

# FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

2024-2025



RECEIVE



ST. TIMOTHY CATHOLIC CHURCH  
FAITH FORMATION

17512 Lakeshore Rd., Lutz, FL 33558



## **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 First Holy Communion.**

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 the Eucharist for the first time. During this important time, parents are encouraged to dive deeper into their faith so they can better support their child.

Parents can also consider assisting during First Communion Classes to learn side by side with their child. Each session is staffed by trained catechists who you'd be able to assist as needed. If you are interested in this opportunity please contact the faith formation team. It is truly a rewarding ministry experience!

### **What is required for participation in the program?**

- Your family must be either registered at St. Timothy church or provide a letter of permission from the Catholic parish at which you're registered
- Your child must be baptized.
  - If not baptized Catholic, the child will need to make a profession of faith prior to receiving Sacraments with the Catholic Church.
- Your child must have been actively enrolled in a faith formation class or attended a Catholic school last year.
- Your child must be registered in First Communion preparation class this year at St. Timothy.

### **What is required to document Baptism?**

A copy of your child's Baptism certificate is required if they were not baptized at St. Timothy.

### **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.

The Mass is an essential part of the program and is referenced in the curriculum throughout the year, **regular Sunday Mass attendance is required**. 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.

**If a session is missed due to illness or emergency, can it be made up?** While your child's input and interaction with their catechist and peers can't be made up, emergencies happen and schedule conflicts come up. You will receive an email from the faith formation office with instructions to makeup the sacramental preparation session.

# Dress Code for the First Communion Mass

The celebration of First Holy Communion 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.

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

**Dress jackets:** are welcome but optional. Tie not required but suitable for the occasion. Solid, stripe or other subtle print please.

## 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:** 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.

## First Reconciliation Service

Saturday, November 16, 2024 - 10:00 A.M. in the main sanctuary.

In order for the child to make their First Reconciliation we must have a copy of their baptism certificate on record or have been baptized at St. Timothy. Proof of baptism must be turned in no later than **November 1st**.

## First Holy Communion Masses

Saturday, May 10, 2025 - 11:00 A.M. Mass

Rehearsal Thursday, May 8 at 6:00pm

Saturday, May 10, 2025- 2:00 P.M. Mass

Rehearsal Thursday, May 8 at 7:00pm

A Signup Genius will go out after First Reconciliation, November 2024 to sign up for a First Holy Communion Mass.

St. Timothy Catholic Church

[www.sainttims.org](http://www.sainttims.org)

### **Mass Schedule**

Daily Mon-Sat 9am

Wednesday 6pm

Saturday Vigil 5:30pm

Sunday 7:30am, 9am, 11am, & 5:30pm

### **Sacrament of Reconciliation**

Wednesday 6:30pm

Saturday 9:30am & 4pm

You can also set up an appointment by calling

813-968-1077

### **Faith Formation Education Office**

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