

2017-2018 STM Sacramental Preparation Calendar

For those Preparing to Receive First Reconciliation and First Communion

All events are required unless indicated otherwise.

If a location is not given, we will likely meet in the Fellowship Hall. Watch your email for an update prior to the event.

FIRST RECONCILIATION PREP DATES

- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Oct 1
Sunday | Parent/Child Class + Enrollment Mass
8:30-10:00am + Mass <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child must attend Mass with an adult who will be helping them prepare for First Reconciliation, other family members are welcome to join• Families will receive preparation materials at this time |
| Nov 4
Saturday | Parent/Child Preparation Retreat
3:00-5:00pm + Mass – Begin in Lower Level <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workbooks due at retreat |
| Nov 15
Wednesday | First Reconciliation (Rite)
6:15-7:30pm in Church <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Child must attend with at least one adult |

**Please contact me at emily@stmccath.org or 920-739-8172
with any questions or concerns.**

Note: All dates subject to change with email notice.

2017-2018 STM Sacramental Preparation Calendar

For those Preparing to Receive First Reconciliation and First Communion

FIRST COMMUNION PREP DATES

- Feb 4**
Sunday
Parent/Child Class #1 + Enrollment Mass
8:30-10:00am + Mass
- Parents will receive preparation materials at this time
 - Child must attend Mass with an adult who will be helping them prepare for First Communion, other family members are welcome to join
- Mar 4**
Sunday
Parent/Child Class #2
8:30-10:00am + Mass
- Parent letter(s) due at class
- Mar 16**
Friday
Liturgical Role Form Due (Google Form, will receive by email)
- Mar 29**
Thursday
Holy Thursday Mass – Optional
6:30pm in Church
- This was where Jesus washed the feet of his disciples and celebrated the Last Supper (institution of the Eucharist)
- Apr 22**
Sunday
Parent/Child Preparation Retreat
8:30am-12:00pm (includes Mass) – Begin in Lower Level
- Other family members invited to attend Bread Party following Mass
 - Workbook and Interview sheet due at retreat
- May 5**
Saturday
First Communion Rehearsals
9:00am OR 10:15am (see below) in Church
- *Child is required to attend the corresponding rehearsal with at least one adult who will be attending the First Communion liturgy*
 - Attend 9:00am rehearsal if attending 5:00pm Mass, May 5
 - Attend 10:15am rehearsal if attending 10:00am Mass, May 6
- May 5 & 6**
Sat & Sun
First Communion (Liturgy)
5:00pm OR 10:00am (see below) in Church
- *Sign up for either 5:00pm Mass on Saturday or 10:00am Mass on Sunday at the parent/child class*

August 23, 2017

Dear St. Thomas More Families,

May the peace of Christ be with you as you begin the school year. You are receiving this mailing because according to our records, your son or daughter is enrolled in Sacrament Preparation for Reconciliation and Eucharist at St. Thomas More. Enclosed you will find a Sacrament Preparation calendar for your reference. We would like to invite you to our first parent-child class on **Sunday, October 1, at 8:30am** in the **Fellowship Hall**. We are asking that one or both parents or guardians attend the class with your 2nd grade child. An enrollment Mass will follow the class for all present. Please note that the class and Mass are *required* events in the preparation process.

We use a family catechesis model at St. Thomas More for our 2nd grade Sacrament Preparation Program. This means that all of the meetings and retreats involve both the 2nd grade children and their parents or guardians. The primary teaching for preparation is conducted by the parents at home, in keeping with Catholic tradition where parents are the primary catechists of their children. We provide support throughout this process, including an at-home text, lesson plans, and email correspondence, as well as periodic events where we can grow together as a group.

If you have any questions or concerns about the curriculum or content of the sacrament preparation, please do not hesitate to contact me at emily@stmccath.org. I look forward to journeying with you all this year as we prepare your children for the reception of the sacraments.

God bless you,

Emily Shackleton

Emily Shackleton
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St. Thomas More Parish, Appleton
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**WE BELONG TO
GOD'S FAMILY**

As disciples of Jesus, the Eucharist strengthens us
to share God's love with others.

We Gather

- What are some groups you belong to?
- What are things you do as part of these groups?

Belonging to a group makes us feel like we are part of something bigger.

We belong to God's family.

Show "Belonging" video from DVD 4 of God's Gift: Eucharist Series

We are Christians

- Can people recognize that you are a part of God's family?
- Do you have a resemblance to Jesus Christ in the way you think, act, and speak?

We Respond

- Name ways Jesus shares God's life with us
- Write or draw these ideas inside the outline of Jesus

We Respond

- Name ways that, following Jesus' example of loving God, we can let God's life show through us
- Write or draw these ideas around the outside of Jesus' outline
- Add names or pictures of those with whom we share God's life

We Pray

Together: Jesus, thank you for showing us God the Father. Help us to share with others God's life within us.

Leader: God, through your Son, Jesus Christ, you have shown us the way to live each day as you would have us live. When you offer us your grace, we will respond. When you call us to share your word with others, we will speak. We ask that we may always share your life.

Together: Amen



Live It!

•How are these people sharing God's life with others?

Live It!

•Family Service Project:

- Choose one of the ways you can let God's life show through your family from around the outside of Jesus' outline
- Write the way you will act on it this week on the sticky note provided
 - When:
 - Where:
 - How:
 - For Whom:
- Post the sticky note somewhere you will see it at home and do it this week
- Check in with each other during family time next week to discuss how it went

Children dismissed to complete Ch 1 from God's Gift: Eucharist with catechist, parents remain

Video from Decision Point series

The Epidemic

- What are two points that stuck out to you in this video?
- What is something you want to tell others about Jesus?
 - Your Child
 - Someone who is struggling

Pope Francis Says...

"Jesus Christ loves you;
He gave his life to save you;
And now he is living at your side every day
To enlighten, strengthen, and free you."

• From his document, "The Joy of the Gospel"

Video from Decision Point series

The One Thing

- What is one of your favorite things about Catholicism? If you are Catholic, what is one of your favorite thing about being Catholic?
 - Why?
- What do you most want your child to understand about his/her faith? Why is this important to you?

Children rejoin large group, watch Blessed: First Communion

unit 6 Session 3 video, "Go Make a Difference"

Closing Prayer

Together: Loving Father, thank you for all the ways you bless my family. Inspire us to share your love with everyone who crosses our path. Never let us forget that you are always with us and that we are blessed.

Amen.

Dismissed to Mass