

Saint Mary of the Assumption  
12 Centre St. N. P.O. Box 5512  
Huntsville, ON P1H 2K8  
705-789-2348

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September 5, 2017

Dear Parents:

I am writing to you as pastor of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish to share good news for your child and family. With the support and engagement of you as parents, the parish and Catholic school community, I look forward to assisting your child to prepare to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.

Your child in Grade 2 at Saint Mary's Catholic Elementary School is a potential candidate for the reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion next year.

The parishes of the Diocese are working together to offer a Sacramental Preparation Program that is consistent in form and content. This initiative is designed to assist the home, school and parish in nurturing the faith of your child as you prepare them for receiving the sacraments.

All of the Catholic parishes in the Diocese work closely with the school communities. The Catholic schools provide Religious and Family Life Education for your child and the parishes provide the Sacramental Preparation Program for your child. The Sacramental Preparation Program will be offered at the parishes.

There will be a Parent Information Night to further explain the Sacramental Preparation Program and how you can continue to support your child's faith development. The Parent Information Night will be held on September at 6:30 pm in the Church Hall of Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish.

Additionally, there are four sessions for to prepare for First Reconciliation with a retreat and there are three sessions and a retreat for to prepare for First Eucharist. Dates for these sessions can be found in the chart below to support your family's schedule planning.

SESSION	PARISH DATE
Parent Information Night	September 19, 2017 @ 6:30 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation Session 1	6:30 – 8:00 pm October 10, 2017
Sacrament of Reconciliation Session 2	6:30 – 8:00 pm November 7, 2017
Sacrament of Reconciliation Session 3	6:30 – 8:00 pm December 6, 2017

Sacrament of Reconciliation Session 4	6:30 – 8:00 pm January 16, 2018
Sacrament of Reconciliation Retreat (may be held as part of Session 4)	10:00 am – 12 noon January 27, 2018
Sacrament of Eucharist Session 1	6:30 – 8:00 pm February 13, 2018
Sacrament of Eucharist Session 2	6:30 – 8:00 pm March 20, 2018
Sacrament of Eucharist Session 3	6:30 – 8:00 pm April 10, 2018
Sacrament of Eucharist Retreat	10:00 am – 12 noon May 5, 2018


There is a fee of \$25 for each Sacramental Preparation Program totaling \$50 over the year to help offset the cost of the materials. Your child will receive two books, *Celebrate and Remember Reconciliation* and *Celebrate and Remember Eucharist*.

As Pastor, I am responsible in collaborating with His Excellency Most Reverend Bishop Daniel Miehm in following Canon Law and Diocesan Policies to ensure that all the requirements are completed in preparation for the celebration of these sacraments for your child. If your child has not been baptized yet, please feel welcome to contact me at your earliest convenience. The parish offices are open during the summer months and I look forward to meeting you.

The parish community is looking forward to supporting your child in prayer as they prepare to receive the sacraments and celebrating this time of God's grace with your child and your family.

I take this opportunity to assure you of my prayers and a very warm welcome at Saint Mary of the Assumption Parish.

Yours in Christ,

  
Fr. James Sercely  
Pastor

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION FOR OUR PARISH**

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