



2024-2025

First Holy Communion Packet

Hello and welcome to the First Holy Communion process at Blessed Trinity Parish!

Thank you for reading this packet in its entirety; we are humbled to share in the sacramental preparation of your teen! This will be the second year of our family centered First Sacraments program and we are excited to partner with you to prepare your students for the sacrament of Holy Communion.

First, let's get to some logistics. First Holy Communion preparation will be made up of multiple sessions throughout the year designed to prepare both your students and your family for the sacrament of Holy Eucharist. A parent will be required to attend the sessions with the student candidates (see schedule for specifics). The dates for these sessions are listed below. We encourage you to use the schedule to plan out your year, as **no absences will be allowed**. The preparation process is very dependent on participation and engagement during the preparation sessions. We recognize that our children are very involved, and we encourage them to be involved, but we ask that you put this commitment before those other commitments for the short time that we are together. In addition, please reserve the dates of **March 29, 2025 for the Holy Communion Day of Prayer**. This Day of Prayer with at least one parent present is REQUIRED in order to receive Holy Communion at Blessed Trinity. No exceptions (sports or otherwise) will be allowed. If you have questions about this, please contact Ms. Carol Verdi 718-634-6357 or by email at cverdi@btparish.org.

In addition to the above requirements, it is important that you **make it a priority to attend Mass on the weekends and be a part of learning and praying with your children**. Have the Mass Cards signed. Not attending Mass is a deal breaker. We are excited to share in this year of learning and fellowship with you. Please contact us with questions.

Peace,

Father Michael Gelfant
Pastor
frgelfant@btparish.org

Carol Verdi
Director of Religious Education
cverdi@btparish.org

Bernadette Flynn
Sacrament Coordinator
bflynn@btparish.org

PACKET CONTENTS:

- Baptismal Certificate: Due by January 30th
- First Holy Communion Enrollment Form with \$150 Fee (registered members): Due by January 30th



FIRST HOLY COMMUNION ENROLLMENT FORM

**A COPY OF THE CHILD'S BAPTISM CERTIFICATE
MUST BE ATTACHED TO THIS FORM**

If the church of baptism is St. Thomas More, St. Genevieve or St. Edmunds, just give us the date of Baptism

LAST NAME OF FAMILY _____

FATHER NAME _____ MOTHER NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

FATHER PHONE (Cell) _____ (Work) _____

MOTHER PHONE (Cell) _____ (Work) _____

E-MAIL 1 _____ E-MAIL 2 _____

Which email do you prefer? (circle one) E-MAIL 1 EMAIL 2 BOTH

Registered Parishioner : Yes ___ No ___ (Registered parishioner need a financial giving history supporting the work and mission of our parish)

Envelope Number: _____ Online Giving Number _____

CHILD'S NAME _____

SCHOOL _____ GRADE 2024-2025 _____

CELL PHONE: _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____ AGE _____

SACRAMENTS RECEIVED:

Baptism (yes / no) – City/Parish/Date: _____

Reconciliation/Communion (yes / no) – City/Parish: _____

Please use the back of this form to list any special needs/concerns regarding your child/children.

The sacrament fee for Confirmation students (including the retreat) is
\$150.00 per student.

Parishioners, see Father Gelfant if financial assistance is needed.

Fee paid: YES NO

TEXT, AND PHOTO RELEASE

Social media (Facebook, snapchat, Instagram, Twitter, etc.) and text messaging are forms of communication and are utilized within the Blessed Trinity Parish to connect with parents about upcoming events, build relationships and form the spirit with periodic reflections. We also utilize photographs of the events to update the parish of our happenings and advertise future youth group and Religious Education School events.

The volunteers who maintain a texting and social networking presence for the purpose of communicating with students and parents at Blessed Trinity Parish will:

- Limit communication to matters, volume, and times within the scope of ministerial responsibilities.
- Consistently communicate with Director of Religious Education and/or the Youth Minister social media interactions as well as any social media concerns that arise.
- Maintain a positive, Catholic, and accessible social media presence.

PHOTO RELEASE CONSENT:

I hereby authorize Blessed Trinity Parish and its employees/volunteers to utilize my child's photographic images for the specific purpose of publication of the Blessed Trinity events, including promotional materials.

Parent Signature _____ Date _____

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – COVENANT LETTER

Welcome to the ongoing preparation for First Holy Communion. Please review the requirements:

1. Parents/Guardians are reminded to bring their child/children to Mass every Sunday at Blessed Trinity or to any Catholic Church. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches, “*Participation in the communal celebration of the Sunday Eucharist is a testimony of belonging and of being faithful to Christ and to his Church*” (#2182). “*The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation of confirmation of all Christian practice. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist on days of obligation....those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin*” (#2181). The practice of attending Sunday Mass is all the more significant after the child/children has received First Holy Communion.
2. Parents who live within the territory of Blessed Trinity Parish are asked to register in the parish office, which indicates membership in the parish. Those who are registered are asked to use parish offering envelopes on a weekly basis, which is a sign of responsible stewardship.
3. Faith Formation is sequential. Parents/Guardians are reminded of re-registering their child/children for Religious Education classes each year until their child/children receives Confirmation.
4. Parents/Guardians are asked to attend all the scheduled events, such as parent sacrament meetings, First Communion retreat, First Communion practices (when requested), etc. and failure to meet these requirements will indicate the postponement of the child’s /children’s First Communion to the following year.
5. Parents/Guardians are asked to have the Mass Card signed by the Priest after Sunday Mass, and present it to the Religious Education School at the end of each month or drop it in the box in the church’s vestibule.
6. ***First Communion at Blessed Trinity Parish: Main Church: St. Thomas More Church, Saturday, May 10, 2025 at 11:00AM.***
7. Documentation required: Please submit the completed application for First Holy Communion form, and a copy of the Baptismal Certificate of your child/children preparing to receive First Holy Communion on or before February 8, 2025
8. The First Communion Sacrament fee is \$150.00 payable on or before February 1, 2025. The fee includes the banner kit, professional photographer availability, stipend to the Retreat facilitator, and a donation to the facility. The check should be made payable to: Blessed Trinity Parish. The fee is non- refundable in all circumstances including the candidate’s withdrawal from the program or from receiving First Holy Communion or is placed on hold to make First Holy Communion the following year.

Signature of Parent/Guardian_____

Name of Child _____

Signature of Pastor/Director of Religious Education_____

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2025 **FIRST PENANCE AND FIRST COMMUNION**

First Penance

Practice – Wednesday – February 5th, 3PM – 4PM in St. Thomas More Church –
children ONLY

Practice Thursday – February 6th, 7PM in St. Thomas More Church – parent and
child

First Penance – Saturday, February 8, 2025 at 11am, St. Thomas More Church

First Communion

Retreat – Saturday, March 29
9:30AM – 1PM in St. Edmund Church and St. Edmund Hall

Practices

All practices take place in Church

Wednesday, April 23 – children only 3PM – 4PM (St. Edmund Church)
Thursday, April 24 – children only 3PM – 4PM (St. Thomas More Church)
Tuesday, April 29 – children only 3PM- 4:30PM (St. Thomas More Church)
Wednesday, April 30 – children only 3PM – 4:30PM (St. Edmund Church)
Thursday, May 1st – child and parent – 7PM -8PM (St. Thomas More Church)

First Communion

May 10th - St. Thomas More Church – 11AM