

## **Mary, Help of Christians**

### **Office of Religious Education**

August 11, 2017

Dear Parents:

If you have a child in second grade or above who is baptized Catholic, they can prepare to celebrate First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in 2018. Some of the preparation will take place during PSR with a catechist. The rest of the preparation will take place at home because parents are the primary faith formation teachers of their children. In case you think you are underqualified for this task, do not worry. We are here to help.

On Wednesday, November 15, you will bring your child to the Parish Center for a retreat on Reconciliation with the catechist. While they are busy, I will meet with you to give you some background on the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Also, at this time, I will pass out a parent guide and a book to be used with your child.

Your child will complete the book with you by March. During PSR on March 11, I will take your child to the church to see the Reconciliation room and you are welcome to come along too. On March 15, you and your child will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at a communal Penance Service in the parish. At that time, I will give you the parent guide and book you will use to prepare your child for receiving Eucharist.

In April, I will offer two sessions to deepen your appreciation and understanding of Eucharist, so you will feel prepared and empowered to teach your child. Then, on the day before they celebrate their First Eucharist, you and your child can come to a fun retreat to prepare for First Communion.

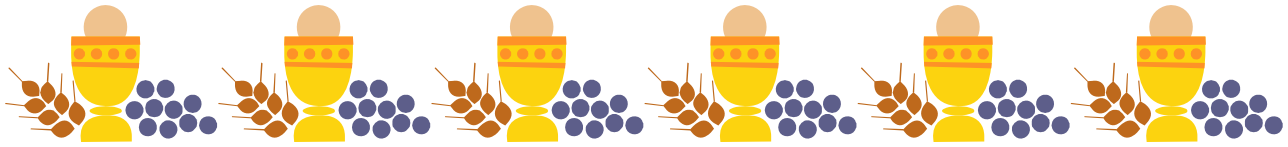
For your convenience, a schedule with all these dates and times is attached. And please remember, you are always welcome to call my office with questions (878-7325).

Sincerely,



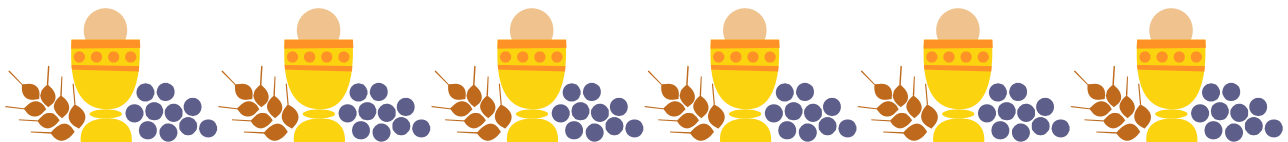
Molly Hynes Collinsworth,

Director of Religious Education,  
Pastoral Associate



**FIRST RECONCILIATION  
&  
FIRST EUCHARIST  
CALENDAR  
2017-2018**

- First Reconciliation Retreat (child) & 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
*Parent Formation on Reconciliation* (parent) Parish Center APR  
**Wednesday, November 15, 2017**  
Receive reconciliation book, pay \$70.00 materials fee
- Tour of Reconciliation Room during PSR  
**Sunday, March 11, 2018** (child) (parents invited) 9:45-11:00 a.m.
- First Reconciliation 7:00 p.m.  
**Thursday, March 15, 2018** (child and family) Church  
Receive Eucharist book
- Parent Formation on Eucharist  
Part 1. **Sunday, April 22, 2018** (parent) 9:45-11:00 a.m  
St. Francis Hall  
Part 2. **Thursday, April 26, 2018** (parent) 7:00-8:30 p.m.  
St. Francis Hall
- First Eucharist Retreat and Practice 12:30-4:00 p.m.  
**Saturday, May 05, 2018** (parent and child) Starts in Church,  
ends in Parish  
Center APR
- First Eucharist 11:15 a.m.  
**Sunday, May 06, 2018** (parent and child) Church  
Photos before and/or after.  
Reception follows.



**FIRST EUCHARIST INFORMATION:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (current): \_\_\_\_\_

(last year): \_\_\_\_\_  
(PSR, Catholic School, or Home School)

**RESIDENTIAL INFORMATION:**

PARENTS NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

CELL PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

FATHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTHER'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MOTHER'S MAIDEN NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

If your child was baptized at MHC, we can access the records, but we need you to submit the date of baptism and any name changes: \_\_\_\_\_. **All first communicants baptized elsewhere need to submit a copy of their baptismal certificate.**

Please return this form as soon as possible to the Rectory Office or to the Religious Education Office in St. Francis Hall. Forms may be placed in the collection basket, if inside an envelope with: Attention: Molly Hynes Collinsworth, They may also be mailed to Mary, Help of Christians, DRE; 954 North Maple Ave; Fairborn, Ohio 45324. If you have any questions, please call Molly at 878-7325.