



HOLY FAMILY PARISH

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September 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

This year your child is invited to prepare for the Sacraments of **First Reconciliation** and **First Holy Communion**. Obviously, things will be a little different this year as we will not be having our traditional in-church classes and parent sessions. We have however, prepared a new at-home workbook that parents and children will work on together throughout the year and include 3 Online Parent Sessions (see 'Important Dates' attached). We are excited to tell you all about it during our Registration Night! **NOTE: PLEASE READ BOTH SIDES OF THIS LETTER.**

THE REGISTRATION NIGHT WILL BE HELD ON

Tuesday, October 27th, 7:00pm for St Marks & St Paul Schools.

Thursday, October 29th, 7:00pm for St Bernard, St Matthew, St Theresa and all other schools including virtual & home.

There will be a presentation at 7:00pm in the church outlining the program and the workbook & material needed **will be handed out as well**. Attendance is required. **Please Note: ONLY THE PARENTS ARE TO ATTEND. MASK ARE MANDATORY.** Everyone will be required to use the provided hand sanitizer upon entering and ushers will be present to seat you in order to maintain proper physical distance for everyone. You will find that Holy Family is a very safe environment. We encourage you to visit: <https://www.holyfamilywhitby.ca/sunday-mass-registration/> for more information on our safety protocols.

REGISTRATION STEPS

- 1) Please locate your child's Baptismal Certificate. If you cannot locate it, you will need to contact the parish where he or she was baptized for a copy or your child's school may have a copy. You will be required to bring it with you on Registration Night.
- 2) **ONLINE REGISTRATION**: Visit our website at holyfamilywhitby.ca and click on 'First Communion'. The direct link to the First Communion page is: <https://www.holyfamilywhitby.ca/first-holy-communion/>. Please **complete the Online Registration Form** and press 'submit'. This will prompt an email notification with a PDF attachment to be sent to the email account that you used to register.
- 4) When you receive the email notification, please **print the PDF attachment** as you will be required to hand it in on the night of registration.
- 5) Attend the **Registration night for your child's school** (see above dates) **and bring with you the following**: the printed email notification from the online registration, your child's original Baptismal certificate along with a copy for the office and the \$50.00 registration fee.
- 6) If you are not a registered parishioner of Holy Family Parish, please print the '**Holy Family Registration Form/Change of Address**' form (*which can be found on the First Communion page of our website*) and bring the completed form with you when you register.

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BAPTISED IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

Your child must be baptized in the Roman Catholic Church in order to receive the Sacraments. If your child was baptized in another Christian denomination or has not been baptized yet, arrangements will need to be made **as soon as possible** for your child to be either Baptized or 'Received' into the Catholic Church. We ask that you please contact the parish as soon as possible to make arrangements. Please also visit the **Baptism Page** of our website for more information. holyfamilywhitby.ca/baptism-3/

INSCRIPTION CEREMONY

All children receiving First Holy Communion in April 2021 are **ALSO** required to be enrolled in a public **Inscription Ceremony** which takes place during a Sunday Liturgy. This ceremony will mark the **Official start** of your child's preparation towards the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Inscription for St **Mark & St Paul will take place on the weekend of Nov 14 & 15, and on the weekend of Nov 21 & 22 for St Bernard, St Matthew, St Theresa and all other schools including virtual & home-schooled children.** Please ensure parent(s) & child attend one of the Masses on your designated weekend. Your child will be invited to come forward during a special Inscription liturgy at which time the child will present the completed **Inscription Ceremony Form** to the presiding priest. If needed, additional Inscription forms can be found on our website on the First Communion webpage.

Finally, I would like to remind you that **You, the parents, are the first teachers** of your child in the way of the faith. I want to assure you of my fullest support and I encourage you to seek my assistance whenever you encounter difficulties in preparing your child for these very important Sacraments. Please do not hesitate to call me if you need assistance. It is with faith and love for our children that we begin this very special journey together.

With prayerful best wishes,

Rev. Fr. László Nagy
Pastor