



St. Paul the Apostle Parish

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Registration for First Communion and Confirmation

Dear Parents / Guardians:

As part of the spiritual life and growth of the parish family, preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation are now beginning. Preparing our children to receive the Sacraments is a joint effort between school, parish, and home with the primary educators in the faith always being the parents/guardians. Family involvement is vital in the preparation and celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation;. With the support of the Parish and Catholic Schools along the journey, we are asking you to participate in the preparation of your children for the Sacraments. You will be supported by. Religious education is an important element of Catholic Schools and will continue to be an indispensable element for sacramental preparation. This will continue as usual in the Catholic Schools of the Parish. Nevertheless, the element of parental involvement is vital to sustain a faith life. The Catechism of the Catholic Church states that parents have the primary role in the evangelization and religious education of their children. (CCC, nos 2221-2226). ***The family is a domestic church, that is, a community where faith, hope and love are taught and lived by word and example in union with the larger family of the parish church.***

Registration and reception of the Sacraments takes place at your home parish - your community parish where you belong and where you regularly attend Mass. For those who belong to St. Paul the Apostle Parish, please register for the Sacraments at www.stpaulkingston.com/sacraments. If this is not possible please pick up a registration form at Sunday Mass or from the Parish Office. If you registered online before November 1, 2022, Please register again using the updated format.

Reconciliation/First Communion is usually celebrated around Grade 2 and Confirmation around Grade 7-8; however, these Sacraments can be celebrated at any age, younger or older, when the parent/guardian feels that the child is mature enough and ready to appreciate and benefit from the Sacrament.

The preparation for these Sacraments will be threefold. 1) online via our website with parents at home; 2) religious instruction in the Catholic School led by school educators; 3) Parish instruction session held at the Church with our Sacramental Preparation Team. These Parish Group Sessions will consist of 4 sessions and will be led by parish volunteers. They will be offered during the Season of Lent on different days to accommodate your schedules. You will be notified of the details by email.

We invite any young person and their family (regardless of age), who feel they are ready to approach the Church for these Sacraments to register and begin the preparation process. For those belonging to other parish communities, the Archdiocese is asking that parents/guardians contact your pastor or parish office for information on registration at your parish.

In Christ,

Fr. John Hibbard
Pastor

Fr. Paul Mawalla
Associate Pastor

Rebecca LaBarr Brown
Coord. of Family & Youth Ministry