

St. Joseph's Parish First Confession and First Holy Communion Schedule 2026-27

This is split in two halves: Journey to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Journey to First Holy Communion

Sunday Mass is at the heart of our lives as Catholics. Preparing children to receive Our Lord in Holy Communion is a beautiful moment for the whole family to grow in faith and in love with our Lord Jesus Christ. Please come to Mass every week, not just on the special Sundays we have indicated, and help the children to follow Mass and to join in with the prayers. At the consecration (when the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ) indicate to your child(ren) what is happening and encourage them to bow at that moment and to listen out for the bells to be rung. At The family Masses, the First Holy Communion children will be doing the readings, the offertory and will have a prominent role in the Mass.

Journey to the Sacrament of Reconciliation/Confession

September's prayer of the Month: The Sign of the Cross

Make sure the children know how to make this beautiful little prayer correctly.

Tuesday 6th October	5.00-6.30pm	Family Meeting: Introduction to Parents in the church/ Children's introductory meeting in the hall Introduction to the programme and distribution of materials. We will be asking for a contribution of £25 towards the cost of the materials. (If there are additional children in the family doing the programme, then it's an extra £20.00 per additional child).	At least one parent and the children starting the programme. Additional children may come along too. The children will be doing their own activity.
---------------------------------------	-------------	---	---

At home, look through the book and chat with children about the programme, set up focal/prayer corner etc.

October's prayer of the Month: The "Hail Mary"

Make sure that the children know this fundamental prayer by heart.

w/c 12 th October	At home, Chapter 1, Baptism; Then send in a photo of the Children's work to Carol Ann		
Sunday 18th October	9.45am-10.45am	Family Meeting: Chapter 2, The call to become a disciple	Child(ren) and at least one parent
Sunday 18th October	11.00 am	Enrolment Mass: (Rite of acceptance)	Child(ren) and at least one parent
w/c 19 th October	At home, Chapter 3, We pray with Jesus; Focus on learning the Our Father. Then send in a photo of the Children's work to Carol Ann		
w/c 26 th October	At home, Chapter 4, We love like Jesus; Then send in a photo of the Children's work		

Tuesday 3rd November	5.pm-6.30pm	Family meeting: An Introduction to the History of Salvation. Start to explore the church building (booklets to be completed in their "own time")	Child(ren) and at least one parent
--	-------------	---	------------------------------------

November's prayer of the Month: The "Our Father"

Make sure that the children know this fundamental prayer by heart.

w/c 9 th November	At home, Chapter 5, We obey like Jesus; Then send in a photo of the Children's work		
------------------------------	--	--	--

Sunday 15 th November	9.45am-10.45am	Family Meeting: Chapter 6, The paralysed man	Child(ren) and at least one parent
	11.00 am	Family Mass; <i>(Children lead in the Our Father)</i>	Child(ren) and at least one parent
w/c 16 th November	At home, Chapter 7, Jesus the Good Shepherd; Then send in a photo of the Children's work		
w/c 23 rd November	At home, Chapter 8, The priest, Servant of God's mercy; Then send in a photo of the Children's work		
Tuesday 1 st December	5.00-6.30pm	Family meeting: All about Jesus	Child(ren) and at least one parent
December's prayer of the Month: The Angelus			
Sunday 6 th December	9.45am-10.45am	Family Meeting: Ways of praying	Child(ren) and at least one parent
Sunday 6 th December	11.00 am	Family Mass: <i>(Children offer up their completed booklets on the church building)</i>	Child(ren) and at least one parent
During December	Make sure that you have caught up with all the material in the book so far.		
January's prayer of the Month: The Act of Contrition			
Tuesday 5 th January	5.00-6.30pm	Family meeting: Chapter 9, My conscience, a guide for my life.	First Holy Communion children and at least one parent
w/c 11 th January	At home, Chapter 10, The parable of mercy; Then send in a photo of the Children's work		
Sunday 17 th January 2027	9.45am-10.45am	Family Meeting: What happens in the Sacrament of Reconciliation	Child(ren) and at least one parent
Sunday 17 th January	11.00 am	Family Mass <i>(Children lead in the "I confess")</i>	Child(ren) and at least one parent
w/c 18 th January	At home, Chapter 11; Talk through the process of the Sacrament of Reconciliation with your child(ren) and make sure that they have learned the act of contrition.		
w/c 25 th January	At home, make sure that the whole of part 1 of the book is completed		
February's prayer of the Month: The "I Confess"			
Tuesday 2 nd February	5.00-6.30pm	Family meeting: Practicing Reconciliation and painting a special candle to light at their Reconciliation as it is Candlemas today. <i>(Please bring an apron)</i>	Child(ren) and at least one parent
Saturday 6 th February	10.30am	Celebration of First Reconciliation	Children and at least one parent
Sunday 7 th February	9.45am-10.45am	Family Meeting: Giving God the glory	Child(ren) and at least one parent
Sunday 7 th February	11.00 am	Family Mass and presentation of certificates <i>(children lead in the Gloria)</i>	Child(ren) and at least one parent

