this child who can not yet share in communion. Actually this gesture applies for all, young and old, who are not able to share in communion.

CHILDREN OLDER THAN 2nd GRADE

Children who are in 3rd grade and who have not yet received their First Reconciliation or Eucharist will be encouraged to participate in the 2nd Grade formation process. Children in 4th grade or older who have not received the sacraments of Reconciliation or Eucharist will need to attend their regular faith formation class, but will be given additional sacramental material to study at home with parents, will meet periodically with the sacramental coordinator or catechist to monitor progress and understanding and attend the preparation sessions with the 2nd Graders that lead up to the celebration of the sacrament.. This meeting will take place during regular faith formation class time. They will share in the sacrament at the same time as the 2nd Graders. Children and parents will have the same requirements as those in 2nd Grade.

PRESENTATION RITUAL

At the beginning of each sacrament's preparation process the children will be presented to the faith community at the 9:30 liturgy. This ritual will coincide with the first Parent / Child Workshop of each sacrament's preparation process.

Reconciliation Presentation Ritual **October 4th**

Eucharist Presentation Ritual **February 21st**