

## **FIRST COMMUNION: THINGS TO KNOW**

1. **First Communion Parent/Child Meeting:** Monday, February 6, 2012 at 7:00 PM in the church with Father Terry Deffenbaugh of Tolentine Retreats. It will begin with an instructional Mass.
2. **Reserved Seating:** Children will sit with their families. Each family will have one full center pew. These will hold eight adults comfortably. Side pews and the balcony are open for additional guests (non-reserved seating). All family members sitting in reserved seats are asked to accompany the first communicant for the reception of Holy Communion. Father Henry will offer Communion to the child only. Catholic family members are to receive from Eucharistic Ministers at either side of Father Henry. If a parent of a First Communicant is a Eucharistic Minister at St. Catherine, you are invited to offer Holy Communion to your child during the celebration. Call our office at (708) 423-5747 to make arrangements.
3. **Dress Code:** See reverse side of this sheet.
4. **Class Photographs:** Pictures will be taken on Thursday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 PM to 6:30 PM in the Center Meeting Rooms. There is no obligation to order pictures; but, a composite will be made for the Communion Class of 2012. Therefore, we ask all to participate.
5. **First Step Reconciliation:** The sacrament was administered in December.
6. **First Communion Retreat:**  
**Room 112, School and School of Religion (11:00 AM Liturgy): Wednesday, April 18, 2012, 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM in Kane Hall.**  
**Room 114, School and School of Religion (1:00 PM Liturgy): Friday, April 20, 2012, 8:30 AM to 2:30 PM in Kane Hall.**
7. **Sacramental Fee:** \$40.00 is due February 6, 2012. (This includes retreat, Mass booklet, Communion pin, First Reconciliation and DVD of ceremony)  
Please make checks payable to "St. Catherine R.E.C."
8. **There are two First Communion Liturgies on Saturday, April 28, 2012.**  
**11:00 AM Liturgy, for all in Room 112, School and those assigned from School of Religion.**  
**1:00 PM Liturgy, for all in Room 114, School and those assigned from School of Religion.**
9. **What to do on April 28<sup>th</sup>:** We ask that you arrive 1/2 hour early, bringing your child to Kane Hall. Parents are to go to their reserved seating. The children will process into the church and will sit at the end of their family's pew. The following items are to be left with family during the procession: Purses, flowers, rosaries, and books.
10. **CAMERAS:** Due to the sacramental nature of the occasion, the staff has decided that **cameras are inappropriate during the liturgy.** Therefore, we ask that pictures be taken before or after Mass. A professional photographer will film the liturgy. Children will approach the celebrant individually before the altar so that a clear picture may be taken. Family members will accompany the child; but will receive Holy Communion from Eucharistic Ministers who will be stationed on each side of the celebrant. Each family will receive a DVD of the ceremony.
11. **Handicapped Seating:** If anyone in your family, coming to the liturgy, needs handicapped seating, please contact our office to make arrangements.  
**Seating Chart will be available after the retreat.**
12. You have questions? Please contact Mr. Gordon at (708) 423-5747.