

★ **Assumption BVM Parish Sacrament Preparation Processes for Children and Youth**

The seven Sacraments are celebrations of the power and presence of God active in the lives of individuals & in the Christian community. They proclaim, make explicit, and celebrate the grace of God in the lives of the persons receiving them. Sacraments are significant moments in the lifelong, ongoing process of growing in faith, hope and love with Jesus Christ.

Processes of preparation for Sacraments are essential to the ongoing spiritual formation in the lives of Catholic Christians. The goal of these processes is not only our young people's reception of a particular Sacrament; more important is the continuous development of the person as a Catholic Christian whose faith is maturing into the living, conscious, active belief of an adult disciple of Jesus Christ. The ideal situation for a child to enter the process of sacramental preparation is one in which he/she is consistently attending religious education/formation sessions (either in a Catholic school or a parish program) throughout his/her youth. Thus, Assumption Parish requires that a child entering a sacramental preparation process be a consistent participant in religious education sessions for at least one year prior to entering the preparation for a Sacrament. For new parishioners, participation in the religious education program at their previous parish may be acceptable as determined by Assumption's Pastor and Director of Religious Education.

Children in grade 2 may prepare to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.

Children in grade 3 may prepare to receive the Sacrament of Eucharist for the first time.

Youth in grade 7 may enter a two-year process to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

For parents/guardians whose children are involved in a sacramental preparation process, parent/guardian gatherings for each Sacrament provide theological updates, discussion, and community building. We encourage parents to attend these sessions that can enrich the whole family's celebration of the Sacrament.

Sacrament Preparation Processes: Dates TBD

FIRST RECONCILIATION

SMS Grade 2, PREP Good Shepherd

Gathering for Parents/Guardians: TBD. in the Jubilee Center Coll Room

Celebration of First Reconciliation: TBD

FIRST EUCHARIST

SMS Grade 3, PREP Apostles

Gathering for Parents/Guardians: TBD in the Jubilee Center Coll Room

Exploring Our Holy Home Church Tour: TBD

Liturgical Preparation Session for children celebrating First Communion: TBD

Celebration of First Eucharist: TBD

CONFIRMATION: REMOTE PREPARATION YEAR

SMS GRADE 7, PREP Discipleship 2

Year I Activities/Events (SMS Grade 7, PREP Discipleship 2, those to be confirmed in 2026)

Ordinary Time 2024: Year 1 Orientation

Basic Catholic Knowledge Reviews, Spiritual Development Activities and Service Hours (*to be explained in Yr. 1 Orientation*)

2025: *Year 2 Orientation Gathering for candidates and parents

***Candidate and at least one parent/guardian should attend this meeting.**

CONFIRMATION: IMMEDIATE PREPARATION YEAR SMS GRADE 8, PREP Discipleship 3

Year II Activities/Events (SMS Grade 8, PREP Discipleship 3, those to be confirmed in 2025)

Gathering for parents/guardians and candidates: Sunday 19 May, 8:45 -9:45 in the Coll Room

Candidate Retreat: Sunday, 8 December 2024, 11:30 – 3:30 p.m.

Liturgical Preparation Session for Candidates and Sponsors: TBD

Celebration of Confirmation 2025: TBD, 4:30 p.m.

Come, Holy Spirit!