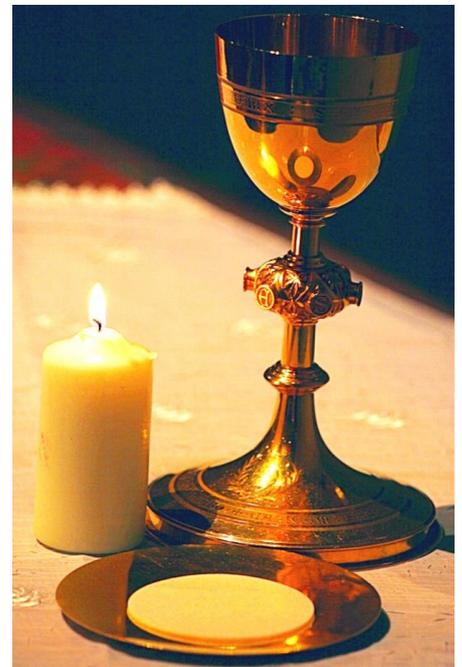


Catholic Community of East Nottingham

Parishes of St Augustine's, Our Lady & St Edward's and Sacred Heart

First Reconciliation and Holy Communion preparation 2020/21

Congratulations ... on being a parent! It is a great gift and responsibility and the Church regards you as the first and best teacher of your child as a follower of Jesus. We want to support you as you bring your child up to be a member of the Body of Christ and to take this important step of receiving the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion for the first time.



First Holy Communion is the first time that a child receives the Body and Blood of Jesus during Mass; the bread and wine that has been transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit into the Body and Blood of Jesus, as he promised at the Last Supper with his disciples.

Reconciliation is when we experience the forgiveness of God in confession; we admit our need for God's help and strength to be a good person and are assured of both God's forgiveness and that of the community.

To help you and your child prepare for these important moments in their faith and life, we have a parish preparation programme to try and help your child understand what it means to be a disciple of Jesus.

For each preparation session, each child **MUST** be accompanied by a parent. In this way, you learn together and as a parent, you support your child in growing in their faith. **The first meeting that each parent and child** has to come to is;

- Our Lady & St Edward's Church Monday 11th January, 6 – 7.
- Sacred Heart Church Monday 11th January 6 – 7.
- St Augustine's Church, Wednesday 13th January, 6 – 7.

All these meetings are in the churches, not schools.

The day of celebration

Your child will be invited to celebrate the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** for the first time at a parish Lenten Reconciliation Service in Lent. **The Mass at which your child receives the Eucharist for the first time** is very special – for them, the family and the parish community. Your child will be invited to make their first Holy Communion at a parish Sunday Mass of their and your choosing on two/three weekends in June/July. We will try and keep the numbers to 10 children max at each Mass. This will mean that your family has more flexibility in terms of which celebration you come to, how many family members can attend and that members of the parish community will also be able to be present. It will also mean that it is a safe and reverent celebration.

If you are not already bringing your child on a regular and frequent basis to Mass at the weekend, please consider carefully if you are fulfilling the promise you made at their baptism to 'bring them up in the practice of the faith'. Unless you are doing this already, it might be best to wait for a year until your child has become accustomed to coming to weekend Mass. You and your child should already have formed a 'habit' of coming to Mass on this frequent and regular basis. At the moment, you have to book to come to Mass. Go to www.massbooking.uk to book a place at our churches.

Because of the uncertainty of how churches will be allowed to operate in the coming months, details of the preparation for and celebration of the Sacraments may change and will certainly be different to previous years.

Please state which parish you belong to and normally attend

(delete as appropriate)

St Augustine's / Our Lady & St Edward's / Sacred Heart

This form should be returned to either St Augustine's Church, Our Lady & St Edward Church or Sacred Heart Church. Alternatively, you can return it by hand or in the post to; Parish Office, 97 Carlton Hill, Carlton, Nottingham. NG4 1FP.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN IT TO SCHOOL

Please return this form by Sunday 20th December to the church or parish office.

Do not return it to the school

Child's details

(please print all details)

Christian names _____

Surname _____ Date of Birth _____

Date of Baptism _____ Church of Baptism _____

Church address _____

*If your child was **not** baptised at St Augustine's, Our Lady & St Edward's or Sacred Heart, please provide a copy of the baptismal certificate as well as providing the details here.*

School child attends _____ Class _____

Home address _____

Email of parent _____

Telephone number _____

Father's name _____

Father's religion _____

Mother's name _____

Mother's religion _____

Medical information

Please print below any condition/phobia/allergy your child has or any additional help they need.

Parental consent

Your child must have reached their 7th birthday by August 31st 2020

Classes in the parishes will take place early in the evening after school **in the church**.

There is a charge for the preparation programme of £10. This will be collected at the first meeting and covers the cost of the preparation book and other resources

I give permission for my child to attend the preparation for him/her to receive First Holy Communion. I promise, as the first and best teacher of my child in the ways of faith, to support him/her in that preparation by bringing him/her to Mass every Sunday, and to all the events that form part of the preparation.

I also give permission for a photo of my child to be displayed in church according to safeguarding good practice (names and images of children are not displayed together).

I also give permission for the information on this form to be used by the parish – office and catechist team – for the purposes of this preparation programme and stored securely for those purposes. Information provided on this form, together with all personal data held about individuals by the Parish and the Diocese of Nottingham is processed in accordance with the Diocesan Privacy Notice, available here <https://www.dioceseofnottingham.uk/privacy-policy>

Emergency contact number(s) _____

Signed _____ *(by both parents/guardians if appropriate)*

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