

# *Sacramental Preparation*

## **BAPTISM**

Please contact the Faith Formation Office (989-835-6777) anytime during your pregnancy to register for required parent baptism classes or fill out the form online.

For Adults seeking baptism, please call the Faith Formation Office to inquire about joining the Church and attending RCIA classes.

## **CONFIRMATION**

For years, young people in the Diocese of Saginaw have received this Sacrament in the 2nd grade, before receiving the Eucharist for the first time. However, in 2021, Bishop Gruss decided that “discernment and preparation for the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation should begin at a minimum age of 12 to 14 years old.” In addition, he is requiring parishes to prepare youth for this Sacrament through a two-year process using a program called *Purpose* from Life Teen. Parish leaders will accompany youth on this journey of preparation and will guide youth as they discern when they are ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Our first group of students who have not received the Sacrament of Confirmation in their 2nd grade year are now entering 6th grade. Because the Bishop is asking that preparation for Confirmation begins no earlier than 12-years-old, we will begin our first round of Year 1 prep in the fall of 2025, when this group of students is entering 7th grade.

To learn more about what this program will look like, including when your child can expect to participate in the program, please visit the Confirmation page on our website by scanning the QR code.



# Sacramental Preparation

To prepare for the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist, a child must:

- Be Baptized Catholic or other recognized denomination.
- Be a member of the parish at which he or she will be receiving the sacraments.
- Be at least seven years old at the time of reception of the sacraments.
- Be enrolled and participate in two years of Faith Formation before the reception of the sacrament.

## FIRST RECONCILIATION

First Reconciliation preparation begins in October with a Parent-Child Session that includes family prayer, activities for kids, information for parents, and registration for the program. Families may choose to attend either of two dates for this event. During October and November, families work together at home on their First Reconciliation books. In December, the children gather at church for their Jesus Experience Day when they participate in retreat-style activities and celebrate the sacrament.

PARENT/CHILD SESSION:

*October 20  
2:00 pm*

JESUS EXPERIENCE DAY:

*December 7  
9:00 am*

## FIRST EUCHARIST

Similar to First Reconciliation preparation, First Eucharist preparation consists of Parent-Child Sessions offered in February and early March, family book-work at home during March and April, and a Jesus Experience Day at the end of April. In May, we'll have a required practice day and First Eucharist Masses at each Mass on *May 17-18*.

PARENT/CHILD SESSION:

*February 23  
2:00 Pm*

JESUS EXPERIENCE DAY:

*April 12  
9:00 am*

FIRST EUCHARIST MASSES:

*May 17-18  
All Masses*