



CATHEDRAL OF SAINT MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

First Communion II – Requirements

1. Certificate of Baptism: It is required for all students to bring a copy of the Baptismal Certificate at the time of registration. Check with the Religious Office if we have a copy in our files. NO student will be admitted to classes without proper documentation.
2. Attend all classes during the year. A maximum of three (3) absences are allowed. If absence more than 3 times, student is required to notify the Religious Office. Please call the Religious Office for any special circumstances.
3. Preparation for the Sacraments of the Eucharist should aim at leading the Christian toward a more intimate union with Christ. Catechesis is the work of learning the teachings of Jesus Christ, the Universal Church as well the Parish Community.
4. The students will be expected to learn basic prayers, Church Doctrine, especially Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. The student will be assigned to a class, and they are expected to pray, to participate, and be respectful to their teachers, and with other students.
5. At the end of the 2nd Year of First Communion, the student is expected to successfully complete an assessment. This Final Exam will be administered by the catechist on **January 5, 2016**.
6. In case of an absence, the student is responsible for obtaining the missed materials from the Catechist, and completion of any missed assignments. In case of absence from the Final Exam, the Religious Education Office will contact you to schedule a time for its completion.
7. Sacrament of the Eucharist - Students enrolled in the First Communion program, are expected to participate in the weekly Sunday Mass and Holy Days of Obligation. By attending Sundays and Holy Days of Obligations, the Catholic fulfills both the Third Commandment to keep Holy the Lord's Day and the words of Jesus Christ to his Disciples at the Last Supper: "Do this in memory of Me" (Luke 22:19) "This observance should be seen as a need rising from the depths of Christian Life. It is crucially important that all the faithful should be convinced that they cannot live their faith or share fully in the life of the Christian Community unless they take part regularly in the Sunday Eucharistic Assembly." (On Keeping the Lord's Day Holy" – Blessed John Paul II Apostolic Letter).



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The Holy Days of Obligation for the Diocese of Trenton for 2015-2016 are as follows:

- **November 1** --- Solemnity of All Saints
 - **December 8** --- Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary
 - **December 25** --- Solemnity of the Nativity of the Lord
 - **January 1** --- Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God
 - **May 14** --- Solemnity Ascension of the Lord
 - **August 15** --- Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
8. Service Project: Each candidate is expected to bear witness to the Gospel message by choosing and carrying out a service project experience. Such an experience is a concrete action performed in answer to the Gospel's challenge to love our neighbor as Jesus loved us. Due dates for the Community Service and Service Projects is **April 30, 2015**. By doing Community Service of Service Projects we imitate Christ by living the Beatitudes, and the Works of Mercy. Service to one another is one of the primary ways of giving witness to our faith in Jesus Christ. Requirements:
- 6th Grade: 5 Hours of Community Service
 - 1st Year Confirmation: 10 hours of Community Service (Service Project)
 - 2nd Year of Confirmation & RCIA Teens: 15 Hours of Community Service (Service Project). Service Projects should be approved by the Director of Religious Education.
9. Deferral of the Sacraments of the Eucharist: If there is a behavioral issue with a student in class, excessive absences, incomplete assignments, and missed required activities as not attending weekly Sunday Liturgy (Mass), this will be considered as evidence that the student is NOT prepared for the Sacrament of the Eucharist and there will be a conference between the student and the parent with the Director of Religious Education, Julio Alvarez, to discuss deferring reception of the Sacrament.
10. If any of the above is NOT completed by the DUE DATES, your child will not be able to receive the Sacraments. NO DEADLINES OR EXTENSION WILL BE PROVIDED.