

Sunday Morning Religious
Education

Family Based Religious Education

Confirmation

First Communion

Our Lady of the Greenwood Church
2020-2021
Religious Education Handbook

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The Mission and Vision of Religious Education for Children and Adolescents

MISSION STATEMENT

Family and parish community connecting children and adolescents to their Catholic faith.

VISION STATEMENT

Children respond and are empowered by family and community to:

- *Develop a strong Catholic identity*
- *Understand, demonstrate and share Roman Catholic Tradition, beliefs and worship*
- *Live in discipleship with Jesus Christ*
- *Response in service to the parish and larger community*

Welcome!

Welcome to an exciting new year in Religious Education for Our Lady of the Greenwood. There are several new, and I hope, exciting changes that will make preparation for the sacraments of initiation more effective and will offer different ways to prepare.

The first change is that we will require at least two years to prepare for First Communion or Confirmation. All that means is that a child cannot just show up for First Communion or Confirmation and get everything in one year. They will need to have gone through at least one year of some religious education program before preparing for the sacrament.

For First Communion that would mean that if your child was enrolled last year for First Grade (either SMRE or OLG school), they could go right into second grade for First Communion. If your child has not had any religious education, we would require a year of general religious education before the actual First Reconciliation and First Communion lessons.

For Confirmation, that would mean that your child must have received some form of Religious Education within the past two years to directly enter the Confirmation program. Young people going through Sunday Morning Religious Education or Our Lady of Greenwood School (or other Catholic school) would be eligible to enroll immediately into Confirmation. If not, we will make arrangements to get you signed up in a class that will fill that requirement.

The second change is a new Family Based Religious Education program that will provide sacramental preparation in an environment that encourages family involvement. This program will take place on Tuesday evenings and the people who would attend are:

1. Any family, English or Spanish speaking with children who need First Communion, Confirmation or both.
2. Any individual under the age of 18 who needs First Communion, Confirmation, or both.
3. Any adult who needs First Communion, Confirmation, or both.
4. Any Family or individual who does not fit the above criteria but wish to participate in religious education.

We will still offer the traditional K through 8 Sunday Morning Religious Education program.

You are the primary religious educators of your children. The Director of Religious Education and the dedicated volunteer catechists are partners with you in this effort. **We invite you to nurture the seeds of faith that Religious Education plants in your children. As parents, you are the role model. If you go to Mass, they will go to Mass. If you pray, they will pray. We can teach them about their faith but you are the ones who help them live it.**

The upcoming year will bring your children many opportunities to learn more about our faith and how we live it out in our daily lives. When we practice our faith, we are proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world in which we live. This happens in many ways, all of which will be encouraged in Religious Education. However, the start and end to practicing our faith is our Sunday celebration of the Eucharist. **We urge you to attend Sunday Mass as a family**, in addition to your child attending religious education classes

This booklet is meant to give you the information that you will need regarding policies, the curriculum and the calendars for our Religious Education programs.

If questions or concerns arise, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please keep the Religious Education Community, the catechists, teachers, parents, sponsors, and students in your prayers.

Peace and Blessings to All!

Becky Cope
Director of Religious Education

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

335 South Meridian Street
Greenwood, IN 46143

DIRECTOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Becky Cope

If classes are cancelled or changed, you will be sent a text message. It is important that you provide a cell phone number on your registration form.

Becky Cope

becky@olgreenwood.org

317-888-2861 ext. 231
Cell 317-374-3061

Lupita Gonzalez (Español)

lupita@olgreenwood.org

317*888-3742 ext 230

Everyone going through a sacramental preparation program is required to present a baptism certificate.

Fees

SMRE:

\$70 for one student

\$90 for two students

\$100 for three or more students

Family based Religious Education

Same as SMRE

Confirmation

\$50 per student

First Communion

No extra fee

We do not charge for Sacraments. We do, however, ask for donation fees to pay for our supplies. If you have difficulty paying any of the fees please contact me and we can arrange for a payment schedule.

Thank you,
Becky Cope, DRE

SMRE

Dear Parents:

I commend you for enrolling your children in Sunday Morning Religious Education (SMRE). You are the primary religious educators of your children. The Director of Religious Education and the dedicated volunteer catechists are partners with you in this effort. We invite you to nurture the seeds of faith that Sunday Morning Religious Education plants in your children.

*The upcoming year will bring your children many opportunities to learn more about our faith and how we live it out in our daily lives. When we practice our faith, we are proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the world in which we live. This happens in many ways, all of which will be encouraged in SMRE. However, the start and end to practicing our faith is our Sunday celebration of the Eucharist. **We urge you to attend Sunday Mass as a family**, in addition to your child attending religious education classes. I encourage you to attend Mass with your children. SMRE will be 9:45am to 11:15am.*

If questions or concerns arise, please do not hesitate to contact me. Please keep SMRE, the catechists, and students in your prayers.

