



Sacramental Program 2019/2020

The Role of Parents

Parents are the first faith educators of their children and most particularly model this through the witness of their lives. Parent involvement in sacramental preparation is crucial in shaping the values and attitudes of each child. Knowledge is not the key factor for parents but faith and a willingness to spend time sharing with their child is an important element.

Parental Commitment

The family is the place where a child's real education in faith occurs. What happens within the family shapes the child's appreciation of God, the Church and the child's encounter with God through the Sacraments. We ask then that parents also make a commitment to this Sacramental Program by attending a **Commitment Mass** and the giving of the different prayers like the "The Creed" and "The Lord's Prayer". This encouragement and support will enable your child to benefit from the best preparation possible.

From the Parish

The Parish will have two ways in our Sacramental Program, we will have a school based and a parish based. The school-based sessions will provide the kids who are in St. Mary's School and the Parish based are for children not in a Catholic School.

The school based will be done in school however, there is still a need for the help of the parents when it comes to homework regarding the Sacraments. The parish based will be done by the Parish Priest and a representative from the parish. The families need to decide a time where the Parish priest and the Parish Representative can visit. It will be a guided discussion.

SACRAMENTS

Sacrament of Reconciliation

The sacrament of reconciliation is about acknowledging and naming those times when we know we have done wrong, and then making peace and restoring relationships. The sacrament of penance, or sacrament of reconciliation or confession, as it was previously called, is known as a sacrament of healing. This sacrament affirms the constant truth of God's love and forgiveness

for the times we fail and need forgiveness. God's love for us is expressed in mercy, compassion, forgiveness and peace. For this reason, we can truly talk about celebrating reconciliation: what we celebrate is God's love and delight in us, even when we make poor choices that result in sinfulness.

As humans, we have the capacity to think and to choose. As we grow in understanding, we learn that our thoughts, words and actions have an effect; not only on ourselves but on our relationships with God, others and our environment and that each of our choices has a consequence. Good choices result in positive outcomes. They strengthen friendships, build trust and confidence and strengthen family and community life. Good choices lead to a sense of happiness, peace and well-being. Poor choices lead to disappointment, sometimes broken relationships, a lack of peace, feelings of hurt, anger, brokenness and resentment.

Eligibility

Any baptised Catholic child in Grade 3 or above is eligible to enrol and participate in the programme.

Timing

**For St. Joseph's Primary School and St Patrick's Parish, Kerang
For St. Mary's Primary School and St. Mary's Parish, Cohuna**

The preparation commences in October 2019 with the Sacraments being received in early November 2019.

No Sacramental Program for St. Patrick's, Pyramid Hill in 2020

Sacrament of Eucharist

Eucharist is the sacrament that is at the heart of our faith and gives us our Christian identity. It is the sacrament that nourishes and strengthens the whole community and indeed makes us 'Church and Body of Christ for the world'. For it is a gathering. In preparing for the Sacrament of Eucharist, your child is preparing to receive Jesus at Holy Communion for the first time. Eucharist is unique among the sacraments. It gathers the community, gives it its Christian identity and prepares the community for mission. Eucharist is, by its very nature, communal. It is the sacrament that nourishes and strengthens the whole community and indeed makes us 'Church and Body of Christ for the world'.

In the sacrament of the Eucharist it reminded us that we are what we eat. Yes, the bread and the wine during Mass transubstantiate or changes into the body and blood of Christ. And when we partake this sacrament Christ became part of us. So, we try to imitate and follow the teachings of Christ.

Eligibility

Any child that has received the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Catholic faith.

Timing

For St. Joseph's Primary School and St Patrick's Parish, Kerang

For St. Mary's Primary School and St. Mary's Parish, Cohuna

The preparation commences in Term 1 of 2020 with the parent Information Night (tba), with Sacrament being received in May/June 2020.

No Sacramental Program for St. Patrick's, Pyramid Hill in 2020

Sacrament of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation confirms membership in the Christian community and seals Baptism with an anointing. Confirmation consists of a prayer to the Holy Spirit, the laying on of hands while the prayer is said and the anointing of the candidate with oil of Chrism.

The Church teaches that Confirmation confirms Baptism. Confirmation is an invitation to each one of us to renew the Baptismal promises first made on our behalf by our parents and godparents when we were baptised. This process invites us into a deeper way of relating to God, to Jesus and to one another, and to becoming more actively involved in the life of the community through the on-going presence of the Holy Spirit.

