

A YEARLY PLAN OF PREPARATION FOR FIRST COMMUNION

The preparation for First Penance and First Holy Communion is the responsibility of the home, school and parish working in collaboration, mapping the necessary preparation for the year.

The celebration of First Communion is a sacred and important moment on a long journey of faith development. First Holy Communion is not an end in itself. It is an expression of a living faith. The children need the witness of their priests, parents and significant adults. Good planning and co-operation between the three partners is essential.

SEPTEMBER

- The parish facilitates the planning of the calendar of events for the year for parents/guardians and children in collaboration with the schools.
- Priest(s) to meet and plan with the teachers.
- Priest(s) visit the school throughout the year in support of the pupils and teachers.
- Parents/guardians of a child for First Holy Communion are asked to provide the parish with a copy of a Baptismal Certificate for their child.
The diocese encourages the use of ‘*Do This in Memory Programme*’ in preparation for First Communion.

OCTOBER

Enrolment/Commitment Ceremony for parents/guardians and children organised by the parish and the schools together.

NOVEMBER

* *Introductory Night for parents* on the importance of *Passing on the Faith...The Alive O* programme in school and practical ways of helping the child at home, organised by the parish.

CATECHETICAL WEEK begins on Sunday 31st January. Resources provided on the web by the National Association of Primary Diocesan Advisors.

MARCH/APRIL

First Penance is celebrated. The celebration is organised by the parish and teachers working together.

MAY

The children celebrate their *First Holy Communion*.

JUNE

The children take an active part in the Corpus Christi procession.