Peace and Blessings to All!

Becky Cope

Director of Religious Education

Our Lady of the Greenwood

Sunday Morning Religious Education / Educacion Religiosa 2020-2021 Calendar / Calendario 2020-2021

Classes are held on Sunday mornings, 9:45a.m to 11:15a.m.
Las clases son los domingos por la mañana (Español) 9:45a.m to 11:15a.m.

September / Septiembre	13	First Day of Class	
	20	Class	
	27	Class	
October / Octubre	4	Class	
	11	NO CLASS	Fall Break
	18	Class	
	25	Class	
November / Noviembre	1	Class	
	8	Class	
	15	Class	
	22	Class	
	29	NO CLASS	Thanksgiving Break
December / Diciembre	6	Class	
	13	Class	
	20	Class	
	27	NO CLASS	Christmas Break
January / Enero	3	NO CLASS	Christmas Break
	10	Class	
	17	NO CLASS	MLK Jr. Break
	24	Class	
	31	Class	
February / Febrero	7	Class	
	14	NO CLASS	President's Day Break
	21	Class	
	28	Class	
March / Marzo	7	Class	
	14	Class	
	21	NO CLASS	Spring Break
	28	NO CLASS	Spring Break
April / Abril	4	NO CLASS	Easter
	11	Class	
	18	Class	
	25	Class	Final Day of Class
May / Mayo	2	First Communion	

EXPECTATIONS

The following is a list of expectations for parents/guardians and participants of Sunday Morning Religious Education:

Parents

1. Ensure that their children attend classes regularly and on time.
2. Communicate any special needs or circumstances that may affect their child within the SMRE classroom.
3. Be an active part of their children's learning and be involved in the classroom at the catechist's request (e.g., help with special and/or service projects.)
4. Model the importance of Sunday Mass attendance

Participants

1. Behave in a Christian manner at all times showing respect and being cooperative with adults and other participants.
2. Attend class regularly and complete any assignments or homework.
3. Follow the code of conduct for SMRE (see Discipline Section)
4. Attend Sunday Mass

Catechists

1. Provide a loving, Christian atmosphere within the learning environment so that children will be able to grow in their faith.
2. Prepare and teach from the Archdiocesan Religion Curriculum guide.
3. Be a Catholic Christian role model
4. Communicate regularly with and involve parents in the faith development of their children.

PARENT VISITATION

All parents and guardians are welcome to visit their child's classroom at any time. If you wish to stay in your child's classroom for the whole class, please inform the catechist prior to your expected visit (The class may be in the chapel or outside or in another room). Your role will be as an observer unless other arrangements with the catechist have been made. If you wish to discuss your visit with the catechist or the DRE, an appointment can be arranged.

VOLUNTEERS

Parents are always invited and encouraged to assist in any fashion with our program - class projects, parties, special prayer services, etc. The sharing of your life experiences and your own faith journey with the children is an invaluable gift (memories of your own First Communion, etc.). Please let your willingness to share be known to your child's catechist or the DRE. You may even wish to become a Catechist or a classroom aide! Ask about that too!

GUESTS

We realize that there may be times when your child may want to bring a guest or relative to one of our classes. Guests are always welcome! We do ask that you inform the catechist prior to the beginning of class time about the presence of a visitor.

Curriculum

Our curriculum is the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies. The focus on the Gospel hopefully will foster a love of Mass and help our students see a direct correlation to what they are learning in SMRE to what they are hearing in Mass. Another reason for using Pflaum Gospel Weeklies is that the students can bring home their handout each week. This allows parents to become more involved in knowing what their children are learning each week.

2nd Grade

The second grade is a sacrament year for First Reconciliation and First Communion. We use Dynamic Catholic Blessed Program for the preparation of these sacraments in our religious education program.

We spend the whole year on this important preparation.



Please note:
Over and above SMRE, you are required to participate in the First Reconciliation and First Communion program provided by the parish. Becky Cope is the program leader and schedules various meetings and retreats throughout the year. She is responsible for the scheduling and planning of this program.

Rite of Christian Initiation for Children

If your child has not received one of the sacraments, Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist or Confirmation, and has passed the age and grade level policies of the parish, please contact Becky Cope. Your child/children may be enrolled in a special class (Rite of Christian Initiation) for sacramental preparation.

TERMINOLOGY

The following are some words that are used in this handbook and in the program that you may or may not be familiar with.

OLG: Acronym for “Our Lady of the Greenwood Church”

SMRE: Acronym for “Sunday Morning Religious Education”

Catechesis (cat·e·che·sis): Sometimes referred to as religious education, is the education and formation of children, young people, and adults in the Catholic faith presented in an organic and systemic way to make them disciples of Jesus Christ. The word comes from the Greek word ‘katechein’ meaning oral instruction or to teach by word of mouth, especially by questioning and answering.

