



St Gertrude's Parish Smithfield
6 Justin St, Smithfield NSW 2164
Tel 9725 4317 (Tue & Fri) Fax 9609 6585
Email sacraments@stgertrude.org.au

Dear Parents

FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION (EUCHARIST) 2019

Please read through the following information carefully - the structure of the Sacramental Program has changed.

Children in Year 3 and above, who have been Baptised in the Catholic Church, are eligible to enrol in the **combined First Reconciliation / First Communion Programme**. If your child has already made their Reconciliation, please indicate on the enrolment form. If you are unsure, please contact the Sacramental Office.

(If your child was Baptised in the "Church of the East", please contact the Sacramental Office BEFORE enrolling.)

Enrolment will be accepted when **parents** and **children** present the completed Enrolment Form*, together with their ORIGINAL STAMPED BAPTISM CERTIFICATE during...

THE ENROLMENT CEREMONY at MASSES in ST. GERTRUDE'S PARISH

on 3/4, 10/11 and 17/18 November 2018.

Mass times are: St. Benedict's: Sat Vigil 6 p.m., 10:30 a.m., 6 p.m.
St. Therese's: 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m.

LATE ENROLMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Children, who WERE NOT Baptised at St Gertrude's Parish, MUST submit STAMPED ORIGINAL BAPTISM CERTIFICATES with their enrolment forms. Copies of your child's Baptism Certificate can be obtained from the Parish where your child was Baptised.

The preparation for First Communion for enrolled children consists of:

- **Meeting for Parents** – Wednesday 13th March 2019 in the Montefano Hall at 7:30 p.m.
- **8 Group Sessions for parents and children, one per week.**
 - First Reconciliation Classes – from Friday 15th March 2019 (last 4 weeks of Term 1).
 - First Holy Communion Classes – from Friday 10th May 2019 for 4 weeks (Term 2).
- **Parent's Only Workshop** – Tuesday 7th May 2019 in the Montefano Hall at 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
- **First Reconciliation** – During June 2019 in small groups. Date/time to be confirmed.
- **Rehearsal for ceremony**

It is expected that **parents and candidates** attend **ALL** parts of the programme, so your careful consideration is needed prior to enrolment. Only candidates who have met **all requirements** will be eligible to receive First Communion this year. If you do not meet the requirements you may be asked to re-enrol the following year.

First Communion will be celebrated during the Feast of Corpus Christi:

- Saturday 22nd June at the 6 p.m. Vigil Mass
- Sunday 23rd June at the 10:30 a.m. Mass

PLEASE NOTE: The Communion Mass will be ALLOCATED and NO change will be possible.

You may indicate your preference on the enrolment form, however, please understand this is no guarantee that you will receive the ceremony you request – this will depend on final numbers. If there is a large preference for one particular ceremony, ceremonies will be allocated by chance to keep it fair for all families. Please reserve BOTH dates on your calendar. Rehearsal and Ceremony Date Allocation will be advised at the Parent Night in March 2019.

The Sacramental Classes will be held in the Parish Office - **6 Justin St, Smithfield 2164** – next door to the Church. Where possible a Catechist will facilitate the sessions. Parents remain responsible for the faith formation of their child/ren.

On your enrolment forms, **please number THREE (3) time slots in order of preference.**

If there are family situations, additional information about your child's learning needs or individual circumstances we need to be made aware of, please advise on the enrolment form so we can work with you and support you to the best of our ability.

*Please refer to Privacy Compliance advice included with these enrolment forms.

Should you have any questions please email sacraments@stgertrude.org.au. If you wish to see Helena face-to-face, please call 9725 4317 to make an appointment.

May the Lord bless you and give you peace.

