

The Parishes of St Oswald and St Sebastian

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PARISH FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026 ST OSWALD, ST CUTHBERT, AND OUTSIDE SCHOOLS

Dear parent/guardian

Lent is almost upon us, and we will soon be celebrating Easter, followed by the feast of Pentecost. Other celebrations that we are looking forward to are the First Holy Communions for the children within our Parish Communities.

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 that will follow. Reconciliation will be celebrated during the following months, with our First Holy Communions Masses taking place in May and June.

If your child would like to receive First Holy Communion this year, I will expect you and your family to start coming regularly to one of our weekend Masses, and also to attend all the Preparation Sessions (see timetable on next page for Mass times and session information).

To register on the First Holy Communion course, you and your child should come along to one of our weekend Masses on Saturday 28th February or Sunday 1st March, after these Masses Session 1 will take place. There will be a number of opportunities to attend each of the following sessions, held between our Parish and School communities. It will not matter which session you decide to attend, as long as you attend one of them.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION MASSES

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

Please note: Communion Mass Timetable will be confirmed once all the information from the course registration has been collected.

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 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.

PREPARATION TIMETABLE Registration and Session 1

Saturday 28 th February 4:30pm Mass St. Oswald's Church	Sunday 1 st March 9:30am Mass St. Oswald's Church	Sunday 1 st March 11:00am Mass St. Sebastian's Church
Session 2		
Tuesday 3 rd March 6:00pm – 7:00pm St. Oswalds Church	Wednesday 4 th March 3:30pm – 4:30pm St. Oswalds School	
Session 3		
Tuesday 17 th March 6:00pm – 7:00pm St. Oswalds Church	Wednesday 18 th March 3:30pm – 4:30pm St. Oswalds School	
Session 4		
Tuesday 14 th April 6:00pm – 7:00pm St. Oswalds Church	Wednesday 15 th April 3:30pm – 4:30pm St. Oswalds School	
Session 5		
Tuesday 21 st April 6:00pm – 7:00pm St. Oswalds Church	Wednesday 22 nd April 3:30pm – 4:30pm St. Oswalds School	

WEEKEND MASS TIMETABLE:

Saturday at 4:30pm in Saint Oswald's Church.

Sunday at 9:30am in Saint Oswald's Church (with Children's Liturgy).

Sunday at 11:00am in Saint Sebastian's Church (with Children's Liturgy).

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

God bless.



Fr. Liam Collister