

**CHRIST THE KING PARISH FIRST EUCHARISTS / FIRST RECONCILIATION
FAITH FORMATION PROGRAM 2018 – 2019**

FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST EUCHARIST PROGRAM

The First Reconciliation & First Eucharist Program is a combined Mass/Class program meeting most Sundays from the 8:30am Mass followed immediately with class until 10:20am. All children should attend the 8:30am Mass with their families. Children will be encouraged to sit on the sanctuary floor during the homily at most Masses. They will be dismissed from Mass after the children's blessing after Communion to go directly to class in the parish center.

FIRST CLASS

You will receive a post card in the mail to let you know the teacher's name and classroom number. Bring the post card with you to the first class session which will take place on Sunday, September 23rd. Parents should accompany their child to the classroom following the 8:30am Mass. Children should not be left unattended in the classrooms. **If the teacher is not in the classroom prior to class, please wait in the hallway until they arrive.**

DISMISSAL

The closing bell will ring at 10:20 to signify the end of class. Please go to your child's class to pick him/her up. This is a good opportunity to say hello to the teacher and to say THANKS as well! Other than parents, students will only be released to individuals that you have identified on the Dismissal Permission Slip form which will be kept on file in the office.

SYLLABUS/FOLDER

Stapled in your child's text is the syllabus with class dates and the listing of the lesson for the day. In the case of absence or class cancellation, please complete this work at home with your child. All children will receive a colored two-pocket folder. This will be a vehicle for communication with you and to hold forms that will need your attention. Inside the folder is a place for your signature acknowledging your receipt of the paperwork enclosed each week. Please help your child to remember to bring both the folder and the textbook to class each week.

PARENT MEETINGS / STUDENT RETREAT DAYS

Special retreat days and parent meetings will be held on some Sundays in the Parish Hall throughout the year to review details of the First Reconciliation and First Eucharist program. Please try to attend these sessions. The dates for these meetings will be announced through flocknote and the communication folder.

CHILD MALTREATMENT PROGRAM

In compliance with our Bishop, we have incorporated this Diocesan program into our classes. At scheduled times throughout the year your child will receive a handout from this program that you should take the time to review and discuss with your child. An opportunity to preview the material will be available during the fall.

***** OTHER SIDE *****

CHRIST THE KING PARISH FAITH FORMATION FAMILY HANDBOOK

All families enrolled in the Faith Formation Program at Christ the King Parish should familiarize themselves with the Family Handbook, which details the procedures and requirements of the Faith Formation Program. This document can be located on our parish website at: christthekingparish.com on the Faith Formation page. Hard copies are available by request.

Your child's text is part of the *Believe, Celebrate, Live Sacramental Preparation* series published by Sadlier. In addition to the textbook series, we will be using additional resources provided by secondary sources including several lessons put together by myself. Visit the website, www.WeBelieveweb.com, for lots of additional information, resources, and activities for the entire family. The following is an overview of what your child will be learning this year.

Book Title: We Believe – Catholic Identity

What Your Child Will Learn during first semester: The Sacrament of Reconciliation

In the first half of the year, the children will begin their preparation to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The children will learn how to be better disciples of Jesus, learning about his love. They will learn about the importance of following rules/laws and how to make moral choices for themselves that reflect God's love. By learning about God's forgiveness, they will begin to understand the importance of this sacrament and why it is necessary for us as Catholics to receive it on a regular basis. The children will hear/read various stories from the Bible about forgiveness and how we need to not only seek forgiveness from God but from others as well. They will also learn about the importance of examining their conscience, determining what they feel is important to confess. In reflecting on God's love and mercy, students will learn different ways to express that love in their daily lives through the Works of Mercy. By the end of this section, the children will understand the meaning of the sacrament of Reconciliation and will be ready to celebrate the sacrament in January.

What Your Child Will Learn during second semester: The Sacrament of the Eucharist

In the second half of the year, the children will begin their preparation to receive the Most Holy Eucharist. The children will learn the importance of belonging to a church community and the importance of being members of the Church as a whole. They will learn about the necessity of giving thanks and praise to God. In this unit, the children will also have an opportunity to tour our church, learning about various elements that make up our worship place. The Eucharist is the source and summit of our Christian life, and with that the children will learn about what the Eucharist is, how it was instituted, and how we celebrate it. The children will learn about Mass, and its various parts in detail. They will also learn about how we can go forth from the Mass and live as Disciples of Christ. By the end of the year, students will understand the meaning of the Eucharist, and will be sufficiently prepared to receive the sacrament for the first time in May.