

FCJ Primary School



Sacramental Policy

Mission Statement

Teach the children with all the kindness and gentleness possible.

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Author	Mrs T Taylor

Article 14 - Every child has the right to think and believe what they want, and to practise their religion.

The FCJ Governors are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people at every opportunity and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

FCJ Catholic Primary School

Sacramental Policy

Introduction

The approach to the Sacraments in *'God Matters'* is rooted in a sacramental view of the world which permeates every theme and topic, *'the heavens and the earth proclaim the glory of God'*. (Psalm 19)

Understanding the Sacraments is not a simple process which can be contained within a neat package of teaching. It is a complex interaction of a great variety of experiences and celebrations which children take part in during the years they spend in Primary school.

At FCJ Primary school, preparing our children to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist is a partnership between home, school and parish.

Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for Year 4

Children in Year 4, who have been baptised, will be invited to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Information about the school First Communion programme is sent home in the September of that academic year and parents are asked to register if they wish for their child to prepare to receive the Sacraments.

Once registered, parents are invited to a meeting where further information is given about the programme, including ways for parents to support their child. It is expected that families attend a number of Sunday Masses during their preparation time.

At FCJ Primary School, we have adapted the programme 'Blessed' for use within the classroom. Each lesson has the same 5 elements; a time of prayer, an opportunity to read and explore, time to watch and discuss short video clips, an opportunity to 'show what you know' and some quiet time to 'Journal with Jesus'. This programme meets children where they are and leads them, step-by-step, to where God is calling them to be. Each week we deliver the content in our RE lessons, allowing the children to explore the Sacraments and grow deeper in their faith journey.

The local clergy lead all our Year 4 pupils in a special service of Reconciliation during the week before the First Holy Communion Mass. This service takes place in school. The children preparing for their First Holy Communion receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Resources to help parents support their child prepare for this special occasion are made available on the First Holy Communion Google Classroom page.

Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist for Years 5 and 6

Through the liturgical days for Advent and Lent, baptised pupils in Years 5 and 6 will be invited to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation with a member of the local clergy.

The Sacrament of Eucharist will be received at special school Masses for pupils in Year 5 and 6 if they have made their First Holy Communion.