Catechist: A person who performs the ministry of catechesis; someone who teaches Catholic Christian doctrine.

Catechetical Team: Staff members involved in delivering and/or coordinating catechesis (including sacramental preparation) for a particular group of parishioners.

Catechism: A summary or compendium of Catholic doctrine

If for some reason your child will not be able to attend a significant number of classes, please inform the DRE either by a written note, by phone, or email. I will be able to inform the catechist of the situation so that necessary arrangements can be made for your child's faith development.

SMRE abides by the provisions of the Buckley Amendment with respect to the rights of non-custodial parents. In the absence of a court order to the contrary, we will provide the non-custodial parent with unofficial copies of records. If there is a court order specifying that there is to be no information given, it is the responsibility of the custodial parent to provide the Director with an official copy of the court order. (Referenced from: Religious Education and the Law, M.A. Shaughnessy, SCN)

CHILD SAFETY

Our Lady of the Greenwood and the Archdiocese of Indianapolis are highly concerned for the safety and well-being of your child/children. Consistent with Archdiocesan policy and legal codes, parish catechetical staff has a moral and legal duty to comply with the law to ensure the welfare of a child. All Archdiocesan employees and volunteers must report any suspected instance of child abuse to two entities: the state and the Archdiocese. Indiana law requires reporting to local state agencies. Archdiocesan policy requires reporting to a specific officer of the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. These two obligations to report should take place simultaneously, as possible.

All employees and volunteers of Our Lady of the Greenwood who are responsible for the care of children are required to complete Safe and Sacred Training. A background check is also required.

CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

SMRE is a formal, classroom-based program of instruction and faith formation. It is meant to augment and carry forward the work of parents, not to be a substitute. However, the type of classroom education that we offer does not always fit every child's needs in the same way. There are definite limitations to what we can offer in our circumstances and approach. Never the less, we are committed in trying to help meet the faith formation needs of all our families. If your child has special needs, the Catechetical Team can discuss with you the best options for your child to insure his/her faith formation needs are met.

IMPORTANT SAFETY RULES

Due to the large number of children in the program, it is *imperative* to stress safety in the school building, parking lot and walkway to Madonna Hall and Church. Please discuss the following rules with your child/children. The catechists will also be discussing these rules in the classrooms.

- Please walk, don't run, in the school building when you are arriving or leaving.
- Parents are asked to please wait in the cafeteria or Madonna Hall until dismissal to pick up their children. This will keep our hallways clear so that if an emergency should arise, we will be able to lead the children out of the building in a safe and orderly manner.
- At dismissal time, please have a specified location that your child knows where to find you. For younger children we request that you pick them up from the classroom.
- Parents of preschool and kindergarten children are required to sign-in their children when dropped off at the classroom as well as sign-out when picked up.
- If you wish to pick up your child before dismissal, please write a note to your child's catechist indicating the time you will be arriving to pick up your child.

Family based Religious Education

Vision

The vision is to provide sacramental preparation in an environment that encourages family involvement.

Who can attend?

Any Catholic family, English or Spanish speaking with children who need First Communion, Confirmation, or both.

Any individual (baptized Catholic) under the age of 18 who needs First Communion, Confirmation, or both.

Any adult (baptized Catholic) who needs First Communion, Confirmation, or both.

Any family or individual who does not fit the above criteria but wishes to participate in religious education.

Note: If a child is under the age of 18 at least one parent needs to attend this program also.

What is being taught?

Appropriate classes would be taught to meet the First Communion and Confirmation preparation for appropriate age groups. Additionally, parents would be taught how to create a home where their children are learning the faith from them and their example. Spanish speaking classes would also be provided.

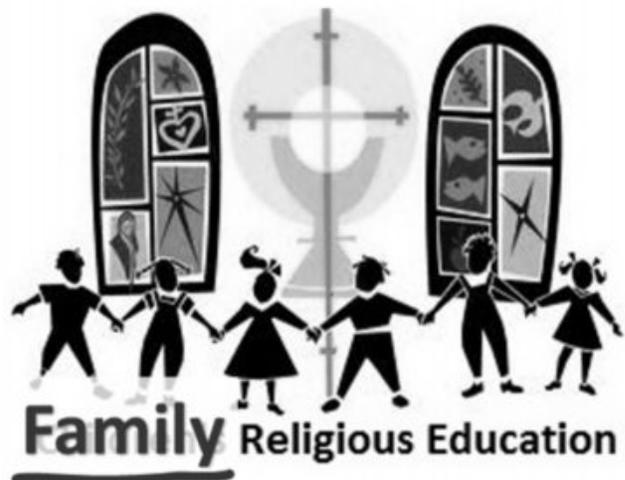
When are we meeting?

Tuesday evenings for two hours.

