

St. Jane Frances de Chantal Parish
Office of Religious Education
4049 Hartley Avenue
Easton, Pennsylvania 18045
610-253-7794

December, 2016

Dear Parents,

Thank you for your commitment in the spiritual formation of your children. Be assured of my prayers for your children as they prepare for the beautiful sacrament of love, their First Holy Communion.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Thursday, February 9th, 7:00 p.m. Church
Thursday, February 16th, 7:00 p.m. Church (Snow Date)

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

Saturday, April 29, 2017
9:30 a.m. – Last name (A-L)
12:00 noon – Last name (M-Z)

RECONCILIATION 2ND PARENT SESSION: December 1st, 2016 - 7:00p.m. St. Jane Church

Make-ups: Monday, December 5th at 5:00p.m. Monsignor Gobitas Meeting Room (in basement of church)
Tuesday, December 6th at 10:00a.m. Monsignor Gobitas Meeting Room (in basement of church)

***One parent must attend this meeting or a makeup. **Parents only, children do not have to attend.**

EUCCHARIST PARENT SESSION: February 27th, 2017 at 7:00p.m. at St. Jane Church

Make-ups: Monday, March 6th at 5:00p.m. Monsignor Gobitas Meeting Room (in basement of church)
Tuesday, March 7th at 10:00a.m. Monsignor Gobitas Meeting Room (in basement of church)

Msgr. Radocha will present the FIRST Parent Session for Communion.

***If you have attended Msgr. Radocha's session in the past you do not need to attend this FIRST session.**

****Parents only, children do not have to attend.**

COMMUNION RETREAT

Your child is scheduled for a retreat to be held in Father Farrell Hall. Parents are welcome to attend. (no siblings will be admitted)

Last name: A – L Saturday, April 1st 9:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in Father Farrell Hall

Last name: M – Z Saturday, April 8th 9:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in Father Farrell Hall

During the retreat, one of the activities will be to work on a small banner. A piece of felt and clip art will be provided. Bring items that will attach to felt. Please bring scissors, glue and any special items from home, e.g., picture of child, fabrics, paints, etc. – bring them along to enhance the banner. Banners will express who the child is as a Child of God. **If you cannot attend either retreat, contact Mr. Kimmel (610-253-7794).**

ATTIRE FOR 1ST COMMUNION

- Girls are dressed in white dresses and veils (no gloves). A white sweater or shrug is needed for spaghetti strap or strapless dresses.
- Boys are in suits or sport jackets and ties (any color).
- Children should not be carrying anything in their hands.
- No corsages on arms.

COMBINED CLASSES

A combined class (Public/Private School and St. Jane School) has been scheduled for:

Monday, April 24th – 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. at St. Jane Church for children receiving at 9:30 a.m. Mass.

Tuesday, April 25th – 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. at St. Jane Church for children receiving at 12:00 noon Mass.

The practices are for children only. These will be the only practices and it is mandatory that all children attend who will be receiving on April 29th.

***Girls should wear their 1st Communion dress shoes to practice walking in.**

VI: VIDEO TAPING

We have engaged the services of a professional to videotape the entire ceremony. **The cost of the DVD is \$25.00. Absolutely no other professional videotaping will be permitted in church (cell phones and personal video cameras are allowed).** Picture taking is okay. To order, fill out the form and return with payment **no later than March 30, 2017.**

VII: 1ST COMMUNION ARRIVAL OF STUDENTS

- Children should report to the church by 9:00 a.m. for children receiving at the 9:30 a.m. Mass.
- Children should report to the church by 11:30 a.m. for children receiving at the 12:00 noon Mass.

***In April, review the following with your children closer to 1st Holy Communion about how to receive Holy Communion:**

1. Exit their pew with their hands folded.
2. Come right up to where Monsignor Radocha is (they may have to go up one step).
3. Give a slight bow, while the person in front of them is receiving.
4. After the bow, hold up their hands to receive Jesus (left hand on top and right underneath).
*They need to hold out their hands flat, but up really high (a little above their chin).
5. Then they take one step to the side (boys to the left ---- girls to the right) and receive the Body of Jesus in their mouth.
6. Then, they walk along the step, and go back to their pews to kneel down for prayer.

VIDEO ORDER FORM

This form must be returned no later than
March 30, 2017

CHILD'S NAME _____

Phone # _____

ST. JANE'S SCHOOL _____ **Class** _____

CCD _____

DVD is \$25.00

Amount Enclosed _____

Please make check payable to St. Jane Church

DIRECTIVES FOR FIRST PENANCE

DATE: February 9, 2017 (Snow Date: Feb. 16, 2017)

TIME: 7 PM

PLACE: St. Jane Frances de Chantal Church
4049 Hartley Ave.

