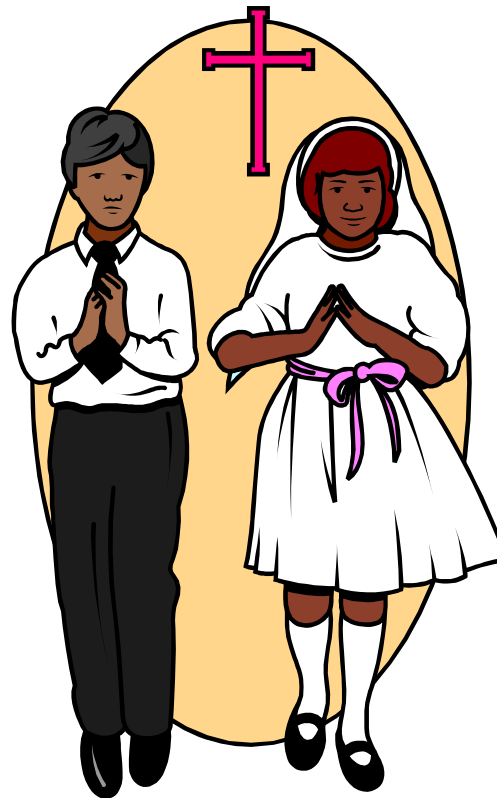


HOLY TRINITY SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMME 2016 - 2017



PARENTS' INFORMATION BOOKLET

Parents Page

As we are working together in preparing your child for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion, there are many ways in which you can support your child as we progress through the programme.

Come to the Sunday classes and encourage your child to listen carefully and try their best

Ask them about the class – what story did they hear? Can they show you the chapter in their workbooks?

Check on each week's homework in the "I Belong" book. Help with wordsearches, drawings, photos, etc.

Use the prayer bag, set up a regular time and share the class prayers, the Act of Sorrow or the format for Reconciliation – I Am Sorry sheet.

Come to the parents' meetings, we value your opinion and want to include you as much as possible in discussions, services, classes, rehearsals

Always feel free to approach us with any enquiries you want to ask us about

We can then look forward to two great occasions in the life of your family and celebrate them together

We would also like to recommend to you very valuable websites for your family to share as you explore your faith more closely in the year ahead.

- www.wednesdayword.org/home/feature.htm
- www.homeisaholyplace.org.uk/nks.html

- www.vibrantfaithathome.org

Each site provides us either with food for thought reflecting on gospel readings with questions to discuss or age specific activities for meaningful family prayers.

Please bring your child for registration at 9.30am ready for a prompt start at 9.45am. Your child will return to you as part of the Offertory Procession during Mass.

BUDGET BREAKDOWN - £26

I Belong children's book	- £10.00
Oscar Romero Cross	- £4.25
Embroidered Towel	- £5.00
Certificates	- £1.00
Prayer Cards	- £1.00
Rosary	- £1.00
Total	- £22.25

Boys can also buy a special Communion tie at a cost of £6

The remaining £3.75 will cover the cost of the children's Communion Tea.

We would appreciate a payment of £26, which can be paid at the reception desk as you register your child.

Prayers

Dear Lord Jesus,

Help me to be what you want me to be.
Help me to be kind and loving at home and at school.
Help me to be generous with all that I have.
Help me to think of you first, then other people, and myself last of all.
I want to be more like you Lord Jesus.
Please help me, AMEN

Here I am to listen carefully Here I am to try my best Here I am to be a good friend of Jesus

Act of Sorrow

O my God, I thank you for loving me.
I am sorry for all my sins, for not loving others, and not loving you.
Help me to live like Jesus and not sin again. AMEN

Our Father

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil, AMEN

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace The Lord is with you,
blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
Holy Mary, mother of God. pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death, AMEN

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Sacramental Preparation Schedule 2016/2017