Journey to the Sacrament of the Eucharist

w/c 8 th February	At Home: Chapter 1: Jesus Word of Life Then send a photo of the children's work		
w/c 22 nd February	At Home: Chapter 2: Jesus Multiplies the Bread Then send a photo of the children's work		
March's prayer of the Month: The Apostles Creed			
Tuesday 2 nd March	5.00-6.30pm	Family meeting: Let's think about the sacraments	Child(ren) and at least one parent
w/c 8 th March	At Home: Chapter 3: Jesus announces the Eucharist Then send a photo of the children's work to your group leader		
Sunday 14 th March	9.45am-10.45am	Family Meeting: Chapter 4: Jesus gives Himself at the Last Supper	Child(ren) and at least one parent
Sunday 14 th March	11.00am	Family Mass: (Children lead on the Creed)	Child(ren) and at least one parent
w/c 15 th March	At Home: Chapter 5: The Passing on of the Eucharist Then send in a photo of the Children's work		
April's prayer of the Month: The Gloria			
During the holidays:	At Home: Chapter 6: The People of God Celebrate Then send in a photo of the Children's work. It is important to complete this chapter before the family meeting on 13 th April.		
Tuesday 13 th April	5.00-6.30pm	Family meeting: What is happening on the sanctuary during Mass?	Child(ren) and at least one parent
Sunday 18 th April	9.45am-10.45am	Family Meeting: Family Meeting: Chapter 7, The Liturgy of the Word; Exploring the Mass Part 1	Child(ren) and at least one parent
Sunday 18 th April	11.00am	Family Mass:	Child(ren) and at least one parent
w/c 26 th April	At Home: Chapter 9: Welcoming Jesus like Zacchaeus Then send in a photo of the Children's work (note change of order)		
May's prayer of the Month: The Lamb of God			
Tuesday 4 th May	5.00-6.30pm	Family meeting: Chapter 8: The Liturgy of the Eucharist	Child(ren) and at least one parent
Sunday 9 th May	9.45am-10.45am	Family meeting: Chapter 10: Jesus walks with us	Child(ren) and at least one parent
Sunday 9 th May	11.00am	Family Mass	Child(ren) and at least one parent
w/c 10 th May	At Home: Chapter 11 united with Jesus for the Church: Then send in a photo of the Children's work Be prepared to share the chosen saints for the activity on p.166 of the children's workbook		
June's prayer of the Month: Lord I am not worth to receive you...			
Tuesday 8 th June	5.00-6.30pm	Family Meeting: The Fruits of Holy Communion	Child(ren) and at least one parent
Saturday 12 th June	10.30-12.00 am	Family Meeting: Rehearsal for First Holy Communion Mass	Child(ren) and at least one parent

Sunday 13 th June	11.00 am	11th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B	Whole family and guests
Sunday 20 th June	11.00 am	Final Celebration 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B <i>wearing their First Holy Communion clothes, followed by a bring and share parish celebration.</i>	All First Holy Communion children and families