Family Based Religious Education 2020-2021 Calendar

Classes are on Tuesday evenings starting with 5:45pm Mass (optional). 6:30 gathering, 7:00pm group meeting, 7:30 to 8:45pm individual classes, 8:45pm group prayer and dismissal

September	8 15 22 29	March	2 9 16 23 off (Spring break) 30 off (Spring break)
October	6 13 off (fall break) 20 27	April	6 13 20 27
November	3 10 17 24 off (Thanksgiving)	May	4 11 18 25
December	1 8 15 22 off (Christmas break) 29 off (Christmas break)		
January	5 12 19 26		
February	2 9 16 23		



Curriculum

We will primarily be using Loyola Press resources, supplemented by various videos from Formed.org and other sources.

Since this is a two year program, the first year will be covered with **Religious Education Readiness:**

God Made Everything	Ages 3-4
Knowing Our Faith	Ages 5-10
Bridges to Faith	Ages 8-11
Called to be Catholic	Ages 12-15

Sacramental preparation

For First Reconciliation and First Communion:

God's Gift Primary Reconciliation	Ages 7-11
God's Gift Primary First Communion	Ages 7-11
God's Gift Primary Reconciliation	Ages 12-15
God's Gift Primary First Communion	Ages 12-15

For confirmation:

Confirmed in the Spirit

Logistics

Meeting on Tuesday evening will look like this:

Start with evening Mass (optional)

6:30pm Begin gathering in a large space for snacks and social time..

7:15pm Short bi-lingual presentation on topic for the evening

7:30pm Move to rooms for more in depth catechesis on topic.

8:30pm Brief return to large gathering space for large group discussion and processing (led by a staff person or priest)

8:45pm Go to church for a closing evening prayer.

9:00pm Leave for home.

Space:

We meet in Upper level Madonna Hall. Then we will break up into individual classes and meet in the school.

Class set up:

Depending on who enrolls, we will have classes in English and in Spanish. We will have adult classes, grade school classes, and teen classes based upon which sacrament they need or where they are in their religious education process.

Flexibility?

We would like to take on students as they come to us, meaning we would have students entering and leaving classes at separate times. We've never done this before, so we are hoping that this will work as simply as it sounds.

If a person comes into the program in the middle, they will start right where everyone else is and by the end of two years, they should have received everything they need. Depending on what they are preparing for:

First Communion: First Communion will be offered as a group on the First Sunday in May. If you finish your preparation in April, for example, just wait until May. Or, each individual has the opportunity to schedule their individual First Communion whenever they wish when they have completed their requirements. The same would be true for First Reconciliation. We offer a group opportunity to receive First Reconciliation but each candidate can attend our normal reconciliation times (after each daily Mass and Saturdays at 4:30pm, or by appointment)

Confirmation:

Teens between 13 and 18: There is only one date each year for Confirmation. It takes place at the SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Indianapolis and the Archbishop presides. That date is usually some time in the fall. So if you finish your preparation early, you just wait until that date.

Adults: Confirmation is held on Pentecost at SS. Peter and Paul Cathedral. Once again, if you finish your preparation early, you just wait until that date.

Please Note:

Those baptized in another faith or who have not been baptized, and wish to become Catholic should enroll in the Rite of Christian Initiation preparation programs that we have here at this parish. Please contact Fr. Todd Goodson to talk about entering the programs.

Confirmation



Dear Candidates, Parents and Sponsors,

The program we are using this year is Loyola Press *Confirmed in the Spirit*. You may notice immediately that this is a bilingual program. This is to allow those parents and sponsors, or maybe even candidates, who do not have a full knowledge of English and would be more comfortable with the Spanish Translation.

All of the materials are bilingual. One side is Spanish, the other English. Or one sentence is Spanish, the next English. All in all, in a parish where about a third of our members are Hispanic, this will allow for total and complete understanding for all. It might even help some people to learn a bit of Spanish or English, depending on your primary language.

There are three books that we will use: the student handbook, the student confirmation journal, and the conversation guide for the Sponsor.

There are two components for each month of our preparation.

1. The at-home assignment: Using the conversation guide provided, the sponsor has an opportunity to act as a mentor in a simple-to-follow format that helps prompt the conversation between the sponsor and candidate.
2. Candidate and Sponsor attend one of the Group Sessions (two are scheduled each month.)

The primary means of communication from the office will be through Flocknote, either by text or e-mail. We will send any up to the minute information regarding our Confirmation program. (Weather cancelations, change of meeting space, etc.) We will also have all the necessary forms posted, to be printed off, filled out and handed in.

There are many ways to reach me. The fastest way is email: becky@olgreenwood.org. My office number is 317-888-2861 ext 231. My cell phone is 317-374-3061 (warning: because of all the spam calls, I may not answer if I've had a lot of spam calls lately...I hope you understand).

I am looking forward to our time together during the coming months and will have you all in my prayers.