Term 1

Parent's Meeting Wed 14th Sept 2016 7.30 pm

Mass of Welcome Sun 18th Sept 2016

25th September 2016 - In the Name of the Father

2nd October 2016 - We are Followers of Jesus

9th October 2016 - Lord Have Mercy

16th October 2016 – SWITCH SUNDAY

HALF TERM - Monday 24th to Friday 28th October

6th November 2016 - Jesus Our Teacher

9th November 2016 PARENTS' MEETING 7.30 pm

13th November 2016 - Celebrating Our Rescue

20th November 2016 - God Helps Me Get It Right

27th November 2016 - Making a Good Confession

4th December 2016 - SWITCH SUNDAY

11th December 2016 - We Are Peacemakers

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY Tues 20th Dec 2016 to Wed 4th Jan 2017

Term 2

Mass of Forgiveness - Sunday 8th January 2017

15th January 2017 - Reconciliation Format

22nd January 2017 - SWITCH SUNDAY

29th January 2017 - Glory to God in the Highest

5th February 2017 - This is the Word of the Lord

HALF TERM - Monday 13th to Friday 17th February 2017

26th February 2017 - Bread to Offer

Saturday 4th March - Sacrament of Reconciliation – after 10am Mass

5th March 2017 - Fruit of the Vine

12th March 2017 - Do This in Memory

19th March 2017 - Body of Christ

26th March 2017 - To Love and to Serve

EASTER HOLIDAY Monday 3rd April to Monday 17th April 2017

Term 3

23rd April 2017 – REHEARSAL CLASS

Parent's Meeting Wednesday 26th April 2017 7.30pm

DATES FOR FAMILY SUNDAY COMMUNIONS

30 April, 7th May, 14th May, 2017

**Whole Group Mass of Celebration and Communion Tea
21st May 2017 at 10am Mass**

Sacramental Preparation 2016/2017

Sessions	Everyday Life	Scripture	Church	Everyday Life
1) In The Name of The Father	Names – we are special – we belong to a family – we have many gifts. We are very special. God loves each one of us.	Explain sections of the Bible – OLD/NEW. Discuss God’s creation. Introduce NEW TESTAMENT – Annunciation/ Baptism of Jesus	Think about your own Baptism – where, when, We join God’s family	As members of God’s family we follow the example of Jesus, our best friend, in all we say and do.
2) We are followers of Jesus	Jesus wants family members to love one another. Consider ways in which parents, grandparents, and friends show love and care.	Jesus explaining the greatest of the Commandments. Jesus wants us to follow God’s laws. God gave us laws to show his love and to protect us.	God’s laws – The Ten Commandments – help us to live good and happy lives. Continue to discuss remaining Commandments as our code of conduct for God’s family.	Introduce special prayer – Dear Lord Jesus – asking help to live like Jesus and follow the Commandments. Promise to be more careful in how we treat our family and friends. Bring them joy!
3) Lord Have Mercy	Story of the little girl and her kitten. Beginning to show more kindness and forgiveness	Old Testament – story of Adam and Eve in garden of Eden. New Testament – parable of Prodigal Son	God is our loving Father – happy to be close to us in Mass/Eucharist. He helps us to understand mercy as a special kind of love.	Learning to show mercy – We become more like God. Think of opportunities at home and at school. Recite prayer asking for help to show love and forgiveness.
4) Jesus our Teacher [Children’s Bible]	Think about some of the things Jesus taught us. Did He show us good example? Did He treat others kindly? What is your story of kindness?	Find inspiring examples of Jesus as a good role model and read to the children. - Jairus’ daughter - Bartimaeus - Crippled man	Bring children’s attention to readings during Mass. Regard this listening time as their chance of finding out more about Jesus and all that he taught us. Begin to listen more carefully and think about the example of Jesus.	What can we do? What can we say? How can we help? Think of each day as an opportunity to think of others, not just ourself.

