

June 26, 2017

Dear Parents,

Your child will be in Grade 2 next year and is invited to prepare to receive the sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Included in this letter are some important deadline dates.

Online registration for First Holy Communion will be open as of July 15 and remain open **all summer** at www.stleonardsparish.ca and close on September 30. Baptismal Certificates must be submitted at time of registration by email or fax: 613-692-3562. **A Parent Information/Registration Night** will be held on **September 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in St. Leonard Church**. At that time we will give a brief presentation and answer any questions you may have. **The fee of \$40.00** must be submitted at that time. You will receive a sacrament preparation workbook for your child to help you prepare them for these special celebrations.

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. **Four worksheets** must be handed in before your child may receive **First Reconciliation**. **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 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. **First Reconciliation** will be held at St. Leonard Church on Tuesday, **December 5, 2017** for students attending St. Leonard School and on Tuesday, **December 12, 2017** for students attending St. Jerome School. They will both be held at 7:00 p.m. If your child attends another school, he or she may attend either night.

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 you know, "many hands make light work" so if you are able to volunteer to help the Sacramental preparation team, your help will be **greatly appreciated**. Please email Susan at the parish office office@stleonardsparish.ca

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