

Information for 2nd Grade

First Reconciliation

First Reconciliation is distinct from the celebration of First Eucharist and is celebrated before First Eucharist. Children should wear Sunday clothes and parents may wish to have a celebration or activity in honor of this special day. After their First Reconciliation, children should be encouraged to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly with their families, especially during the Liturgical seasons of Advent and Lent. (See calendar for date)

First Eucharist

Our children celebrate First Reconciliation followed shortly by First Eucharist. Because of the unique character of these sacraments and the sacredness of the season, the Diocesan Norms encourage First Eucharist to be celebrated during the Easter Season. We have two celebrations of First Eucharist, Section I and II. (See calendar for dates)

Candidate Requirements

According to Sacramental Norms of the Diocese of Memphis and guidelines of St. Francis of Assisi Parish, the following are required of First Communicants:

- Grade Requirement - Be at least in the second grade
- Registration
 - Complete Registration Form for First Reconciliation/First Communion
 - Certificate of Baptism - A copy of the child's baptism certificate is required with registration (even if your child was baptized at St. Francis).
 - Parish Registration Required - If a family is not registered in St. Francis of Assisi Parish, but are registered members of another parish, you must provide a letter from your pastor stating that your child has permission to make First Reconciliation and First Communion with St. Francis of Assisi Parish.
 - Administrative Fee - \$25.00 payable at Registration
- Mass Attendance - We expect all children to attend Sunday Mass on a weekly basis in order to connect religious education, sacramental preparation and prayer, to the Liturgy of the Mass. If out of town, it is expected that the First Communicants and family will make every reasonable effort to attend Mass. Check www.masstimes.org or call (410)676-6000 for churches and Mass times when out of town. Please make God part of your vacation or travel plans.

- **Religious Education Classes** – Child must be attending a Catholic school or be enrolled in Parish Religious Education classes for at least the year prior to the sacramental year.
- **Attend Teaching Mass** – Student and one parent must attend the Teaching Mass for 1st Communicants, wherein the priest explains the signs, symbols and the different parts of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. (See calendar for date.)
- **First Communion Retreat** – This retreat is a parish requirement no matter where your child is being prepared for 1st Communion. During retreat, the children will have the opportunity to practice the gestures and movements of Communion and actually taste the un-consecrated host and wine. Our retreat gives them the opportunity to form community with each other even though they may come from various schools and parishes. (See calendar for date.)
- **Parent Meetings** – The Diocese of Memphis requires parents to attend two meetings, one on Reconciliation and one on Eucharist. All meetings are held at St. Francis Church in Room 108 of the Parish Life Center and parents have a choice of meeting dates. (See calendar for dates.) Child care is provided for all parent meetings.
- **Attire for First Communicants:**
 - Girls:**
 - Simple white dress must be at or near the knee or no longer than the ankle in length. Dresses that are sleeveless or have spaghetti straps must have a white jacket or sweater over the dress. Low necklines are not appropriate.
 - White Veil (not to hang below the waist) should be worn. Flowers must be white and miniature in size if incorporated with the veil.
 - White tights or white socks
 - Appropriate white dress shoes
 - Boys:**
 - Navy Blue Sport Coat
 - Tan/khaki pants
 - White shirt
 - Dark tie or white Communion tie
 - Dark socks and appropriate dress shoes

If you have any difficulties fulfilling requirements please contact TERRY HARVEY, Director of Religious Education, as soon as possible, at the Church Office 756-1213 to discuss the situation.



