



SAINT TIMOTHY
CATHOLIC CHURCH

First Communion Orientation 2018-2019



Welcome to your child's First Communion year! We look forward to working with your family in this faith filled journey toward First Reconciliation and Eucharist. The next meeting will be February 3rd and 4th.

Each session has a unique faith focus and participation is required for all sessions.

Any commitment worth pursuing whether sports, scouts, work, civic or a social activity requires participation. The Sacramental Preparation program at St. Timothy Catholic Church is no different. Our parish community supports families in preparing these young people to receive Eucharist for the first time. Participation by parents provides an opportunity for adults to examine their own faith.

Each session is staffed by trained catechists. If you have been enrolled in the past and would consider working with the preparation team please contact the faith formation office. It is truly a rewarding ministry!

What is required for participation in the program?

- Your family must be registered at St. Timothy church.
- Your child must be baptized Catholic.
- Your child must have been actively enrolled in a religious education class or attended a parochial school last year.
- Your child must be in a faith formation this year at St. Timothy or attending a parochial school.

What is required to document Baptism?

A copy of your child's Baptism certificate is required.

What is the program like?

Our program is an initiation process that follows the Diocese of St. Petersburg's "Catechetical Guidelines for the Sacraments of Initiation and Penance." We use age appropriate materials approved by the United States Council of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). The activities help children experience a conversion in their faith and understand that the Eucharist is truly the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.

Parents, go to DynamicCatholic.com/Blessed and signup for e-mails to journey along with your child.

Are all the sessions required?

Yes. Your commitment to participate requires your child to attend each session.

If a session is missed due to illness or emergency, can it be made up?

If a session is missed, the child's input and interaction with their catechist and peers can't be made up. Emergencies happen. It is the parents' responsibility to contact the faith formation office within one week to discuss the absence.

Regular Mass Attendance is expected. Please have your child come up with you in the communion line. Their arms should be crossed to receive a blessing. This helps them feel comfortable on First Communion Day.

Dress Code for the First Communion

The celebration of First Holy Eucharist is a very exciting time for the whole family. Appropriate attire for the First Communion is simple and age-appropriate. The attire should not distract from the focus of receiving the Sacrament. Please use the following guidelines when choosing your child's attire.

BOYS

Shirt: Solid colored dress shirt, long or short sleeves. No polo style shirts please.

Pants: Khaki pants or dress pants with appropriate belt.

Tie: Not required but suitable for the occasion. Solid, stripe or other subtle print please.

Shoes: Dark colored dress shoes with socks. No athletic shoes or boots.

Dress jackets: are welcome but optional.

GIRLS

Dresses: 99.9% wear White, below the knee in length.

Shoulders should be covered. No spaghetti straps.

Shoes and socks: White, low-heeled dress shoes. No high heels. Open toe shoes are fine.

Veil: Optional. Many girls opt to wear a white veil or a headpiece to accompany their First Communion dress. Apart from the veil, simple white wreaths, white headbands, white barrettes, or white ribbons are also popular.

Accessories The First Communion is strictly a **no-accessory zone** – no purses, bibles, rosaries or gloves at the church.

Please note:

Break in their dress shoes as well, so that they do not end up having sore feet on their special day. Rough up the soles, so that they do not slip on the tile. To ensure your child is comfortable and not distracted please avoid itchy, uncomfortable clothing.

** You may also want to check the website to view pictures from previous First Holy Communions. <http://www.sainttims.org/sacraments/first-communion/>

First Holy Communion Masses

Saturday, May 4th - 11:00 A.M. Mass

First Holy Communion

Sunday, May 5th- 9:00 A.M Mass & 11:00 A.M. Mass

First Holy Communion

Please e-mail Pam Burke with your requested First Holy Communion mass preference.

Faith Formation office is staffed Monday through Thursday.

Peggy Cloutier
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www.sainttims.org

Mass Schedule
Daily Mon.-Sat. 9am
Saturday Vigil 5:30pm
Sunday 7:30am, 9am, 11am & 5:30pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 9:30am & 4:30pm