Becky Cope
Directory of Religious Education

Confirmation 2020-21 Calendar

NOVEMBER Registration: Wednesday, 11/11 or Thursday, 11/12
Registration and Information Meeting

DECEMBER Chapter 1: Wednesday, 12/9 or Thursday, 12/10
Group Meeting: Confirmed in the Spirit

Registration Form Due

JANUARY Chapter 2: Wednesday, 1/20 or Thursday, 1/21
Conversation with Sponsor Who is Jesus?
Group Meeting: Confirmed in Discipleship

FEBRUARY Chapter 3: Wednesday, 2/10 or Thursday, 2/11
Conversation with Sponsor What do I believe?
Group Meeting: Confirmed in Faith

Copy of Baptism Certificate Due

MARCH Chapter 4: Wednesday, 3/10 or Thursday, 3/11
Conversation with Sponsor How should I live?
Group Meeting: Confirmed in Love

Confirmation Name Form Due

APRIL Chapter 5: Wednesday, 4/14 or Thursday, 4/15
Conversation with Sponsor Where do I belong?
Group Meeting: Confirmed in Holiness

MAY Chapter 6: Wednesday, 5/12 or Thursday 5/13
Conversation with Sponsor How do I pray?
Group Meeting: Confirmed in the Church

June and JulySummer Vacation!

AUGUST Chapter 7: Tuesday, 8/11 or Thursday 8/12
Conversation with Sponsor What is my destiny?
Group Meeting: Confirmed in Witness

SEPTEMBER Chapter 8: Wednesday, 9/8 or Thursday, 9/9

Group Meeting: Confirmed in Grace

Service Hours Form Due

SEPTEMBER 18 (Saturday) *Confirmation Retreat: 10:00 AM—6:30 PM*
We will be attending 5:30 PM Mass

September 29, 2021 **Confirmation Rehearsal**

October 6, 2021 **Confirmation Ceremony 7:00 PM**
At SS. Peter & Paul Cathedral, Indianapolis

Must be in seats in church no later than 5:45 PM
Meet with Archbishop Thompson in chapel at 6:15 PM

Requirements for Confirmation at Our Lady of the Greenwood (both Diocesan and Parish)

Candidates for Confirmation at OLG are obliged to:

- ◆ Attend one of two monthly Group Sessions with their Sponsor
- ◆ Spend time with their Sponsor studying and discussing the conversation assigned for this one-on-one session.
- ◆ Participate in a retreat experience. *
- ◆ Submit all required forms in a timely manner.
- ◆ Perform approximately 10 hours of service to your family, 10 hours of service to your community, and 10 hours of service for your parish - for a combined total of approximately 30 Christian service hours.
- ◆ Be involved in an ongoing religious education program either in a Catholic school or in a weekly religious education program or youth group. Home schoolers must be using an approved confirmation preparation program.
- ◆ Participate in an interview with a member of the pastoral staff
- ◆ Prepare yourself for the reception of Confirmation by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation prior to Confirmation.
- ◆ Answer a short questionnaire from Archbishop Thompson.
- ◆ **Choose** to make this commitment to your spiritual growth with the firm intention of viewing the reception of the Sacrament as the *beginning* of your adult life in the Church.

*Participate in a retreat experience.

We will be presenting a retreat experience here at Our Lady of Greenwood on Saturday, September 18th from 10:00 AM and ending with the 5:30 PM Mass.

Candidates are also welcome to participate in other retreat programs with prior approval of the Pastor or DRE.

We will advise you of other possible retreat opportunities when they become available.

All Candidate/Sponsor Group Sessions will be held from 7:00-9:00pm in Madonna Hall. Any change in location will be posted on the East doors of Madonna Hall and on the website. You will also be notified by text.

Candidates/Sponsors are required to attend **one of the two** Group Sessions each month.

Assignment with sponsor: These conversations are to be completed during one-on-one monthly meetings of candidate and sponsor (or parent if sponsor is not available) prior to the group meeting for that month.

Work for Group Meeting: We will be discussing the chapters in the student handbook.

Questions?

Comments?

Please contact Becky Cope with any questions or concerns.



Service Requirements

Confirmation is a sacrament that asks you not only to believe in Jesus Christ, but also to *live His life* daily. **Living the life of Jesus means a life of service**; Service means responding to others' needs--in your home, parish, neighborhood, or local community. This commitment of concern for others is an essential part of the sacrament of Confirmation.

As part of your preparation for Confirmation, you are asked to perform or experience *approximately 10 hours of service to your family, to your community and 10 hours to your parish* for a combined total of 30 hours of Christian service. Sponsors and families are welcome to perform all or part of the 30 hours with you. Please keep track of your service using the *Summary of Service Performed Form*.

Before making a commitment to a service project, think about ways in which you can use your talents and abilities to help others. The following are suggestions and places on how other candidates have chosen to serve. Perhaps something on this list will help you decide the service you would like to perform or experience. You may already have your own special service in mind.

