

# SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION POLICY

YOUTH MINISTRY | FALL 2023 – SPRING 2024



For the Sacramental Preparation year of Fall 2023 through Spring 2024, we expect that parents and teens abide by the guidelines set and requirements needed to receive sacraments.

## BAPTISM

Any Middle School or High School student who has not received baptism will participate in two years of Sacramental formation. Preparation will take place on Thursdays for all teens who will be in RCIA and who will be preparing to receive all three sacraments.

## FIRST COMMUNION

The Sacrament of First Communion is usually received in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade of elementary school, however, teens who have not received this sacrament will prepare for two years. Youth in Middle School may prepare for First Communion if they have not received this sacrament. Youth in High School will also prepare for this Sacrament as well as Confirmation.

## CONFIRMATION

Confirmation Preparation begins in the 9<sup>th</sup> Grade of High School and is a two-year process per Diocesan rules. Preparing for Confirmation requires attendance in faith formation classes, attending Mass weekly, and completing 15 hours of *Community Service*. Service hours may be done at school, in local organizations or through the opportunities provided at the parish. All documents for Confirmation must be turned in by **Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

## ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students may not have more than 3 absences to receive their Sacraments. Parents must email Mariza or Martha to inform them about absences, not the teens. After 3 absences we will evaluate if the teen will be able to receive the Sacrament.

## BEHAVIOR CODE/PDA

Students are expected to refrain from public displays of affection (PDA) during and after the sessions. Teens are to be respectful of one another, those who choose not to follow these rules will receive a warning. The second warning parents will be called to pick up their teen. The volunteers are giving of their time to help, and we expect them to be respected.

## TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Cell phones and earbuds may be used before or after sessions, but not during, unless the activity being led requires it. Cell phones must remain out of sight and in silent mode. If we see phones, we will give one warning after that, the phone will be taken by a volunteer for the remainder of the session.

## PUNCTUALITY

Teens are expected to be on time for sessions. More than 20 minutes late counts as an absence. Sign-in will take place via a QR Code projected at the beginning of class. Parents are to pick up their teens on time after the session ends.

## DRESS CODE

While the church greatly respects the uniqueness and individuality in each of its members, it holds that modesty is a fruit of the Holy Spirit and that *“Teaching modesty to children and adolescents means awakening in them respect for the human person.”* (Catechism of the Catholic Church 25234)

Teens are to dress appropriately for the sessions. If what the teen is wearing is not appropriate, we will have extra clothes for them to wear. If the teen does not want to comply, we will ask them to call home and get picked up by their parents

For questions, contact Mariza Mandujano at [Mandujano-Ortizm@icdurham.org](mailto:Mandujano-Ortizm@icdurham.org) or Martha Ellis at [ellism@icdurham.org](mailto:ellism@icdurham.org) or call (919) 281-0719.