

Saint Francis Catholic Church

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Dear Parents,

I am writing to you to give you details of our programme to prepare children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion for the first time in 2017/18. This programme is open to children in year 3 or above.

Our first communion Mass will take place on Sunday 10 June 2018. We are following a new format this year of using family based catechesis, where one or both parents come to the sessions with their child to prepare together for First Communion. We tried this in Portishead last year and it proved really successful and popular with families.

The opening session for the programme takes place on a Sunday afternoon, 1 October from 2.30 to 4.30pm. As part of this session, we will explain a bit more about how the programme works and give you the chance to answer any questions. The main preparation sessions then take place on Sunday mornings from 9:45 to 10:45am, followed by the Sunday Mass at 11am, where children will have the opportunity to be involved in various ways.

I've attached the enrolment form for the programme. Please bring this with you to the opening session. If your child was baptised in a different parish, could you also bring their baptism certificate with you? If you're able to make a contribution of £10 towards the cost of materials, this is enormously appreciated, but if you can't afford this, that's absolutely fine (cheques can be made payable to St Francis Parish).

If you are unable to attend the initial meeting, but would like your child to be enrolled on the programme, please let me know so that we can make alternative arrangements.

If you have any further questions about the programme, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me.

Warmest wishes and prayers,

Fr Tom Dubois