

**OLSOS FIRST EUCHARIST PREPARATION  
2018-2019**

# **FIRST EUCHARIST REGISTRATION AND JOURNAL**

January 8, 2019

Dear Parents,

Welcome to a year of learning and growing in faith as together we prepare your child for a new life in the Holy Eucharist. As your child's primary catechists, you presented them for baptism and will now continue that faith journey in helping them to prepare for this next step in their Sacraments of Initiation.

It is our goal that, as we collaborate in this process, your child will be able to:

- ◇ Recognize and be able to articulate that in the Eucharist the bread and wine become the true Body and Blood of Jesus Christ.
- ◇ Along with their family, grow in their appreciation for the essential nature of Sunday worship, and demonstrate consistent and active participation in it.
- ◇ Be able to name the key parts of the Liturgy and will demonstrate a deeper appreciation for its symbols.
- ◇ Demonstrate familiarity with the assembly responses at Mass.
- ◇ Demonstrate familiarity with the names of items in the Church.
- ◇ Understand that it is in the act of living our faith that we encounter God and grow in mature faith. Without putting faith into action, faith withers and does not mature. The continued practice of discovering God in the world and in their life is the primary responsibility of you, their parents.

Our sacrament preparation year will consist of four phases, modeled after the Rites of Christian Initiation. The four phases and their time frames are as follows:

### **Phase 1 – Inquiry (January-February)**

Students will receive a **Mass Journal** to complete with their parents. This journal includes all of the necessary registration forms and information needed to register your child for the Sacrament, as well as four reflection pages designed to help them begin reflecting on their experience of Sunday mass. To mark the end of this phase, there will be a **Rite of Enrollment Ceremony** on **Sunday, February 3rd**. **The Mass Journal should be returned to your child's teacher by February 12th.**

### **Phase 2 – Period of Instruction (January-March)**

Parents will complete the *God's Gift: Eucharist* book with their child. There will be two class sessions that we will ask the parents to send the book with their child to class. A schedule and brief description of how to work with your child is included in this Journal.

There will be a mandatory **Retreat Day** on **Saturday, March 2nd**, which will be an informative and interactive day for you and your child.

### **Phase 3 – Period of Reflection (March-April)**

Families will be given instructions about the **Parts of the Mass project** to be completed at home. Your child will make a poster board, scrapbook, or other display which illustrates the key parts of the mass and what happens in that part of the mass in the students' own words. The project will be returned and displayed at the **First Eucharist Rehearsal and Family Celebration Dinner** to be held on **Thursday, April 11th @ 5:30 pm**. We will rehearse for the group Eucharist Mass and share a meal to mark the end of their preparation, celebrate their upcoming communion days, and to display their projects. You won't want to miss this!!

#### **Phase 4 – Celebration**

First Eucharist will be celebrated with a special group Mass for all the students on Sunday, April 28 at 2:00p.m. If circumstances prevent your family from participating in this special Mass, your child will receive at the 4:00 p.m. parish liturgy on Saturday, May 4.

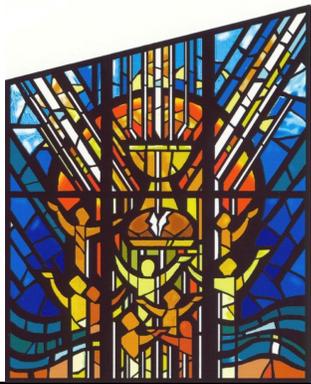
Please see the attached “OLSOS First Eucharist Preparation 2018- 2019” with a summary of the four phases as well as all the important dates for this First Eucharist year that you will want to transfer to your family calendar. Also, be sure to complete the pink “First Eucharist Registration Form” and “First Eucharist Parent Contract” and return that with the Journal by February 12, 2019.

We look forward to working with you as *together* we prepare your child’s for their First Eucharist. It is our sincere prayer that this process of learning, along with encounter experiences, will lead your *entire* family to a closer relationship with Jesus.

God Bless!

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# OLSOS FIRST EUCHARIST PREPARATION 2018-2019

ITEMS MARKED IN RED ARE MANDATORY

	DATE	TO BE DONE WITH...	NOTES
<b>PHASE ONE – INQUIRY</b>			
Attend Rite of Enrollment	February 3rd 9:30 Mass	Parents & Child	Special ceremony where students will be recognized by the community.
Complete Mass Journal/ Registration Book	Due February 12th	Parents	Must be turned in with Baptismal Certificate
<b>Phase Two – Period of Instruction</b>			
Complete <i>God's Gift: Eucharist</i> book	January- February	Parents/In Class	Parents will complete the book with their child. It will be used for 2 class sessions in school
Attend First Eucharist Retreat Day	March 2nd 12:30-3:00 PM	Parents and 1st Communicant	Students to bring their completed book to turn in. Families will be given instructions for <i>Parts of the Mass</i> Project.
<b>Phase Three – Period of Reflection</b>			
Complete <i>Parts of the Mass</i> Project	Due April 11th	Parents & Child	Scrapbook or display project illustrating the Mass and explaining it in the students own words
Attend Rehearsal and Family Celebration Dinner	April 11th 5:30 pm	Family	Rehearsal in the Church followed by dinner in The Pointe.
<b>Phase Four – Celebration</b>			
Reception of First Eucharist	Group: Sunday, April 28 @ 2 p.m.  -OR- Saturday, May 4 @ 4 p.m.	Family	

