

FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Special Dates

FIRST PENANCE PARENT MEETING Parent/Adult Guardian ONLY

Monday, October 26, 2026 at 7:00 PM in the Church

FIRST PENANCE RETREAT - Parent/Adult guardian and candidate attend together

Saturday, November 21, 2026 at 9:30-11:00 AM in the school cafeteria

FIRST PENANCE – parents are encouraged to also experience

this Sacrament of Healing with their children

Thursday, December 3, 2026 in Church at 7:00 PM

MASS FOR PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES FOR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday, January 10, 2027 at 9:30 AM and 11:00 AM

FIRST COMMUNION PARENT MEETING Parent/Adult Guardian ONLY

Monday, January 11, 2027 in Church at 7:00 PM

FIRST COMMUNION RETREAT Parent/Adult Guardian and candidate required to

attend Saturday, March 6, 2027 in school 9:30-Noon, pizza lunch included

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PRACTICE

Thursday, April 29, 2027 5:30-7:30 PM

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS

Saturday, May 1, 2027 10:00 AM

FIRST PENANCE INFORMATION

First Penance Service – Thursday, December 3 at 7:00 PM in the Church

After First Penance, please continue to practice the Rite of Reconciliation and the Act of Contrition! This is a lifelong sacrament and children should celebrate Reconciliation a second time before they receive First Holy Communion.

Dress is Sunday Best.

Parents will help children form an orderly line and approach the priest of their choice. Parents and children are invited to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please refrain from conversations while in the Church.

Please remember the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation is confidential. We are all bound by the seal of the confessional and should not hear or listen to another's confession, even if it is your child's. Therefore, please stand behind the ushers so you cannot hear the penitent. Additionally, please do not take pictures or video inside the Church. You may take pictures inside the vestibule. The stained glass windows representing baptism and penance make excellent backdrops!

Certificates will be on a table in the main Vestibule. When the penance is completed, you may pick up your certificates and be dismissed. If you are waiting for other families, please do so quietly in the vestibule or outside.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION INFORMATION

First Holy Communion Rehearsal is Thursday, April 29, 2027.

Please drop off at the school cafeteria by 5:30 PM. We will practice the procession to the Church. Pick up is in the Church at 7:30 PM. This rehearsal is mandatory for all candidates. Children who wish to participate in the Mass as readers and gift bearers must be present for rehearsal.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASS is scheduled for Saturday, May 1, 2027 at 10:00 AM

Fee: \$100 per candidate is due on or before March 6, 2027. Make checks payable to Saint Philip Neri Church. SPN School Students will have fees withdrawn from FACTS.

Those receiving communion should fast for 1 hour, so please refrain from eating after 9:30 AM. Children arrive at the school CAFETERIA by 9:30 AM to form a line for procession in order to be seated by 9:45 AM. We will be processing on time, so please do not be late.

Seating for First Communion—We warmly welcome family and friends to celebrate First Holy Communion!

RESERVED SEATING: Seats are strictly reserved for 2 adults per family. To ensure that all parents fit comfortably, no additional guests can be accommodated in these reserved sections.

GENERAL GUEST SEATING: Additional guests may be seated in the general seating area on a first-come, first-served basis. They fill quickly and standing room only is highly likely.

LIVESTREAM: Because we want all of your loved ones to experience this special day without the discomfort of standing and crowds, we highly encourage extended family members and friends to join us via our professional livestreaming—it actually offers the best view in the church, capturing the sweet expressions on the children's faces!

Attire to honor the solemnity of this sacrament:

- **Girls** wear white dresses and appropriate hair accessories of your choice. To keep their hands free to receive Jesus, girls should not have fake nails, wear gloves, or carry anything during the procession and Mass.
- **Boys** wear suits or sports coats and dress slacks of any color, a white shirt and white tie. Dress shoes (Please, no sneakers). To keep their hands free, boys should also not carry anything (such as rosary beads, prayer cards, or small items) during the procession and Mass.

PHOTOGRAPHY and Livestreaming

We want everyone to fully experience the joy and prayer of this special Mass! Because of this, **personal photography and videos are not permitted during the liturgy**. Our professional photography team will be recording the Mass and taking candids. In addition, the Mass will be livestreamed for those who cannot attend in person. A livestream link will be sent to families before the Mass, and a digital download of the edited video will be available about two weeks later. Please help us by allowing the professional photographers clear access to get the best shots. Information on scheduling individual **Professional Portraits** will be sent out in early spring