

# Saint Joseph Catholic Community

5300 Bacock Street NE  
Palm Bay, Florida 32905

Dear Parents/Guardians and First Communicants,

Welcome to St. Joseph's First Reconciliation/First Communion classes! We hope the next several months will be exciting for all of you. It is our desire to enable you to help teach, guide and support your child in this process. Since we only have your child for a brief time each week, it is essential for you to understand your role as your child's primary catechists.

Lectionary based catechesis is the curriculum used in our Parish Religious Education Program in all the grade levels. The students hear the Word of God proclaimed during a Children's Liturgy held during class time, then proceed to their respective classes to discuss and learn how it relates in their lives today. From the Scriptures they also learn Catholic doctrine and dogma. Since most of our sacramental theology is rooted in the Bible, much is also discussed regarding reconciliation and Eucharist. However, the heart of the class time centers on living out the Gospel and forming a solid Catholic faith. In order for it to work and make sense to the students, the Gospel also needs to be lived out in their daily lives. This is why your role as the primary catechist is so important. By setting a good Christian example, your child will come to know and love God through you. The unconditional love you give to your child is witnessing of the profound and deep love God has for us.

Included in this packet, we have provided you with resources that will help you and your child make the year ahead a more spiritual, joy filled and rewarding one.

First Penance Guide  
First Communion Guide  
Prayer Book  
Sacramental Preparation Policies  
Reconciliation/Eucharist Calendar

Reconciliation Preparation  
First Communion Date Choice Letter  
Sacramental Guidelines  
Home Prayer Service  
Easter Bread Recipe

Please take the time to read the enclosed materials carefully. It truly will make a difference when your child enters the Sacrament of Reconciliation and comes to the Table of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding your child's faith journey please call my assistant, Colleen Danella or me at the parish office.

Yours in Christ,

Lin Wyatt  
Director of Religious Education

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