



Our Lady Of  
The Assumption Church  
7624 – 39 Avenue NW.  
T3B 1X3

Calgary, Alberta  
Ph. (403) 283 3746  
www.stbernardsparish.ca

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# St. BERNARD'S PARISH

SAINT  
BERNARD'S CHURCH  
711 – 37 Street NW.  
T2N 3B9

Calgary, Alberta  
Fax (403) 283 3481  
office@stbernardsparish.ca



**“To Serve and Love God’s Church and His Holy People with Compassion, Joy and Truth”**

December 15, 2023

### **SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST HOLY COMMUNION**

Dear Parents:

As the pastor of this parish, I am happily writing to you to share that it is once again time to begin a new year of sacramental preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

We welcome you and your child in Grade 2 or 3, to join us in preparing for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. It has become the norm in our diocese—since 2017—that both sacraments be celebrated as a pair in the same year, with reconciliation paving the way for First Holy Communion.

**To begin this year’s preparation, we will host a Parent Information Session, which will be held on Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, at 3:00 pm at Our Lady of the Assumption Church (7624 39 Ave. NW).**

This first session will offer information about the process and the sessions, and we will outline the material and answer questions. This Information session is meant (as best as possible) for parents alone, and we encourage both parents to attend if possible, but understand if only one parent is able to.

Each session will be held on Sunday afternoons from 3-4:30 pm (with a short break midway). There will be 4 teaching sessions for each sacrament, making 8 in total. There will also be a retreat before the celebration of First Holy Communion. Each event will be for both your child and you as parents, to participate in together. Full participation in this Sacramental Preparation Program is required for your child to receive the most from their preparation, to understand the significance of the sacraments, and to later celebrate each sacrament confidently and well when the time comes.

Dates for these sessions can be found in the table below to support your family's schedule planning. As a reminder, **all preparation sessions will take place at Our Lady of the Assumption Church (7624 39 Ave. NW).** There is a fee of \$25 for the materials of each sacrament, totaling \$50 for the full year's formation, and this simply for the cost of the materials.



Your child will receive two books—one for each sacrament. You should find a registration form included with this letter, or you can find the form on our parish website ([www.stbernardsparish.ca](http://www.stbernardsparish.ca)).

Kindly email a completed copy of the registration form to the parish office ([office@stbernardsparish.ca](mailto:office@stbernardsparish.ca)), or feel free to bring the completed registration form with you to the Information Session.

**Please bring a copy of your child's baptismal certificate, along with your registration fee, to the parish for the Parent Information Session.** If you did not receive enough advance notice, don't worry- come anyway and register at the Information Session.

SESSION	DATE / TIME
<b>Parent Information Session</b>	<b>January 21, 2024 at 3:00 pm</b>
Sacrament of Reconciliation <b>Session 1</b>	<b>January 28, 2024 - 3:00- 4:30 pm</b>
Sacrament of Reconciliation <b>Session 2</b>	<b>February 11, 2024 - 3:00-4:30 pm</b>
Sacrament of Reconciliation <b>Session 3</b>	<b>February 25, 2024 - 3:00- 4:30pm</b>
Sacrament of Reconciliation <b>Session 4</b>	<b>March 17, 2024 - 3:00-4:30 pm</b>
<b>Celebration of First Reconciliation</b>	* more detail to follow
Sacrament of Eucharist <b>Session 1</b>	<b>April 14, 2024 - 3:00-4:30 pm</b>
Sacrament of Eucharist <b>Session 2</b>	<b>April 28, 2024 - 3:00-4:30 pm</b>
Sacrament of Eucharist <b>Session 3</b>	<b>May 12, 2024 - 3:00-4:30 pm</b>
Sacrament of Eucharist <b>Session 4</b>	<b>May 26, 2024 - 3:00-4:30 pm</b>
Sacrament of Eucharist <b>RETREAT</b>	<b>June 9, 2024 - 3:00 pm</b>
<b>Celebration of the Sacrament of First Eucharist</b>	June 2024 * more detail to follow

As Pastor of our parish, I look forward to supporting your family in preparing for the sacraments, and to help experience God's grace and blessing through encounters with Jesus Christ. Also, it is a great joy and a sign of hope for the whole parish community to support your family and encourage you in our shared life of faith.

Yours in Christ,



Fr. Matthew Emmelkamp

Pastor  
St. Bernard's Parish



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**FIRST RECONCILIATION / FIRST EUCHARIST REGISTRATION FORM**

**CHILD INFORMATION**

**First and Middle Name:**  **Last Name:**

**Date of Birth (day/mm/yyyy):**  **Place of Birth (City/Province):**

**Gender:** M  F  **Grade:**  **School:**

**Church of Baptism:**  **City/Province:**  **Country:**

**FAMILY INFORMATION**

**Address:**  **Postal Code:**  **Main Phone:**

**Candidate reside with:** Both Parents  Mother  Father  Other:  **Registered Parishioner**  **New**

**Attending which Church?** St. Bernard's - **STB** -  Our Lady Of the Assumption - **OLA**  **Other**

**Mother:**

**First-Middle Name:**  **Maiden Name:**  **Religion:** RC  Other:

**E-mail Address:**  **Mobile Number:**

**Father:**

**First-Middle Name:**  **Last Name:**  **Religion:** RC  Other:

**E-mail Address:**  **Mobile Number:**

~~Parents Married?~~ Yes  No  ~~RC Marriage~~  ~~Civil~~  ~~Common Law~~  ~~Non Catholic Church~~

**Please Indicate if your Registration is for:** **Sacrament of First Reconciliation**  **Sacrament of First Eucharist**  **Both Sacraments**

**2024 Dates for First Reconciliation & First Eucharist Preparation Sessions  
at Our Lady of The Assumption Church (7624 – 39 Ave NW.)**

<b>Parent Information Session:</b>	January 21, 2024	3:00 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation Session 1:	January 28, 2024	3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation Session 2:	February 11, 2024	3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation Session 3:	February 25, 2024	3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation Session 4:	March 17, 2024	3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
<b>Celebration of Sacrament of First Reconciliation</b>		* more detail to follow
Sacrament of Eucharist Session 1:	April 14, 2024	3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
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Sacrament of Eucharist Session 3:	May 12, 2024	3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
Sacrament of Eucharist Session 4:	May 26, 2024	3:00 pm - 4:30 pm
<b>Sacrament of Eucharist Retreat:</b>	June 9, 2024	3:00 pm
<b>Celebration of Sacrament of First Eucharist</b>		* more detail to follow

REGISTRATIONS OFFICIAL OPENING: **Wednesday, December 27, 2023**

**Please Note: Payment fees will be received, and Lesson Books will be distributed when you attend your first session.  
Payment Fees are: \$25 per Sacrament.**

**OFFICE USE ONLY**

**Provided Information:** Copy of Baptism Certificate

**Payment for one Sacrament:** \$25 – Paid  **Payment for both Sacraments:** \$50 – Paid  **Date Received:** dd \_\_\_\_ mm \_\_\_\_ yyyy \_\_\_\_