Initiation into the Christian community means becoming a part of the life and work of the community: gathering to celebrate Eucharist, to listen to word of God, to pray together and to share in the care for the poor.

The anointing of the candidate at Confirmation is a sign of confirming the gift of the Spirit and calling the candidates to become involved in the life and mission of the community. The ceremony is presided over by the Most Reverend Bishop Les Tomlinson, Bishop of Sandhurst Diocese.

Confirmation Name

Your child will need to choose a Confirmation name which is a Saint's name. This name should be one of significance for them, one that they relate to easily. Confirmation confirms your child's baptism, so they can be confirmed in their own, baptismal name (Christian name) if it is a Saint's name. We encourage you to spend time researching the Saints with your child and helping them to make an informed decision.

Confirmation Sponsor/ God Parent

Your child will also need to choose a Confirmation sponsor. The role of the sponsor is to provide a good model of Christian living, helping the child to live a life of faith according to gospel values. The sponsor then, is someone who has a close relationship with the child and will most likely continue to have such a friendship with them as they continue to grow and learn.

Children are encouraged to consider choosing one of their Baptismal Godparents. This links the initial Sacrament of Baptism with Confirmation and re-affirms the role that Godparents accepted at Baptism.

There are certain requirements for a person to be a sponsor.

- The sponsor must be a Baptised Catholic who has been Confirmed and received Eucharist
- Be a person who will be a good example to the child being confirmed
- Be at least 16 years of age
- Be practicing their faith and ideally, is available to attend the Confirmation ceremony.

A parent cannot be sponsor for Confirmation.

Eligibility

Any child that has received the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist in the Catholic faith.

Timing

For St. Joseph's Primary School and St Patrick's Parish, Kerang

For St. Mary's Primary School and St. Mary's Parish, Cohuna

The preparation commences in Term 2 of 2020, this Sacrament's preparation continues the sacrament of Eucharist (tba), with Sacrament being received in August 2020 (or when the Bishop is available).

No Sacramental Program for St. Patrick's, Pyramid Hill in 2020

Please Contact:

Anne Jenkins (St. Joseph's School, Kerang)

Phone: (03) 5452 1426 Email: ajenkins@sjkerang.catholic.edu.au

Adelia Muldoon (St. Mary's School, Cohuna)

Phone: (03) 5456 2062 Email: amuldoon@smcohuna.catholic.edu.au

Colleen Hampson (St. Patrick's School, Pyramid Hill)

Phone: (03) 5455 7220 Email: principal@sppyramidhill.catholic.edu.au

Fr. Novelito Lim (Kerang, Cohuna and Pyramid Hill Catholic Parishes)

Parish Priest

Phone: 0450185021 Email: novelitolim@yahoo.com



KERANG - COHUNA - PYRAMID HILL
CATHOLIC PARISHES

Sacramental Program 2019/ 2020

	St. Mary's Primary School/ St. Mary's Parish, Cohuna	St. Joseph's Primary School/ St. Patrick's Parish, Kerang
Parent Information Night (Reconciliation)	9 th Oct 2019, 4:00pm St. Mary's School	9 th Oct 2019, 7:00pm St. Joseph's School
Commitment Mass (3 Sacraments)	13 th Oct 2019, 10:30am St. Mary's Church	13 th Oct 2019, 9:00am St. Patrick's Church
Parish/ School Based Sessions	Oct/ Nov 2019 (tba)	Oct/ Nov 2019 (tba)
Sacrament of Reconciliation	13 th Nov 2019, 12:30pm	6 th Nov 2019, 6:00pm
Parent/ Information Night (Eucharist and Confirmation)	Term 1 or 2 2020	Term 1 or 2 2020
Sunday Mass: Giving of the "Lord's Prayer"	Term 2 2020	Term 2 2020
Parish/ School Based Sessions with Fr. Novie/ Parish Representative	Term 2 2020	Term 2 2020
Sacrament of Eucharist	Term 2 2020	Term 2 2020
Sunday Mass: Giving of "The Creed"	Term 3 2020	Term 3 2020
Session with Fr. Novie/ Parish Representative	Term 3 2020	Term 3 2020
Sacrament of Confirmation With Bishop Leslie Tomlinson	Term 3 2020	Term 3 2020