Sessions	Everyday Life	Scripture	Church	Everyday Life
5) Celebrating our Rescue	Stories of rescue : Think about personal experiences of being helped from danger or difficulty	Old Testament - story of Daniel in the Lions Den. New Testament – parable of the Lost Sheep. Discuss both and how God showed love.	Compare own feelings when we don't follow Jesus' example – anger, greed, spite, selfishness. We are rescued in the Sacrament of Reconciliation – we can return to feelings of joy.	Hope and strength for our future lives, knowing God our Father will help us. How can we change and try to be better?
6) God Helps Me Get it Right	Think about learning new tasks and skills. Did someone help us? What have we found difficult?	New Testament – story of Jesus and Zacchaeus. What happened to Zacchaeus after he met Jesus? How did Jesus help him?	Sacrament of Reconciliation – we meet Jesus in a special way – we are given His help and love. We are able to try again and do better.	How can we change our lives? What can we do better? Think about our families and friends – how can we make them happy?
7) Making a Good Confession. [First Penance P.32]	Introduce the story of Lisa and Andrew P.32/33 Help children to understand that the children had hurt one another, but managed to say sorry, an important sign of growing up.	Revisit story of the Prodigal Son P.34 Remind children of God's love and forgiveness and how he rejoices when we say sorry and try to follow Jesus.	Sacrament of Reconciliation - Thinking about the choices we have made – have we shown love? – have we hurt someone? - Introduce simple format to tell priest we are sorry - Learn Act of Sorrow	P37 – Day by Day – showing respect for God and others. Use simple format of questions to help children examine their conscience in preparation for making a good Confession.
8) We are Peacemakers [First Penance P. 67]	What should a peacemaker do? Share worksheet on playground games with children. Discuss what is happening – how would they be able to show love and respect?	P. 70 Share excerpt from Matthew 5: 1-2, 9. Blessed are the peacemakers Help children to understand that as peacemakers we are signs of God's loving care.	At the end of the Sacrament of Penance the priest invites us to “ Go in peace”. Also at the end of Mass each week – “Go in peace” We live in peace when we: - Live like Jesus - Follow the Commandments	Let's use the goodness within us to love God and our neighbour. Think of 3 I can's. - I can share with friends - I can try my best - I can say sorry With God's help we can each make a difference

Sacramental Preparation 2016/2017

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Sessions	Everyday Life	Scripture	Church	Everyday Life
9) Glory to God in the Highest.	Help children to consider special experiences. Think of something really wonderful, something glorious. Help them to understand that such experiences are gifts from God.	<u>Old Testament</u> – Moses and the Burning Bush. Read, discuss and emphasise what a glorious experience it was for Moses. <u>New Testament</u> – God’s glorious plan – gift of Jesus. Share shepherds’ experience	We go to church to see, hear and experience the glory of God. We sing and praise God during Mass. Read/sing the words of the Gloria.	Use short Glory Be to The Father from prayer sheet. Help children to learn it & encourage them to recite it each day. Remind them to join in with the Gloria during Mass and to praise and thank God for all his gifts to them.
10) This is the Word of The Lord.	Emphasis on listening skills. Observe animal drawings and find missing parts. What do we like to listen to? Our senses help us to appreciate God’s world	<u>Old Testament</u> – share story of Samuel and how he heard God’s word, and spread message of God’s love and wisdom. <u>New Testament</u> – birth of Jesus – arrival of the Word of God	Mass readings – Jesus continues to be with us spreading God’s Word. Explain differences in readings. 1) Old Testament 2) Usually letters of Apostles 3) New Testament – Life of Jesus	-Big Ears Listening Game -How good a listener are you? -Do we know difference between good/bad listening? -Can you hear the grass grow? -Can you hear a pin drop? -Can you listen carefully during Mass?
11) Bread to Offer	Consider the life cycle of the simple grain of wheat. Think of all the stages and people involved. Focus on the importance of food in our lives and who provides it. What do we enjoy eating?	<u>Old Testament</u> – recall story of the Burning Bush, Moses, and the Israelites. Listen to the story of God’s special bread – manna – saving the Israelites from starvation. <u>New Testament</u> – Story of feeding of 5000 – in desert hungry but with Jesus’ and God’s help they survived.	Preparing God’s special bread – Eucharist – at Mass. Help children to understand all that is involved. - altar – table - paten – plate - chalice – cup At Mass the priest offers our gifts to God and we give thanks.	Help children to appreciate the importance of food in their lives and how fortunate they are. Food keeps their body healthy. Begin to help them understand the importance of God’s special food – Bread of Life – food for their souls.

