

Our Lady of Grace Sacrament Preparation 2011-2012

Welcome to Our Lady of Grace Sacrament Preparation Program! This is an exciting time for your family. During the next several months, your family will be preparing for your child to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Penance) and Eucharist (Communion). Please take a moment to read the following information:

What is it? The program is final preparation of students, 2nd grade and above, for the reception of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Preparation is done through family gatherings and attendance in the parish school or weekly Religious Education classes.

Who may participate? The Sacrament Preparation Program is for students who are entering at least the second year of religious education, either in the Religious Education Program or the School. Students must have had good attendance during the previous year and have a good understanding of the material that was covered.

Is there a cost? There is a fee of \$10.00 per student. This will help cover the cost of the materials we will be using.

When and where does it take place? The gatherings take place in Stack Center, according to the Sacrament Preparation schedule.

Please make a note of the Gathering dates. These are the only gatherings offered this year for Sacrament Preparation, and they are **mandatory!** If for some reason, a parent/guardian cannot attend (due to work or illness), please make arrangements for another family member or family friend to attend. Students will attend ALL of the gatherings. At least one adult **MUST** attend with the student (no student may attend alone.) If the student is ill, please contact the Religious Education Center (582-9266, olgrec@sbcglobal.net) and leave a message. Parent/Guardian will be responsible for covering missed material with student after meeting with a member of the Preparation Team.

Once again, WELCOME! We look forward to working with your family this year!

QUESTIONS WE ARE FREQUENTLY ASKED

** DO WE NEED TO ATTEND ALL THE GATHERINGS, CELEBRATIONS AND REHEARSALS?

YES! These are all important experiences in your child's life. They are also part of your child's faith formation. Please note the dates on your calendar as soon as possible so you will not forget!

** WHAT IS MY CHILD TO WEAR ON THE DAY OF FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST?

We do not have a "dress code." We expect the children to look nice. NO JEANS OR TENNIS SHOES!! Students and parents should decide what is appropriate.

** WHO WILL SIT WITH MY CHILD AT FIRST EUCHARIST?**

Each family will have their own pew. Students sit at the aisle end of the pew. Only the immediate family (no more than 2 adults) will walk up with the student to receive communion. More information will be given out at the February Gathering. (There is no assigned seating for First Reconciliation)

** WHAT ABOUT GODPARENTS?

This is a family decision. If it is a custom in your family to have godparents for First Eucharist, you may do so. If you do choose to have godparents, they are encouraged to attend all the celebrations and rehearsals with you and your child. Seating for First Eucharist is explained above.

** CAN MY CHILD CARRY A ROSARY, PRAYER BOOK OR CANDLE?

Items such as a rosary, candle, or prayer book are wonderful reminders of this special day. These items are welcome at the First Eucharist service, but will not be carried by the students. Students may not wear gloves during the First Eucharist Mass.

7 Sept 2011

OLG Sacrament Preparation Program
2011-2012

We are happy to register our family for Sacrament Preparation!

Student name _____

Date of birth _____ Place of birth _____

Father's first & last name _____

Mother's first & MAIDEN name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

Church of Baptism _____

Please check one:

_____ A copy of my child's baptism certificate is attached.

_____ A copy of my child's baptism certificate has already been given to the
Faith Formation Center

_____ We will submit a copy of my child's baptism certificate to the Faith
Formation Center by November 1, 2011.*

*All students must send a photocopy of their baptismal certificate to the Religious Education Center prior to receiving sacraments, even if a student was baptized at Our Lady of Grace. Baptism certificates can be obtained by contacting the parish office where the baptism took place.

Our family understands that ALL Sacrament Preparation activities are **mandatory**. If we do not attend the activities, we understand that our child will not receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist this year. We agree to follow the program rules and participate in the Sacrament Preparation activities.

Parent/Guardian signature _____