

Holy Rosary Parish

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First Sacraments

The Scriptures record the story of humanity and of a God of salvation who wills to enter into a covenant, a bond of loving union with humanity, created in the divine image and likeness. God first chose a people, Israel, to acknowledge the one God, to serve the God of holiness and steadfast love, and to be bearer of the divine promise. From this People of God came Jesus, the Christ, the Word of God who took flesh in Mary, whose God-given mission was to proclaim the Good News from God, whose death and resurrection has ushered in a new covenant.

The Church is the People of God, disciples of Jesus gathered in faith, hope and charity. God willed to make women and men holy not as individuals but in communion and as a communion.

There are three stages of initiation into this community.

It is the right and duty of the parents to present a child for baptism

By Baptism, a person is first brought into this community, and begins to live the new life of the Spirit as a member of Christ: priest, prophet, shepherd.

Since baptism calls for faith, when a child is baptised it is the parents and godparents who speak for the child and who commit themselves to raising the child in the faith of the Church.

It is the right and duty of the parents to present a child for the subsequent sacraments of initiation (First Communion and Confirmation) and the sacrament of Penance (reconciliation).

Catechetical preparation for the sacraments of Penance (reconciliation), First Communion, and Confirmation is parish-based, family focussed, and Catholic school-supported. If the child does not attend a Catholic school, the parents enrol the child in an appropriate catechetical programme set up by the parish.

It has become customary for a young baptised person to receive the Sacrament of Penance (reconciliation) for the first time, before receiving first Communion.

In Confirmation, a baptised person, is “sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit” by the laying on of hands and the anointing with sacred chrism.

At First Communion, a baptised person enters fully into the community through the full sharing in the Eucharist of the Body and Blood of the Lord.

Thereafter, the frequent celebration of the Eucharist becomes the privilege and heart of this member of Christ’s Church.

For more details, please see [FORMS & LEAFLETS](#)