2009 – 2010 Calendar for 2nd Grade First Communicants

September:

21 st (Mon)	Teaching Mass for First Communicants All First Communicants and Parents	7:00 pm St. Francis Church Sanctuary
26 th (Sat)	Parent Meeting – Eucharist Parents of First Communicants	10:00 am – 12 noon Parish Life Center – Rm. 108

October:

17 th (Sat)	Parent Meeting – Reconciliation Parents of First Communicants	10:00 am – 12 noon Parish Life Center – Rm. 108
19 th (Mon)	Parent Meeting – Eucharist Parents of First Communicants	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Parish Life Center – Rm. 108
26 th (Mon)	Parent Meeting – Reconciliation Parents of First Communicants	7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Parish Life Center – Rm. 108

January:

26 th (Tue)	Parent Meeting – Eucharist Parents of First Communicants	10:00 am – 12 Noon Parish Life Center – Rm. 108
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February:

2 nd (Tue)	Parent Meeting – Reconciliation Parents of First Communicants	10:00 am – 12 Noon Parish Life Center – Rm. 108
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March:

25 th (Thur)	Celebration of First Reconciliation All First Communicants and Families	7:00 pm St. Francis Church Sanctuary
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April:

11 th (Sun)	First Communion Retreat All First Communion Children	8:30 am – 11:45 am Parish Life Center – Rm. 108
14 th (Wed)	Practice for First Eucharist (Section 1) Classes of Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Schober (Children and Parents must be present)	7:00 pm St. Francis Church Sanctuary
17 th (Sat)	First Eucharist (Section 1) Classes of Mrs. Taylor and Mrs. Schober (Children must be in St. Francis/St. Clare Room by 9:30 am)	10:00 am St. Francis Church Sanctuary
21 st (Wed)	Practice for First Eucharist (Section 2) Classes of Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Hutchison (Children and Parents must be present)	7:00 pm St. Francis Church Sanctuary
24 th (Sat)	First Eucharist (Section 2) Classes of Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Hutchison (Children must be in St. Francis/St. Clare Room by 9:30 am)	10:00 am St. Francis Church Sanctuary

2009-2010 SFA School Religious Education Registration Form

** 2nd Grade Administrative Fee \$25

** 8th Grade Administrative Fee \$40

** Attach Copy of Baptismal Certificate

** Attach Copy of Permission Letter (if member of another parish)

2nd / 8th / JTC

Student Info	Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Middle: _____ Goes By: _____ Suffix: _____ Gender: _____	Age as of 9/30 _____ Grade _____ School Attending: _____ Birth Date: _____ Birth Place _____ Language: _____
	Birth Father (First/Middle/Last): _____ Birth Father's Religion: _____	Birth Mother (First/Middle/Maiden): _____ Birth Mother's Religion: _____

Family Info	Father/Guardian/StepFather: Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Prefix/Suffix: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Employer: _____	Mother/Guardian/StepMother: Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Prefix/Suffix: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____ Employer: _____
	Student Resides with: Both Parents _____ Mother _____ Father _____ Guardian _____	
	Street Address: _____ City/State/Zip _____ Home Phone: _____ Family Email: _____ Parish Where Registered: _____	
	Marital Status: Married _____ Separated _____ Divorced _____ If Remarried _____ Mother Father	
	Family Name, if different than Student: _____	
	Family Members in Journey to Catholicism (JTC)? Yes _____ No _____ If Yes, Name and Relationship _____	

Grade level of Religious Education student has completed (Circle Each): 3 yr 4 yr 5K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11

2009-2010 SFA School Religious Education Registration Form

SACRAMENTS Attach Copy of Baptism Certificate or Proof of Baptism

Baptism Baptismal Name : _____
Date: _____
Performed by: _____
Church Name: _____
Church Address: _____

1st Communion Date: _____
Performed by: _____
Church Name: _____
Church Address: _____

Confirmation Date: _____
Performed by: _____
Church Name: _____
Church Address: _____

Does Student have any serious or chronic medical condition? Yes _____ No _____
If yes, please explain specifically: _____
Is Student taking any medications? If yes, please list: _____

I authorize the St. Francis staff to summon emergency medical treatment in the event my child becomes seriously ill or injured, and I further release St. Francis staff, the Diocese of Memphis from any and all liability and waive any claims against them in regard to any accident or injury by participation in any activities of a St. Francis of Assisi program.

I desire that my child receive the Sacrament(s) of Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Eucharist or Confirmation with the parish of St. Francis of Assisi. I will adhere to the norms and requirements of both my child and myself that are necessary for the reception of this sacrament at St. Francis.
Sacrament(s) being Received: _____

	Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____
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