- ◆ Assist senior citizens with their chores/shopping/lawn care
- ◆ Baby-sit for someone who needs help
- ◆ Clean-up an area in the parish, school or local park
- ◆ Volunteer to work in a hospital
- ◆ Write cards or letters to hospitalized children
- ◆ Earn money for missions by washing cars, baby-sitting, etc.
- ◆ Perform special services for the handi-capped
- ◆ Volunteer at the parish festival
- ◆ Make gifts or favors for hospitals or nursing homes
- ◆ Write letters to government officials about justice issues
- ◆ Visit nursing homes or shut-ins
- ◆ Join the parish choir
- ◆ Help in the SMRE program
- ◆ Help with parish mailings
- ◆ Help a needy family
- ◆ Collect food for the poor
- ◆ Serve as a teacher's aid
- ◆ Read to the blind
- ◆ Collect toys for poor children
- ◆ Participate in a service camp

Before making your decision and commitment:

- ◆ pray to the Holy Spirit for guidance
- ◆ talk to your parents and sponsor about service opportunities
- ◆ find needs of people in your family, neighborhood, parish, school, or community.

Special Notes and Information

FORMS Registration Form - **Due in December 2020**
Baptism Certificate or Baptismal Information Form - **Due in February 2020**
Sponsor, Confirmation Name, and Proxy Form - **Due in March 2020**
Service Performed Form - **Due by October 15, 2020**

BAPTISMAL CERTIFICATE

Unless you were baptized at Our Lady of the Greenwood, we are required to have a copy of your baptism certificate on file. Please turn in as soon as possible but no later than **the end of February 2021**

CONFIRMATION NAME

One of the traditions in the Church is choosing a name that will remind you of the Sacrament of Confirmation. It symbolizes for you what it means to live as a Catholic. The saint/biblical person's name that you choose is a reminder of how Jesus calls you to develop the same Christ-like attitude that the saint/biblical person demonstrated in his or her life. If your baptismal name is that of a recognized saint or biblical person, you may want to consider using your baptismal name as your Confirmation name. This would connect your Baptism to your Confirmation. If your Baptismal name is not the name of a saint/biblical person, you must choose a Confirmation name that is the name of a saint or biblical person.

CONFIRMATION FEE

All sacraments are free gifts from God, and there is no "charge" for receiving the sacrament of confirmation. However, we do need to have a program fee to cover the costs of preparing youth for the sacrament. The fee for the program is **\$50.00**. This fee helps defray the cost of resources, and other program expenses. The fee is due with your Registration Form. If for any reason this fee presents a hardship, please contact Becky Cope. No young person will ever be kept from the sacrament for this reason.

CONFIRMATION DRESS CODE

The Archbishop stresses appropriate attire for the Confirmation ceremony. The following guidelines are provided for your reference.

Males

Collared, banded, or full turtleneck style shirts
A tie is optional.
Sport coat/suit is optional.
Dress pants. Docker/cotton style pants are acceptable. Please wear a belt.
Dress shoes & socks
No denim jeans.
No tee-shirts
No athletic shoes.

Females

Dresses or skirts of a proper length.
(Knee length or longer is mandatory.)
Dress pants and blouse
Proper necklines for tops/blouses
Shoulders must be covered
Dress shoes with socks/hosiery.
No tee shirts, tank tops, spaghetti straps, halters or tube tops.
No denim jeans
No shorts
No athletic shoes

First Communion



Sacramental Preparation

All second grade children (or older) of our parish at Our Lady of the Greenwood (OLG) who have been baptized are invited to begin the formal preparation through this ministry to receive for the first time the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

- Children who attend Our Lady of the Greenwood Catholic School will receive their preparation at school.
- Children who attend public schools will receive their sacramental preparation through the OLG Sunday Morning Religious Education (SMRE) Ministry or the Family based Religious Education.
- Your child, (whether in catholic school, public school or home school) is required to enroll in this First Communion program.
- Information and registration forms for sacramental preparation classes are available on our website www.olgreenwood.org. You can also obtain the by calling the DRE, Becky Cope at 317-888-2861 ext 231 or [email becky@olgreenwood.org](mailto:becky@olgreenwood.org); or Lupita Gonzalez (Español) at extension 230 or email lupita@olgreenwood.org.
- Children who are home-schooled must use the appropriate church-approved material. Please contact Becky Cope, in the parish office during regular business hours for more information at 317-888-2861, ext. 231.
- Parents of older children who did not receive First Reconciliation/First Holy Communion in second grade need to contact the parish to register their child or children to participate in the “Rite of Christian Initiation” Ministry.

