

Sacrament Policies For Children and Youth

The Basilica of Saint Mary

Because sacraments are celebrated in the midst of the Catholic community, The Basilica of Saint Mary has put the following policies for the celebration of the sacraments in place.

Infant Baptism

- At least one parent must be a registered, active and participating member of the parish.
- Both parents must attend a baptismal preparation class at The Basilica prior to registering for a baptism date.

First Reconciliation, First Eucharist and Confirmation

- All families of children/youth celebrating any of these sacraments at The Basilica must be registered, active and participating members of the parish.
- The preparation sessions for First Eucharist, First Reconciliation and Confirmation are *in addition* to the regular weekly learning classes at The Basilica. The specific preparation requirements vary for each of these sacraments, and may require both the child/youth and his or her parents to participate.
- In order to receive the sacrament of First Eucharist, a child must first be prepared for the sacrament of First Reconciliation. The Basilica prepares children for First Reconciliation in the fall and First Eucharist in the winter/spring.
- The minimum grade level for celebrating First Reconciliation and First Eucharist is 2nd grade; the minimum grade level for celebrating Confirmation is 10th grade.
- All children/youth who are celebrating these sacraments are strongly encouraged to have completed a minimum of one year of The Basilica's learning programs, or of a Catholic school education *prior to the year they celebrate the sacrament*, and be participating in The Basilica learning programs, or Catholic school the year the sacrament is to be received. (For example, if a youth wishes to celebrate confirmation in 10th grade, he/she should have been enrolled in The Basilica learning programs or Catholic school in both 9th and 10th grade.)
- No matter the location, your child's Baptism Certificate must be on file with the Learning Department prior to receiving the Sacraments of First Communion and Confirmation. If your child was baptized at The Basilica of Saint Mary, please provide the month and year.