

SACRED HEARTS OF JESUS & MARY CATHOLIC CHURCH

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2023

5 March 2023

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Praised be Jesus Christ! We're looking forward inviting our Catholic grade 2 students to receive Our Blessed Lord for the very first time in Holy Communion fittingly on **Corpus Christi Sunday, June 11 at 11am at Sacred Heart of Jesus in Marmora**. As well, candidates will make their First Reconciliation, in which they will participate in the outpouring of the Divine Mercy of Jesus.

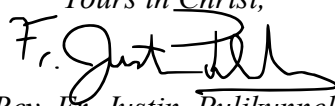
"The administration of the Most Holy Eucharist to children requires that they have sufficient knowledge and careful preparation so that they understand the mystery of Christ according to their capacity and are able to receive the body of Christ with faith and devotion." (Canon 913, CIC 1983).

The Code of Canon Law also states, *"It is primarily the duty of parents and those who take the place of parents, as well as the duty of pastors, to take care that children who have reached the use of reason are prepared properly and, after they have made sacramental confession, are refreshed with this divine food as soon as possible."* (Canon 914). As a result, it is incumbent upon you, as parents and guardians, to help in preparing your son or daughter for the Sacrament of Confession and First Holy Communion, which includes regular attendance at Holy Mass and regular catechesis.

It is important to note the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion are not class events; they are sacraments of the Church. As such, no student should feel pressured to receive these sacraments, as they will be completed individually as a family.

If your child would like to proceed with the sacraments, I would ask that you come to a **mandatory candidate & parent meeting on Wednesday, 8 March at 6:30pm at SHJ Hall (Marmora)**. All students in grade two or three, and anyone older who is Catholic and has not received their First Holy Communion is encouraged to prepare for the reception of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. **The First Communion Registration Form is to be completed by Friday, March 17, 2023.**

Please be assured of my prayers and if you have any questions, please do not hesitate our secretary Pauline Davis or myself directly at the parish office.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Fr. Justin. Pulikunnel
Pastor

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