 <p>Our Lady of the Greenwood 335 South Meridian St. Greenwood, IN 46143 Phone (317) 888-2861 www.olgreenwood.org</p>	 <p>First Reconciliation † First Communion Primera reconciliación / Primera Comunión Calendar of Events / Calendario de Eventos 2020-21</p>
<p>Wednesday, September 23, 2020 Miercoles/Septiembre 23, 2020</p>	<p>Enrollment Meeting / Junta de registracion 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. at ULMH / Madonna Hall Sign in begins at 6:30p.m. / Comensando a las 6:30pm</p>
<p>Saturday/Sunday, October 10/11, 2020 Sabado / Domingo, Octubre 10/11, 2020</p>	<p>Prayer Partners - Any Mass Compañeros de oracion – Cualquier misa</p>
<p>November First week Noviembre, Primera semana</p>	<p>Assessment 1 – Prayers: Sign of the Cross, Glory be, Our Father, and Hail Mary In school, or SMRE, or Home School 1er. Examen: ORACIONES: La señal de la cruz, Gloria, Padre Nuestro y Ave Maria.</p>
<p>December First week Diciembre, Primera semana</p>	<p>Assessment 2 - The Ten Commandments In school, or SMRE, or Home School 2do. Examen: Los Diez Mandamientos</p>
<p>January last week Enero. Ultima Semana</p>	<p>Assessment 3 – Act of Contrition and five steps to confession In school, or SMRE, or Home School 3er. Examen Acto de Contriccion y los 5 pasos para la confesion.</p>
<p>Wednesday, January 13, 2021 Miercoles, Enero 13, 2021</p>	<p>Planning Session for Jesus Day Retreat Secion para planear el retiro “ Un dia con Jesus” 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Prayer Room / Cuarto de oracion</p>
<p>Saturday, January 30, 2021 Sabado, Enero 30, 2021</p>	<p>Jesus Day Retreat / Retiro “Un dia con Jesus” 9:00 a.m. – 11:00a.m. Check in begins at 8:45 a.m. UL/LL/Prayer Room /Chapel/Church Madonna Hall, Cuarto de oracion, Iglesia, Capilla</p>
<p>Thursday, February 18 at 7pm to 9pm Saturday, February 20 at 9am to 11am</p>	<p>First Reconciliation / Primera Reconciliacion (Confesion) Or you may go to First Reconciliation on your own, a signed confirmation form is requested to be given to the DRE</p>
<p>March last week Ultima semana de marzo</p>	<p>Assessment 4 – Rules for receiving Communion In school or SMRE 4to. Examen: Reglas para recibir la Comunión</p>
<p>Thursday, April 22, 2021 Jueves, Abril 22, 2021</p>	<p>Adoration, Praise and Worship Adoración y Alabanza 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Church / En la Iglesia First Communion Novena begins Comienza la Novena para la Primera Comunión</p>
<p>Wednesday, April 28, 2021 Miercoles, April 28, 2021</p>	<p>Rehearsal for First Holy Communion Mass Practica para la Primera Comunión 6:00 p.m. to 7:00p.m. – Español (Spanish) Church “En la Iglesia” 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. – English (Ingles) UL/Church</p>
<p>Sunday, May 2, 2021 Domingo, Mayo 2, 2021</p>	<p>FIRST HOLY COMMUNION / PRIMERA COMUNION 10:00am English (Ingles) 1:30pm Spanish (Español)</p>

Ministry of First Reconciliation/First Communion (FR/FC) is a partnership with God, Parents/Guardians, and the Church:

- * **Holy Trinity:** The Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit guide us through this ministry.
- * **Parents/Guardians:** You are your child’s “primary” religious education teacher. It is your personal example and influence that have the most profound impact on your child and his/her faith.
- * **Church:** The Church is represented by the sacramental preparation team, with consists of our priests, DRE, teachers, and catechists. They are your primary resource, and they will be presenting the teachings of Jesus that have been handed down through the apostles.

Go to Mass—It is the primary and essential cornerstone of the FR/FC Ministry: Living your faith by regular participation and celebration of the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist is the best example you can give to your child. This participation indicates that these sacraments are part of your essential faith walk. Also through this ministry, you are preparing your child to share more fully in these sacraments.

At OLG, Mass is celebrated sixteen times or more each week. We are incredibly blessed to have these opportunities to celebrate and receive Jesus at the Holy Mass. The Holy Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith.

Weekend Masses		Daily Masses	
Saturday Anticipation	5:30 p.m.	Monday through Saturday	7:30 a.m.*
Sunday	8:00 a.m.	Monday through Friday	5:45 p.m.
	10:00 a.m.	School Mass (during school year) Wednesdays	8:30 a.m.
	12:00 p.m. Misa en Espanol	*Exception: 7:30am Mass is canceled whenever there is an 8:30am School Mass	
	5:00 p.m.		

