

First Reconciliation / First Eucharist Most Frequently Asked Questions

- **Communications** – Our primary means of communication is through email. Our full calendar can be found on our parish website, www.st-gabriel.org
- **Parent Conferences** – This sacramental journey includes an opportunity for one of our Priests or Deacons to connect with parents. All conferences will take place in the Parish Office and will last approximately 15-20 minutes. Registration will be done online and you will receive an email notification with directions. Conferences are for parents only. Contact Karen Jubeck with any questions at kjubeck@st-gabriel.org or 440-352-8282
- **Sacramental Fee** – All families should have received a sacramental fee envelope at our Orientation Meeting. This \$50 fee covers the Faith Journal, scapulars, retreat experiences, programs, speakers, certificates, environment, musicians, etc. The fee is due by December 1. Kindly contact Karen Jubeck (kjubeck@st-gabriel.org / 440-352-8282) if you have any questions or are unable to cover the fee.
- **Group / Weekend Celebrations of First Eucharist – Group Celebrations** will be held on Saturday, May 4th at 9:30 AM (families with last names A-L) and again at Noon (families with last names M-Z). Size is limited to 75 families each. These celebrations have the parents sitting with their first communicant, processing in together, and receiving the Body and Blood as a family unit. All other family members/guests sit throughout the Church. **Weekend Celebrations** are held during any Mass of choice on the designated weekends (see the calendar for dates). For these celebrations, extended family members may sit together in one or two rows. Parents and communicant will process in, receive mention in Prayers of the Faithful, bring up the gifts, and come forward to receive the Body and Blood as is normally done at parish Masses. You will receive information on scheduling your child's date at the Reconciliation Retreat.
EVERYONE IS ASSIGNED TO A GROUP CELEBRATION BASED ON YOUR LAST NAME. IF YOU WISH TO CHANGE TIMES, YOU CAN DO SO AT THE RECONCILIATION RETREAT.
- **First Eucharist Dress Guidelines** – Boys wear dress pants, dress shoes, and a shirt and tie (jacket is optional). Most boys wear navy or black pants with a white shirt and a nice tie. Girls wear a white dress, dress shoes, tights or dress socks (veil and gloves are optional).
- **Photography Opportunity** – Professional Photography will be available for families in the school after each Mass for both Group Communion. A flyer with necessary info will be provided and sign-ups will take place at the First Eucharist Retreat. **Please note: in order to encourage full participation in prayers and singing and to keep the atmosphere prayerful and reverent, we ask that no pictures (flash or non-flash) or videos be taken before and during the celebrations. Opportunities will be available following each liturgy.**
- **Child Care** – To help parents fully participate in all aspects of our sacramental journey, our parish will offer child care for both retreats as well as the sacramental celebrations. All volunteers are VIRTUS trained and will provide your child with top notch care during this time.

