31 January 2019

# First Holy Communion 2019

Dear Parent/Carer,

This year your child is of the age for First Holy Communion. This is an important part of a child’s journey in faith. They will be receiving the Body and Blood of Our Lord for the first time. It is also a reminder to parents/carers of the promises they made before God and his Church at their child’s baptism. These were to bring their child up in the practice of the faith and truly become members of our parish community. This could be an opportunity to renew your commitment.

First Holy Communion is open to Catholic children in Year 4 and above who live within the parish of St. Thomas More or who regularly worship there. Families who live and worship outside the parish should contact their own Parish Priest and follow whatever practice is customary in their own parish.

The First Holy Communion preparation will take place after Saturday evening Mass at St. Thomas More’s, Margetson Crescent, S5 9NB. **Both parents/carers and children will be together for all the preparation sessions**, giving the parent/carer an opportunity to accompany their child on this important part of their child’s journey of faith. This means that one parent/carer will have to be with their child during each of the sessions. If a child comes to a session unaccompanied then they will not be able to attend the session and contact will be made for them to be taken home. Children and parents/carers are expected to attend all the sessions.

Obviously, it goes without saying that weekly worshipping at Mass is essential. During most Saturday Evening Masses there is Children’s Liturgy where the readings and Gospel are explained at their level and a related activity done. All children will be very welcome.

If it becomes clear that there is no real commitment to worshipping at Mass or attending the preparation sessions then your child’s First Holy Communion will be deferred until such a time when commitment is shown.

The dates for First Holy Communion preparation, etc. are:

**First Holy Communion preparation**, 6.15pm-7.30pm, Saturdays on:

2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd March

27th April

4th, 11th, 18th May

8th, 15th June.

**Mass of Enrolment and Parental Promise**, Saturday 2nd March, 5pm, St. Thomas More’s.

**First Confessions**-6.30pm, Thursday 25th March.

**First Holy Communion Mass Practice**, 6.30pm, Monday 17th June.

**First Holy Communion Mass**, 5pm, Saturday 22nd June.

If you wish your child to be considered for First Holy Communion then please fill in the form below in block capitals and either hand it to Fr. Martin, or send/email it to the address above (**not to school**) along with a copy of your child’s baptism/reception into church certificate by **Saturday 16th February**. If your child was baptised/received into the church at St. Thomas More’s, just state the date of baptism.

Best wishes and prayers,



## Fr. Martin A. Trask

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### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2019

Name of child, address and phone number:

Date of Baptism (if at St. Thomas More or St. Patrick’s)