Sessions	Everyday Life	Scripture	Church	Everyday Life
12) Fruit of the Vine	It's party time with lots of lovely things to drink. Which one do you enjoy? We often drink wine when we celebrate special occasions. Think about how we change our drinks as we grow from baby to adult.	<u>Old Testament</u> – Mention Jewish feast of Passover. Wine is drunk as part of the celebration <u>New Testament</u> – Jesus loved to celebrate. Read and discuss Jesus' first miracle – Marriage Feast at Cana	Jesus compares us to a beautiful vineyard and tells us "I am the vine, you are the branches". When we celebrate at Mass we think of ourselves as close to God, spreading out like the branches of the vine to spread God's love and goodness. We look forward to meeting God Our Father in Heaven	Our lives are blessed with many things to celebrate. Name a few. We remember that to celebrate is to give thanks and praise. We thank God for our families. We thank God for the life of Jesus. We thank God for giving us Jesus in Holy Communion.
13) Do this in memory of Me	We enjoy our food. We love to share food at parties, picnics, etc. We feel better after a good enjoyable meal	<u>Old Testament</u> – Share story of Moses and his people preparing for their journey to freedom – PASSOVER MEAL <u>New Testament</u> – Jesus celebrated the PASSOVER each year. Help children to make links between Passover-Eucharist and see Jesus as new saviour and Lamb of God. Recall events of Last Supper	During Mass we remember Jesus and the Last Supper – we share bread and wine. We bless them and offer them to God. Jesus in the Eucharist makes us strong to love God and one another. Receiving Jesus in Holy Communion changes our lives and helps us to love as Jesus did.	Reflect on how receiving Jesus in Holy Communion helps them to follow even closer in his footsteps – making good choices and putting others before ourselves.

Sessions	Everyday Life	Scripture	Church	Everyday Life
14) Body of Christ	How things change! Think about the life cycle of a tadpole---> frog. Spot the changes. We change and look different as we grow – we are taller, stronger but we are still the same person. Ask Mum to show you some old photos of yourself.	<u>New Testament</u> Events following The Last Supper – Jesus is risen from the dead. Read stories of Mary and the Gardener, Two Friends and The Stranger. Would you like to meet Jesus? What would you chat about?	Meeting Jesus in The Eucharist. Help children to understand we meet him in a different form – but it is still the Jesus we know and love. Focus on the words of consecration at Mass – This is my body, This is my blood	When we receive Jesus in The Eucharist we become so close to Him we share His risen life and energy to live good, happy lives. When we receive Jesus at Mass we must always be respectful, quiet and still as we welcome Him into our hearts.
15) To Love and To Serve	Continue with food/drink focus – favourites, special treats etc. Then consider how food can affect us – make us better, stronger. e.g. hungry – weak, but after a meal we are refreshed, energised.	<u>Old Testament</u> Introduce the successor of Moses – Joshua. Joshua is the same name as Jesus. Jesus means Saviour. Jesus is the Son of God <u>New Testament</u> Breakfast with the Stranger – Jesus helps the Apostles to catch many fish	At Mass the priest says “Go in peace to love and serve the Lord” Having received Jesus in Holy Communion we will feel better able to live as Jesus taught us, loving and serving everyone we meet.	Think of ways of living our lives as good members of God’s family. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - At home - At school - Is this a good motto? - Why Treat others as would like to be treated ourselves