

The Parishes of Saint Oswald and Saint Sebastian Fr. Liam Collister, Saint
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Monday 29th January 2024

Parish First Holy Communion 2024

Dear parent/guardian

Lent is racing towards us, which means that we will be celebrating Easter, followed by the Ascension, and the feast of Pentecost. Another celebration that we are looking forward to is the celebration of First Holy Communion for the children within our Parish Communities, which will be taking place in the Spring. This means that the First Holy Communion Preparation Sessions will begin soon.

I would like to invite any children within our Parish Communities who are in year 4 or above, and who wish to make their First Holy Communion this year, to come along to a registration Mass in February, and then to the First Holy Communion sessions, in March and April. Reconciliation will be celebrated during April, with our First Holy Communion Masses taking place in May and June.

If you and your child decide that they want to receive their First Holy Communion this year, I invite you and your family to start coming regularly to one of our weekend Masses, and to also attend the Communion Preparation Sessions (**Please note, you and your child must attend all the sessions, see timetable overleaf**).

To register on the First Holy Communion course, you and your child should come along to one of our weekend Masses on Saturday 24th or Sunday 25th February to register (Session 1 will take place straight after the Mass has finished). There will be three opportunities to attend each session, which are held between both Parish communities, and it will not matter which session you decide to attend, as long as you attend one of them. **Once we have all the relevant information from registration, we will confirm the Communion Mass timetable.** (Children would normally receive First Holy Communion with their class companions).

First Holy Communion Mass

As we are blessed with so many children, each class will be split up into groups of about 15 children at each Mass. Children from St. Oswald's school, St. Cuthbert's school, or from non-Catholic schools, would normally receive their First Holy Communion in St. Oswald's Church, and children from St. Sebastian's School would normally receive their First Holy Communion in St. Sebastian's Church. Each First Holy Communion Mass will take place on a Saturday; at either 10:00am or at 1:00pm.

Outfits

I understand that some children may want to wear a special outfit, but I am also aware that there are some children who don't. Children can wear an outfit of their choice, provided it is appropriate for the occasion. I am also acutely aware of the pressure that can be put on an already strained budget in buying Communion outfits, so please do not feel pressured into buying one. If you have any difficulties, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Parish Office.

First Holy Communion Preparation Sessions

Registration and Session 1		
Saturday 24 th February 4:30pm Mass St. Oswald's Church	Sunday 25 th February 9:30am Mass St. Oswald's Church	Sunday 25 th February 11:00am Mass St. Sebastian's Church
Session 2		
Tuesday 5 th March 6:00pm – 7:00pm St. Oswald's Church	Wednesday 6 th March 6:00pm – 7:00pm St. Oswald's Church	Thursday 7 th March 3:30pm – 4:30pm St. Sebastian's School
Session 3		
Tuesday 12 th March 6:00pm – 7:00pm St. Oswald's Church	Wednesday 13 th March 6:00pm – 7:00pm St. Oswald's Church	Thursday 14 th March 3:30pm – 4:30pm St. Sebastian's School
Session 4		
Tuesday 16 th April 6:00pm – 7:00pm St. Oswald's Church	Wednesday 17 th April 6:00pm – 7:00pm St. Oswald's Church	Thursday 18 th April 3:30pm – 4:30pm St. Sebastian's School
Session 5		
Tuesday 23 rd April 6:00pm – 7:00pm St. Oswald's Church	Wednesday 24 th April 6:00pm – 7:00pm St. Oswald's Church	Thursday 25 th April 3:30pm – 4:30pm St. Sebastian's School

Our weekend Mass timetable is:

Saturday 4:30pm in Saint Oswald's Church
 Sunday 9:30am in Saint Oswald's Church
 Sunday 11:00am in Saint Sebastian's Church.

I look forward to seeing you and your families at Mass over the coming weeks and months.

God bless.



Fr. Liam Collister