THEME: God is our Loving Father.

1. Children are to wear nice church attire.
2. Children are to report to the Chapel (at the end of the gathering space) by 6:40 p.m.
3. Children are to give coats to their parents.
4. Parents are to go into Church.
5. After a short prayer service, teachers will direct students to the lines for confession.
6. Please remember that the Blessed Sacrament is present therefore an atmosphere of silence is expected while confessions are being heard.
7. As each student finishes saying his/her penance, the parents may come to the pew and take their child home.
8. A few priests will be designated specifically for any parents who would like to attend also. Other priests will be available after the students are finished.

****Parents please practice with your children how to make a confession. The students will say to the priest this is their first confession, instead of how long it has been since their last confession.** The examination of conscience is for the children to pray about their sins before they receive the sacrament. A daily examination of conscience of the good and bad things we do is a great way to reflect on our day. Both papers are in this word document. If you need a copy, email me at kkimmel@rcn.com.

May God bless your family during this time of grace.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS

1. When you come into the confessional, together with Father begin with the Sign of the Cross.
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of Holy Spirit. Amen

2. Tell the priest how long it has been since your last confession.

It has been (*insert how long*) since my last confession.

***At 1st Reconciliation the students will say it is their first confession.**

You now confess your sins.

3. When you finish simply add:

I am sorry for all of my sins.

4. Father will then talk to you and give your penance which might be a prayer or some good deed.

5. After the penance, you say an **Act of Contrition**.

**O my God, I am heartily sorry
for having offended thee
and I detest all my sins
because of thy just punishments,
but most of all because they offend thee, my God,
who art all good and deserving of all my love.
I firmly resolve, with the help of thy grace,
to sin no more and to avoid
the near occasions of sin. Amen.**

6. Father now forgives your sins. He says:

God, the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the son, and of the Holy Spirit Amen.

7. Father and you give praise to God.

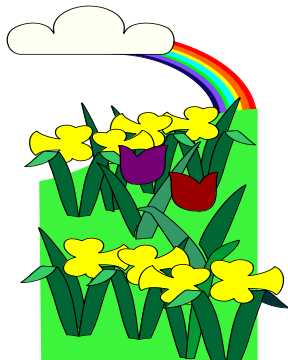
Father says: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

You say: His mercy endures forever.

8. Father will then tell you to **go in peace** and you say:

Thank you Father.

Smile



Enjoy
God's
Love

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

1. Did I disobey my parents?
2. Did I disobey my teachers at school?
3. Was I unkind to my friends or my family?
4. Did I ever mean to hurt anyone? Did I apologize to the person I hurt?
5. Did I try my best or was I lazy in what I had to do?
6. Do I always want things my own way?
7. Do I ever talk back to my parents?
8. Do I tell lies? At any time?
9. Do I blame others for my mistakes?
10. Do I call people names?
11. Do I make up “stories about other people”?
12. Do I ever take things that are not mine?
13. Was I angry? Do I make others angry – my parents, teachers, etc.?
14. Do I ever use God’s name in the wrong way?
15. Do I miss Mass on Sunday on purpose?
16. Do I take good care of myself by eating the right foods?
17. Do I ever fight with my brothers or sisters?
18. Do I break things on purpose?
19. Am I jealous of other people or things that they have?
20. Do I waste things that are given to me? Such as food, money, etc?
21. Am I selfish?
22. Do I say my prayers in the morning and at night?
23. Am I honest?
24. Have I damaged another’s property?
25. Have I been respectful to older people?
26. Do I cheat on tests in school?

Dear 1st Holy Communion Parents,

Thank you for your dedication to the spiritual formation of your children. Be assured of my prayers for you and your family as we draw closer to 1st Reconciliation and 1st Communion.

On the next page is a template for writing a letter to your children receiving their 1st Reconciliation and 1st Communion. Parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, etc. are welcome to each write a letter. The letter is meant to affirm your children in all areas of their life, especially their spirituality and selflessness to others. You can write a prayer for the children, their good deeds, how they are a child of God, etc.

Another option is to give the children a spiritual bouquet. Family members and friends can offer specific prayers for the children. The list of prayers can be collected and put together in a creative way.

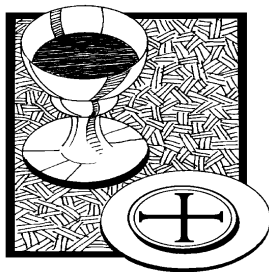
Give the items to your children on the day of their 1st Communion and/or their 1st Reconciliation. I hope this will be a wonderful experience for the whole family. Do not return the letters to the religious education office or St. Jane School.

God bless,

Mr. Kevin Kimmel

Coordinator of Children's Religious Education

1st Reconciliation



1st Holy Communion

Dear _____,

God bless,