Schedule of Chapters to Cover in  
*God's Gift: Eucharist* book in  
 Conjunction with *God's Gift Eucharist Together*

	<b>Work done at home</b>	<b>Work done in class</b>
Jan. 8th	<b>Parent Meeting</b> - In The Pointe @ 6:30 p.m.	
	<b>Chapter 1 –Belonging</b> <b>Chapter 2 - Gathering</b>	<i>We Believe</i> –Ch. 15, 16
	<b>Chapter 3- Reflecting</b> <b>Chapter 4 - Listening</b>	<i>We Believe</i> –Ch. 17
Feb. 12th	<b>Ch. 1-4 to be completed. Send book to class with student. Book will be returned that day</b>	Teacher will review book and return to student
	<b>Chapter 5 –Preparing</b> <b>Chapter 6- Remembering</b>	<i>We Believe</i> –Ch. 18
	<b>Chapter 7 – Receiving</b> <b>Chapter 8 –Journeying</b>	<i>We Believe</i> –Ch. 19
Sat., March 2nd	<b>COMPLETED BOOK TO BE TURNED IN AT FAMILY RETREAT DAY</b>	Book will be reviewed and returned to student the following week.

The *Together, Preparing at Home for First Eucharist* family guide is a resource designed to assist you as your child prepares for the Sacrament of Eucharist. The *Getting Started* portion gives you background information and tips on how to best help your child on this journey. The *Sessions* correspond to the chapters in your child's book, *God's Gift Eucharist*, and give you step by step directions on reviewing the chapter with your child. So, get a cup of coffee or tea, say a prayer to the Holy Spirit and get started...

- ◆ Sit down with the *Together* magazine and read over the lesson.
- ◆ With your child and their book, read through the chapter and help your child to complete the activities each week.

It should take no more than an hour to complete your preparation and the chapter with your child. Our sincere hope is that using this family guide and working with your child will bring your family into a closer relationship to God and each other. If you have any questions about the material, please contact us.

## 2018-2019 FIRST EUCHARIST PARENT CONTRACT

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please verify all of the following with a check mark:**

\_\_\_ My child was baptized Catholic, or baptized in another Christian tradition and has made a Solemn Profession of Faith to be received into the Catholic Church. **If neither of these is the case**, contact the Religious Education Office (884-7407).

\_\_\_ I have read the *January 8, 2019 Parent Letter* with details about the program

\_\_\_ I have reviewed and understand the outline titled *OLSOS First Eucharist Preparation 2018-2019* and have marked all the pertinent dates on my calendar

\_\_\_ I understand that as a parent I must take an active role in this process with my child, including:

- Attending Mass every Sunday as a family
- Helping my child complete the Mass Journal AND returning the Journal, baptismal certificate and registration form by February 12, 2019.
- Working with my child to complete the "God's Gift Eucharist" book and turning it in on March 2, 2019.
- Attending the **mandatory** Retreat Day with my child on **Saturday, March 2, 2019**. Only absences for illness or family emergency will be excused.
- Working with my child to complete the **Parts of the Mass** project which is due on **Thursday, April 11, 2019**.

\_\_\_ I have marked the Rehearsal and Family Celebration Dinner (Thursday, April 11, 2019) on my calendar and will plan to attend.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent/guardian

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**This form must be completed and returned by February 12, 2019. If you have any questions before completing this form, please contact the Religious Education office at**

**884-7407 or [j.zedan@stargp.org](mailto:j.zedan@stargp.org)**



January 13, 2019 The Baptism of the Lord

What church did you attend for Sunday Mass?

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What is the name of the priest?

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Name a song that you liked during Mass.

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Name one person/ character that was mentioned in the Gospel reading.

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Name one thing that was mentioned by the priest in the homily.

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January 20, 2019 Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

What church did you attend for Sunday Mass?

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What is the name of the priest?

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What do you do just before entering the pew?

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How many readings + Gospel are read during the Sunday Mass?

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What prayer that Jesus taught His disciples is said by the congregation as the start of the Communion Rite?

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## January 27, 2019 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

What church did you attend for Sunday Mass?

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What is the name of the priest?

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What color is the altar cloth?

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Watch others as they receive communion and answer the questions below.

- ♦ What do people do just before they receive the Eucharist? Do they

\_\_\_\_\_ Bow

\_\_\_\_\_ Hold their hands to make a “throne” for the Eucharist

- ♦ What do people do when they return to their seats after receiving the Eucharist?

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## February 3, 2019 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

What church did you attend for Sunday Mass?

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What is the name of the priest?

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Where is the Tabernacle in the church?

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What is the name of the prayer that talks about what **we believe** as Catholics?

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How does your family show the "Sign of Peace" just before Communion?

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