

SACRAMENT INFORMATION – 2020-2021

RECONCILIATION AND FIRST COMMUNION



Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these.”

Matthew 19:14

Children generally receive First Reconciliation and First Communion at St. Francis Xavier in Second Grade. Parents are expected to participate in their child's

preparation for these sacraments by attending an initial parent-only formation meeting, two parent-child sacrament workshops and the liturgical celebrations of Reconciliation and Eucharist, as well as by working with their child to complete assignments in a Reconciliation textbook and a First Communion textbook. Children learn the value of the sacraments long before they begin preparing to receive them. Be sure your children attend Mass weekly and you take them to Reconciliation regularly, once they have received First Reconciliation.

2020-21 donation for Reconciliation and Communion: \$85

The diocese requires that children have two consecutive years of religious instruction before receiving the sacraments. Students coming into Religious Education later than the usual time will be required to participate in the FCFF program for two years. During their second year, they will begin preparing for the sacraments. Once prepared, older students will have a choice of receiving First Communion with the younger children or at another weekend Mass. These arrangements must be made in advance with the Pastor.

For additional information about Reconciliation or Communion, please contact **Kathy Roberts**, Sacrament Coordinator, at kroberts@sfxjoliet.org



CONFIRMATION

Baptism, the Eucharist, and the sacrament of Confirmation together constitute the sacraments of Christian initiation ... By the sacrament of Confirmation, the baptized are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit.

from the Catechism of the Catholic Church #1285

The goal of our Confirmation program is to help the students make a personal commitment to Christ and take on the role of a young adult in the church, through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

8th graders who have completed 7th grade, in addition to attending the Family Centered Faith Formation sessions with their parents, will attend Confirmation classes once a month to prepare them to receive Confirmation in the fall of 2021.

The students will also participate in a scheduled retreat. To help them learn more about themselves, the sacrament of Confirmation, and the Church, they will be asked to complete some additional assignments.

Students who enter the Confirmation program later than 8th grade will complete their 2-year preparation as high school students while continuing to attend Family Centered Faith Formation sessions with their parents.

Confirmation Donation for 2020-21 Candidates: \$65 plus transportation fees to group service projects, when applicable.

For additional information about Confirmation, please contact **Kathy Roberts**, Sacrament Coordinator, at kroberts@sfxjoliet.org