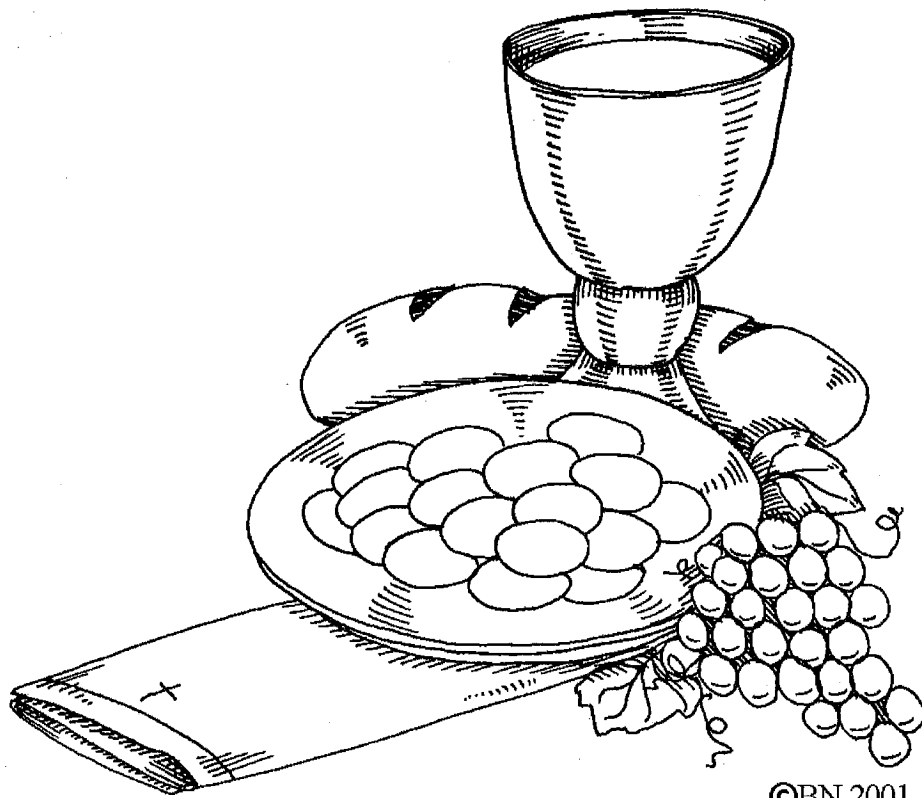


First Communion



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Parent Handbook

Dear Parents,

Thank you for the privilege of assisting you in the preparation of your child for First Communion. The catechists and myself are looking forward to helping you and your child get ready for this important step. Pope John Paul II stressed the importance of family involvement in faith formation in 1994 when he said, "Parents are the first and most important educators of their own children, and they also possess a fundamental competence in this area: they are educators because they are parents." (taken from John Paul II, "Letter to Families") With this in mind we will present as many opportunities as possible for you to fully participate in the preparation of your child for this sacrament. I also cannot stress enough the importance of attending Mass as a family on a regular basis. The Sacrament of Eucharist can lose its meaning for all of us if it is not celebrated often. If you are not attending Mass regularly please prayerfully reconsider.

Yours in Christ,
Christine Flack
Coordinator of Religious Education

Getting involved in The Preparation for Your Child's First Communion

Bring your children to church

5 Simple ways for families to get more out of Mass

1. *Come early and stay late.*

Having a few minutes to settle everyone down, get to the right page of the missalette, and take a deep breath can make all the difference. Feel free to hang around a bit afterwards to look at the statues or stained glass or even talk to the priest a bit. (They really do like to get to know you!)

2. *Read along and read ahead.*

Seeing the words in the prayers and readings as you listen can help it stick in your mind better and pick up on things you might have missed otherwise. Reading the days readings before Mass is another good way to make it more meaningful.

3. *Pick one word, phrase or idea from the homily to carry with you that week.*

4. *Receive Communion with awareness and gratitude.*

5. *Every once in a while outside of Mass time stop in the church just to pay a visit and pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament .*

Read the Bible as a Family

A good children's bible can help you with this.

Children should be familiar with the stories of Jesus birth, life, death, resurrection.

Children should also be familiar with the major old testament stories that lead up to our salvation. These include the Creation Story and Fall, The Stories of Abraham and the Sons of Jacob, the story of Joseph and Moses and the prophets.



Our Lady of Grace
Office of Religious Education
(215)757-5530

◆ Important Dates First Eucharist 2019 ◆

Registration Form Due:

Tuesday, February 25, 2019

Retreat:

Saturday, April 6, 2019 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Children only report to the School Cafeteria

**Please provide a photograph (no larger than wallet size)
to be placed on a banner displayed in Church**

OLG PREP Practice:

Tuesday April 23, 2019 6:30PM - 7:45 PM, Church

Wednesday May 2, 2019 6:30PM - 7:45 PM, Church

OLG School Practice:

Wednesday, May 2, 2019 6:30PM - 7:45 PM, Church

Other practices will be during school hours at the discretion
of the teacher

Sacrament of First Eucharist OLG PREP and School:

Group Reception Saturday, May 4, 2019 10:30AM Mass

Family Option Sunday, May 5, 2019 during the 11:45 Mass



Our Lady of Grace
Office of Religious Education
300 Hulmeville Avenue
Pennel, PA 19047
(215) 757-5530

FIRST EUCHARIST APPLICATION

CANDIDATE'S LAST NAME FIRST NAME MIDDLE

STREET ADDRESS CITY STATE ZIP

HOME PHONE NUMBER AGE (at the time of Sacrament 5/4 or 5/5 2019)

DATE OF BIRTH CITY AND STATE OF BIRTH

FATHER'S NAME MOTHER'S FIRST AND MAIDEN NAME

My child will be Celebrating First Eucharist: please choose one

___ Group Reception Saturday, May 4, 2019 10:30AM Mass

___ Family Option Sunday, May 5, 2019 11:45AM Mass

IMPORTANT: We must verify your child's Baptism. If he/she was not Baptized at Our Lady of Grace, a photo copy of your child's Baptismal certificate must be provided.

DATE OF BAPTISM (Month - Day - Year)

CHURCH OF BAPTISM CITY STATE

\$25.00 Fee: Date _____ Cash or Check# (payable to OLG) _____

PLEASE RETURN FORM ON OR BEFORE
February 25, 2019