



REGISTRATION OF OUR GRADE 2 STUDENTS FOR THE SACRAMENTS OF 1ST RECONCILIATION AND 1ST COMMUNION

October 20, 2021

Dear Families of Holy Cross Parish,

It is that time of year when we begin to register our grade 2 children for the reception of the sacraments of 1st Reconciliation and 1st Communion! Normally we would host an evening meeting at the church in order to register and offer more information, but this year due to COVID restrictions we will be conducting registrations online.

We plan to celebrate 1st Reconciliation in January/February of 2022, and 1st Communions will be celebrated in April and May. No dates for these celebrations have been released yet as we take a 'wait and see' approach given the uncertainty of pandemic protocols. Once you have registered, we will communicate these further details via email.

Your child's preparation for the reception of the sacraments will be done in their classrooms, short videos that we will send out by the parish, as well as a special book that we will ask you to go through with your child at home for both sacraments. The book for 1st Reconciliation will be given to your child at school, and they will be given their 1st Communion book the day they receive their 1st Reconciliation at the church. There will be a \$20 good-will offering to cover the cost for these books (\$10 each) which we will receive at their 1st Reconciliation celebration in the new year.

Here are your next steps:

- 1) [Please visit this website](https://holycrossrc.com/sacraments) for more information, to view an information video and to register your child. (holycrossrc.com/sacraments). Please note that **you will be asked for your child's baptismal information**, and if not baptised at Holy Cross, we will also ask for a copy of the baptismal certificate.
- 2) Receive your 1st Reconciliation book (to be distributed through the school or through the parish office), and begin to work through it with your child.

This will be distributed in late November once registrations have been completed.

3) Unless pandemic restrictions significantly ease up in the new year, we will be asking you to select a celebration date. Once registrations have been received, a set of dates will be released on *Eventbrite*, and you will receive notification at that time in order to register your child for one of the available time slots. This is a free service, but each family must register before hand for a specific date so that we are able to make sure that we do not exceed our capacity limitations in the church.

7) If you are not comfortable with crowds at the time of the celebration, **that's okay**. You will have the option of celebrating 1st Communion with your family at a future parish Sunday Mass when you do feel comfortable again. Just contact the office at that point in the future when you wish to celebrate.

I know the circumstances are far from ideal, but we thank you for your patience, your understanding, and for your cooperation to help us make everything go as smoothly as possible. **We will ask you to please complete your registration by November 15th, 2021.**

God bless everyone, and we look forward to celebrating with you soon!

If you have any questions, please contact the parish office at holycrossgeorgetown@hamiltondiocese.com, myself by email at dwalter@hamiltondiocese.com, or by phone at (905) 873-1887.

Sincerely in Christ,

Fr. Dave

Rev. David Walter, Pastor
Holy Cross Parish, Georgetown