

Sept 11, 2017

Dear Parents,

As your child is in Grade 2 this year they are invited to prepare to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. We sent out a letter in June, **but** over the summer we had to make some changes to our program. **We are now utilizing a program through Dynamic Catholic called BLESSED.** The workbooks you will receive are much more comprehensive than the ones used before. We think that they will be valuable tools to help you teach your child all about the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

**Online registration** for First Holy Communion is open at [www.stleonardsparish.ca](http://www.stleonardsparish.ca) and will close on September 29th. Baptismal Certificates must be submitted at time of registration by email or fax: 613-692-3562. Due to the new program in effect our fees have increased slightly to cover the cost of the new workbooks. **The fee of \$50.00** must be submitted at that Registration / Information night. You will receive the first workbook at that time.

**Please be aware that church attendance is necessary.** Beginning Sept 30, 2017, there will be dated activity sheets available at the front to the church each weekend. **Ten worksheets** must be returned **before** a date will be given for **First Holy Communion.** Activity sheets must be returned regularly at weekend Masses **ensuring all are returned by April 1, 2018.** Your child's first and last name must be on each activity sheet. Activity sheets will not be accepted at the parish office.

Your child will also be **expected** to participate in **One Children's Mass.** These are held on the **4th Sunday of every month.** Sign up is online at [www.stleonardsparish.ca](http://www.stleonardsparish.ca). Marc Paradis is the coordinator of the Children's Masses.

The children celebrating the sacraments will be formally welcomed into the parish community at an **Enrolment Mass on Sunday October 1, 2017.** A reception will follow each Mass. Please note the change in dates for First Reconciliation. **First Reconciliation** will be held at St. Leonard Church on Tuesday, **January 23, 2018** for students attending St. Jerome School and on Tuesday, **January 30, 2018** for students attending St. Leonard School. They will both be held at 7:00 p.m. at St. Leonard Church.

**Tentative Dates** for First Holy Communion Masses are: April 7 & 8, April 14 & 15, April 21 & 22, and April 28, 2018. Each First Communion date will have 10 to 12 spots available and will be on a "first come-first serve" basis.

As your child prepares for this major step in his or her journey of faith, it is important that parish, school and family work together to give as much support as possible. In addition to instruction in the faith, your child needs opportunities at home, school and church to become more familiar with prayer, worship and service. Together we can provide concrete and joyful encouragement. We look forward to supporting your children in their journey to the table of the Lord.

Blessings to you and your family,  
Rev. Titus Egbueh, Pastor and the Sacramental Preparation Team