Curriculum/Resources and References

Textbook:
OLG School - *Blest are we - RCL Benziger series*
SMRE English - *Blessed— Dynamic Catholic*
SMRE Spanish - *God Cares for Us, Christ Our Life Series (Loyola)*

Monthly Newsletters: FR/FC Bridges

Home Sessions

Each chapter of the textbook that we use teaches a component of the sacraments. At home, your role as parent/guardian is to review the chapter and to do the listed activities and prayers. This will reinforce your child’s understanding, appreciation and application of their faith and its impact on the rest of their lives.

This is the year our children learn all traditional prayers of our faith. All prayers are given in your hand book. All students will be assessed for the selected prayers in order to prepare them for the sacraments. They are expected to pass four assessments before receiving First Communion. They will receive a progress report after each assessment. Students who do not pass will have an opportunity to redo the assessment.

PLEASE spend some time with your child to learn these prayers and lessons. It will help your child be comfortable and joyful about their faith and the importance of the sacraments in their lives.

Learning the following is part of the second grade FR/FC Catechesis:

Assessment 1: November first week

Sign of the Cross (memorize)

In the name of the Father , and of the Son , and of the Holy Spirit , Amen.

Glory Be To the Father (memorize)

Glory be to the Father, And to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer (memorize)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name;

Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary (memorize)

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you.

Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray of us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Assessment 2: December First week

The Ten Commandments (memorize)

1. I am the Lord your God; you shall not have strange gods before me.

2. You shall not take the name of Lord your God in vain.

3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's day.

4. Honor your father and your mother.

5. You shall not kill.

6. You shall not commit adultery.

7. You shall not steal.

8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.

10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

Assessment 3: January last week

Five Steps to Confession (memorize)

1. Examine your conscience (think about my sins)

2. Be sorry for your sins. (be sorry that I did things against a loving God)

3. Make a firm resolution not to sin again and to avoid the occasions of sin. (promise to God that I will not sin again)

4. Tell your sins to a priest and receive absolution or penance

- *Begin by making the **Sign of the Cross**.*

- *The priest will greet you.*

- *Then you say, "**Bless me Father for I have sinned, this is my first confession, and these are my sins...**"*

- *Start with any Mortal sins (if you have any)*

- *Try to confess your sins with numbers: ("I lied 3 times...")*

- *If you do not know how to confess or feel uneasy, simply ask the priest to assist you. He will help you to make a good confession!*

- *When you are done say, "**For these and all of my sins I am truly sorry.**"*

- *After you confess your sins the priest may give you some counsel. Then the priest will propose an act of penance. Remember the penance.*

5. Perform your penance promptly.

Act of Contrition (memorize)

O My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us, in His name, my God, have mercy. Amen.

Assessment 4: March last week

Rules for Receiving Holy Communion (memorize)

1. Fast for one hour before receiving Holy Communion – no food or drink except water or medicine.

2. Be in a state of grace, free from mortal sin, before receiving Holy Communion.

3. Receive Holy Communion as often as possible.

4. Participate in Mass on Sundays and on Holy Days of Obligation.

5. Receive Holy Communion at least once each year during the Easter season.

Receiving Holy Communion with Reverence (learn and practice)

1. We bow when the Body and Blood of Christ are offered.
2. To receive Holy Communion in our hands, we extend our hands with palms facing up, dominant hand below the other hand.
3. The priest or the extraordinary minister of Holy Communion says “The Body of Christ.”
4. We reply “Amen.”
5. After receiving the Body of Christ, we pick it up with our dominant hand and place it in our mouths.
6. If we choose to receive Holy Communion on our tongues, then after we say “Amen,” we fold our hands, open our mouths, and extend our tongues.
7. After The Body of Christ has been placed on our tongues, we close our mouths.
8. The priest or the extraordinary minister of Holy Communion offers the chalice and says “The Blood of Christ.”
9. We reply “Amen” and take the chalice in our own hands.
10. We sip a small amount of The Blood of Christ and then return the chalice.
11. After receiving Holy Communion, we return to our places in Church and pray.



It is a Church requirement in order for your child (the candidate) to receive First Communion that we have a copy of their baptismal certificate. A copy must be submitted to the OLG parish office of religious education no later than October 2021.

The Sacraments of Initiation are Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confirmation. The dress for these sacraments reflects purity.

The Traditional Dress for First Communion is:

- **GIRLS:** White dress which should cover the shoulders.
Length should be at or below the knee.
Note: Please, no floor length dresses due to the danger of tripping and falling.
- **BOYS:** White dress shirt (short or long-sleeved), dark pants, dress shoes, a tie (white is the recommended color). A suit or sport coat is optional but not required.

Photography Policy

It is our policy at Our Lady of the Greenwood that we do not permit any photography, either snapshots or videos, during the actual First Communion celebration. You will be able to take still photos and/or videos in any area of the church or the chapel both before and after the ceremony. A professional photographer will provide you with the opportunity to purchase individual and/or group professional photos. We sincerely appreciate your cooperation in abiding by this policy.