



St. Ignatius Catholic Church

3400 S.E. 43rd Avenue, Portland Oregon 97206

Summer 2017

Dear Parents,

This coming year is indeed a special year... a holy year for you, for your children and for our parish community. This year we journey together in faith as we help prepare our children to celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. Although we tend to focus on the needs of the children, it is important to realize that this time of preparation presents all of us – parents, catechists, parish staff, and other members of our faith community – with wonderful opportunities to deepen our own faith and our understanding of the sacraments.

Through the sacraments we grow in our awareness of God's loving presence in our lives. Sacraments are events that involve the entire community in ways that make clear for us our common relationship in Christ. Sacraments hold such deep meaning for us because they are rooted in and flow from our everyday experiences of belonging, sharing, loving and forgiving. We invite you to make this period of sacramental formation a special time for your family to become more aware of God's presence in your lives.

Children will begin preparation for Reconciliation and Eucharist this fall, and we ask that you keep these important dates in mind:

- ❖ The registration deadline is Tuesday, September 12th, 2017
- ❖ First Reconciliation class begins on Sunday, September 17th at **9:00 a.m. in Dillon Hall** (**parents and students will meet together to start this session a little earlier**)
- ❖ Remaining classes are Sundays from 9:15-10:15 am in St. Ignatius School
- ❖ Please plan on attending both parent sessions held this fall: September 17th and October 29^h during the children's sessions
- ❖ First Reconciliation will be celebrated at 10 am on Saturday, November 4th
- ❖ First Eucharist classes begin in early January 2018
- ❖ The children will celebrate their First Eucharist the weekend of April 21/22 at a regular weekend mass (TBD)
- ❖ The schedule for First Reconciliation is included on the back of this letter and the schedule for First Eucharist will be provided later in the fall

Please fill out the enclosed forms completely, attach the required paperwork, and submit the packet to the Parish office with the \$70.00 registration fee to cover the program costs. We invite you to register as early as possible, so that we may order the correct number of books and supplies.

Please let us know if the registration fee is a financial hardship for your family or if you would like to pay the fee over the course of the coming year. If you have any additional questions, contact Beth at the Parish office at 503-777-1491, extension 236, or bschaller@sipdx.org.

Blessings,

Beth Schaller, Family Life Coordinator Mary Kay Baker, catechist Jess Ingman, pastoral assistant