

Application for First Communion

*(Please Read Both Sides Thoroughly Before Signing)*

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| **Child’s Name** |  | **Baptismal Name** |  |
| **Birthday / Birth Place** |  | **Baptism Date** |  |
| **Baptism Church** |  |
| **Home Address** |  |
| **Contact Info** | **(Home) (Cell)** |
| **Name of Father** |  | **Catholic Yes/No** | **Other:** |
| **Name of Mother** |  | **Catholic Yes/No** | **Other:** |
| **Name of the Church****(Currently Registered)** |  **Your Email:** |
| **Please Note:** The following are the Church’s requirements for receiving communion (for the 1st time and any time after that). 1. You must be a Catholic and believe the Bread and Wine turn into the Body and Blood of Jesus.
2. You must be free from all mortal sin on your soul. (Failing to attend weekly Mass is a mortal sin).
3. If you have committed a mortal sin you must go to confession before receiving the communion again.
4. You must have reached the age of reason. (Canonically 7 years of age)
5. You must have observed the Eucharistic fast established by the Church. (don’t eat for an hour before Mass)
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| **In preparation for the sacrament (in addition to taking part in the formal classes/program):** 1. **You must be attending Mass weekly. Please use your envelopes (even if empty) for verification.**
2. **If you are not a parishioner of St. Joseph have your pastor, send Fr. Mike a letter verifying your Mass attendance at the parish you do attend.**
3. **One should receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly (once a month or every other month)**
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**Date : Signature :**

 **The Word Communion:**

Comes to us from the Latin word *communio* which means mutual participation, and from the Latin word *communis* which means shared or held in common. What we hold in common is the body of our faith; Jesus is the Son of God, who died for us and rose again, and who sustains us with supernatural life through the sacraments He has given to His followers, the Church.

So, to receive Communion / the Eucharist (the body and blood of Christ) we must be in communion with the Church and Jesus’ teachings. We must believe all that the Church teaches and observe the Precepts of the Church, which are:

1. You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor.

We must "sanctify the day commemorating the Resurrection of the Lord" (Sunday), as well as the principal feast days, known as Catholic holy days of obligation. This requires attending Mass, "and by resting from those works and activities which could impede such a sanctification of these days."

1. You shall confess your sins at least once a year.

We must prepare for the Eucharist by means of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession). This sacrament "continues Baptism's work of conversion and forgiveness."

1. You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season. However, you are still obligated to attend Mass every week.

This "guarantees as a minimum the reception of the Lord's Body and Blood in connection with the Paschal feasts, the origin and center of the Christian liturgy."

1. You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.

"The fourth precept ensures the times of ascesis and penance which prepare us for the liturgical feasts and help us acquire mastery over our instincts and freedom of heart." We create a hunger in our hearts for the Lord.

1. You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church.

"The fifth precept means that the faithful are obliged to assist with the material needs of the Church, each according to his own ability."

*(These quotations are from the* Catechism of the Catholic Church*, in its section about the Precepts of the Catholic Church (#2041-3).)*

Fulfilling these Precepts is required, **unless** you have a legitimate reason for not meeting them. For example:

* If you are sick, tending to a sick child, or camping in the wilderness on Sunday and cannot get to Mass, it is not a grave violation to miss Mass that day.
* Children (under the age of 14), the elderly, and pregnant or nursing women do not have to fast on normal fast days (Ash Wednesday and Good Friday).

**\*\*Non-Catholic Parents and Non-Practicing Catholic Parents**, Please Take Note: If your child wishes to receive their 1st Communion, Fr. Mike (according to Canon Law) must have a reasonable hope and proof that your child will be practicing the Catholic Faith (attending Mass and going to Reconciliation/Confession) regularly before he can approve them to receive the sacrament. If you cannot guarantee this will be the case, ***please do not have your child receive 1st Communion at this time***.