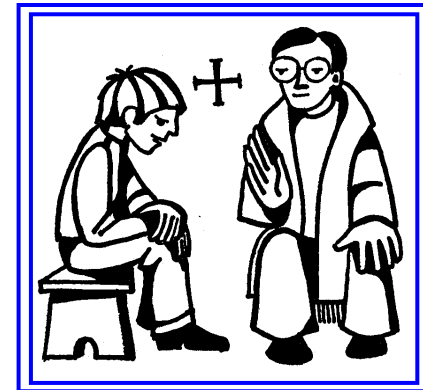


# We Celebrate the Sacraments

## Welcome to Family-Centered Sacramental Preparation

- To assist children in preparing for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.
- To understand the ways we celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.



Reconciliation



Eucharist

 St. Bartholomew  
Catholic Faith Community

Jim DeShane  
Director of Faith Formation  
952-473-6601  
jdesbane@st-barts.org

Saint Bartholomew  
Faith Formation  
2010-2011

## 2010-2011 Calendar

### First Reconciliation

### First Eucharist

**September 27** First Reconciliation Parent Night  
OR Choose either date

**September 28**  
6:30 p.m.

**October 30** First Reconciliation Activity/  
OR Retreat Day. Parent and child.

**November 6** Choose either date  
9:00 a.m. to Noon

**November 18** First Reconciliation  
7:00 p.m. Communal Penance Service

**January 31** First Eucharist Parent Night  
OR Choose either date

**February 1**  
6:30 p.m.

**March 19** First Eucharist Activity/  
OR Retreat Day. Parent and child.

**March 26** Choose either date  
9:00 a.m. to Noon

**April 25** First Eucharist Practice  
6:30 p.m. for April 30, 5:00 p.m. Mass

**April 26** First Eucharist Practice  
6:30 p.m. for May 1, 8:30 a.m. Mass  
7:30 p.m. for May 1, 10:30 a.m. Mass

### First Eucharist Celebrations

**April 30 - 5:00 p.m. Mass**

**May 1 - 8:30 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Masses**

## Reconciliation

Following the current practice of our archdiocese, Saint Bartholomew's children are introduced to the Sacrament of Reconciliation before receiving their First Eucharist.

The preparation events are designed to give you and your child a deeper understanding of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and its value in Christian life.

### Parent Learning Night

As primary teachers of your children, this parent-only session is designed to help you become more comfortable with the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Parents receive their child's reconciliation workbook as well as a family guidebook to assist you in preparation for this sacrament of healing and grace. Together you and your child will learn of God's mercy and forgiveness towards God's people.

### Activity/Retreat Day

Meant to be the culmination of your family's preparation to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, parents and their children work together at various stations for the first half of the morning. *Performing Arts Ministry* will then lead everyone on an age-appropriate retreat geared to begin a discussion between you and your child about reconciliation.

### First Reconciliation Penance Service

This Communal Penance Service is held in the main church so that the community at large can support our children's first experience of this sacrament. There will be several priests to assist in this celebration of the sacrament. Parents are encouraged to also receive the sacrament at this time.

## Eucharist

This year your child will be learning about the wonderful gift Jesus has given us by his presence in the Eucharist. Soon your child will eat the Bread of Life and drink from the Cup of Life that is our Lord Jesus. Your child will join not only your family but also God's universal family in a new and special way through the Eucharist. As with the Sacrament of Reconciliation the preparation is designed to help you and your child come to a deeper appreciation of what our church calls "The Source of The Summit of Christian Life."

### Parent Learning Night

At the parent-only session, you will receive both the child's workbook and a family teaching guide to help you prepare your child for the Sacrament of First Eucharist. This is an opportunity for parents to grow in their own knowledge of the Catholic understanding of Communion.

### Activity/Retreat Day

Using the same format as was used for the Reconciliation, the hands-on activities help children to further understand the deep mystery that is Jesus' gift of himself in the form of simple bread and wine. The children will also have the chance to taste the unconsecrated bread and wine at this time. The morning will end with a retreat for both parents and children led by *Performing Arts Ministry*.

### Practice

To help make our celebration of your child's First Eucharist as peaceful and prayer filled as possible, we have scheduled a time to practice the ritual in the church before the actual sacrament occurs. Please use the calendar at the left to find your child's practice date.