Helena Mertin
SACRAMENTAL COORDINATOR

(Please keep this information page)

PRIVACY COMPLIANCE ADVICE

1. The parish collects personal information, including sensitive information about members of the faithful. The primary purpose of collecting this information is to enable it to administer the sacraments and pastoral care to the faithful, and to the children of the faithful. Information may be required to allow the parish to meet some of its legal obligations, provide care for the child while under supervision and discharge its duty of care. The information you provide on enrolment forms may be used to request your services as a volunteer and to assist with a donation to cover programme costs.
2. The Parish from time to time discloses personal and sensitive information to others for administrative purposes. This includes other parishes, the diocese, medical practitioners and people providing services to the schools and parish including volunteers.
3. If we do not obtain the information requested, we may not be able to administer the Sacraments.
4. Personal information collected from children is disclosed to their parents or guardians. Parents or guardians may seek access to personal information collected about them and their son/daughter by contacting the parish 9604 1199 (Office hours are 10 am – 2.00pm Tuesday to Friday).
5. Adults may also seek access to information collected about them in the same manner.
6. As the parish is largely reliant upon locally raised funds and local efforts for its continuation, information received from those who reside in the parish or avail themselves of its services may be used to seek donations and other forms of support from them. On occasions it uses the resources of the diocese to support this process and in the course of this, information is made available to those people. We will not disclose your personal information to other third parties for other fundraising purposes without your consent.

ST GERTRUDE'S PARISH – APPLICATION FOR ENROLMENT FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019

IMPORTANT

This completed form, together with your child's ORIGINAL BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE, should be placed in a plastic sleeve/envelope and be presented by parents and children during the Enrolment Ceremony at Masses on 3/4, 10/11 or 17/18 November 2018.

NO LATE ENROLMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED

FIRST COMMUNION MASSES

Saturday 22nd June 6 p.m. AND Sunday 23rd June 10:30 a.m.

The Communion Mass will be ALLOCATED and NO change will be possible. You may indicate your preference above, however, please understand this is no guarantee that you will receive the ceremony you request – this will depend on final numbers. **If there is a large preference for one particular ceremony, ceremonies will be allocated by chance to keep it fair for all families.**

Please PRINT details for your child. One form per child please.

CHILD'S SURNAME: FIRST NAME:
(As appears on child's birth certificate)

DATE OF BIRTH:..... GENDER: M / F

ADDRESS:..... Postcode:

PHONE: Parent 1:..... Parent 2:
(mobile preferred) Name: Name:

Please PRINT email address below – all correspondence will be emailed to you.

EMAIL ADDRESS:

SCHOOL: GRADE:.....

FATHER'S NAME:..... RELIGION:.....

MOTHER'S NAME:..... RELIGION:.....

MOTHER'S FULL MAIDEN NAME:.....

BAPTISM: Date: Parish:

PARISH WHERE YOU ATTEND MASS: **TIME:**

HOW OFTEN DO YOU ATTEND MASS? (Please tick)

WEEKLY FORTNIGHTLY MONTHLY OTHER:.....

SESSION TIMES – Please number 3 time slots in order of preference.

| SUNDAY | TUESDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 8:50 am – 10:20 am () | 4 pm – 5:30 pm () | 4 pm – 5:30 pm () | 4 pm – 5:30 pm () |
| 4 pm – 5:30 pm () | 6 pm – 7:30 pm () | 6 pm – 7:30 pm () | |

Please note any family situations, learning needs or additional information below (if applicable):

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I _____ understand I am required to attend all parts of the Sacramental programme. I understand that there are 8 weeks of classes in total, and that I am required to attend with my child. I understand that I may indicate my Ceremony preference, however, there is no guarantee I will be allocated that time slot.

Parent's/Guardian's Signature:.....

Please return this page at the Enrolment Mass.

Enrolment for First Reconciliation & First Communion

CELEBRANT: *Children, at your Baptism God called you to be followers of Jesus. Are you ready to learn more about Jesus and prepare for these Sacraments?*

CHILDREN: YES, WE ARE!

CELEBRANT: *Parents, having asked that your child be part of the sacramental programme at St Gertrude's Parish, do you commit to the programme and will you support your child in their faith journey?*

PARENTS: YES, WE WILL! WE ASK THE STRENGTH OF OUR GOD TO HELP US RESPOND TO THIS CALL.

CELEBRANT: *Parishioners will you support these families through your Prayers?*

ALL: YES WE WILL!

CELEBRANT: *May God be with you. May you experience His healing touch and peace. May you know His embrace and presence.*

ALL: AMEN.

