

WHAT TO EXPECT: FIRST COMMUNION AND CONFIRMATION 2020

GENERAL

Please use the First Communion or Confirmation links provided to register your immediate family for Mass. Other invited guests should use the registration links found on the parish website.

Please plan to arrive at least 15 minutes early. Entry to the Church is via the door on Granville only. When you arrive, a greeter will take your temperature, spray your hands with sanitizer, and check you in. If you have not pre-registered, please do so by noon on the Friday before your sacramental weekend. Anyone not pre-registered will be required to sign in at the greeters' table.

An usher will direct you to the pew that has been reserved for your immediate family. The immediate family group (same household) is limited to eight people. Other invited guests or non-immediate family members will be seated separately by the ushers after they have completed the arrival protocols.

Confirmation candidates will be given name tags with their name and their confirmation name.

Photos will be allowed after Mass observing the appropriate social-distancing rules.

MASKS MUST BE WORN AT ALL TIMES IN THE CHURCH.

First Communion

Please remind the children that they should place their left hand on top of their right hand and then extend both hands forward to receive the host. A way to remember which hand is to think about the left hand being the hand on the side of the body where the heart is. So you are opening your heart to receive the body of Christ. After the host is placed in their hands the response is “Amen.”

Once all First Communions have been completed, the ushers will release other parishioners by row to come forward to receive communion.

As I understand it, banners were to have been made at the April retreat that did not happen because of the health-related shut down. Therefore, banners are optional. If you have a banner, please feel free to bring it. Don't worry if you don't.

DURING MASS – FIRST COMMUNION

All First Communions will be celebrated at the start of the Communion Rite during Mass.

The child receiving their First Communion and their parents will come forward one family at a time as directed by the ushers. The ushers will spray their hands with sanitizer as the family approaches the altar.

Masks must be worn during the approach to the altar.

Once the host has been received by all family members as a group, they should step to the side, remove one side of their masks, consume the host, replace their masks, and then return to their seats.

CONFIRMATION

Confirmation candidates will be given name tags with their name and their confirmation name. If we do not have a record of the chosen confirmation name, you will be asked to add it prior to the start of the sacrament.

If a sponsor cannot be present, the family may designate a proxy to stand in for the Rite.

DURING MASS - CONFIRMATION

The Rite of Confirmation will take place after the homily.

Fr Rich will call the candidates and sponsors to come forward.

The candidates and sponsors will line up facing Fr. Rich in front of the altar. (This allows the people in the pews to be able to see what is happening.) The backs of the candidates and sponsors will be to the church. See Example 1 on page 3.

After an introduction to the rite, Fr Rich will lead the candidates through a renewal of their baptismal vows.

This will be followed by the Prayer over the Candidates and the Laying on of Hands.

Next will be the anointing with Sacred Chrism. Candidates come forward with their Sponsor one at a time. Example 2 on page 3. The Sponsor places her/his right hand on the Candidate's right shoulder.

After Fr. Rich anoints the Candidate on her/his forehead with the Sacred Chrism and says the prayer, "Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit," the Candidate replies, "Amen."

Then Fr. Rich will extend his hand and say, "Peace be with you." As the newly-confirmed shakes his hand, she/he replies, "And with your spirit."

Newly confirmed and their sponsor go to the end of the line until all are confirmed. Fr. Rich will then introduce them as a group to the congregation.

The newly confirmed and their sponsors then return to their pews

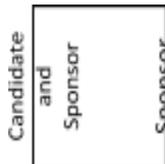
Example 1 Baptismal Vows and Blessing



Father Rich

Candidate 1 Candidate 2 Candidate 3 Candidate 4 Candidate 5 Candidate 6

Example 2 Confirmation



Candidate 1 Candidate 2 Candidate 3 Candidate 4 Candidate 5 Candidate 6

Candidates will turn and face the piano Starting with the candidate in position 6, the candidate will come up to the altar to meet Fr Rich.