

St. Simon and St. Jude R. C. Parish

Belle River, ON



First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

Warmest Greetings Dear Parents and Guardians!

Thank you for considering registering your child in our preparation program for the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Our parish community welcomes you as your child continues his or her faith development, living out the promises you made on his/her behalf at baptism. We support you with love, prayer, our witness and presence at Mass, in sharing this special faith journey with you and your child.

If you haven't been closely involved in the Catholic Christian community, perhaps now you are interested in continuing the process you began with your child at his or her baptism. We'll be delighted to welcome you with open arms to re-establish your contact with your Catholic Faith Family.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation: For their Sacrament of First Communion, children should first be prepared and encouraged to approach the Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession, Penance). Children may celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation when they are capable of distinguishing good from bad or recognizing that we can make good or bad choices. For example, if they can distinguish between bad manners or good, social or sport infractions and morally right or wrong actions.

Parents are Primary Educators of the Faith: Our homes are the domestic churches, where Parents carry out the primary role in the religious education of their children by their teaching and actions. Parents are the most important Christians in the lives of children. We pledge to support you in this responsibility, providing for both a home and parish-based sacramental preparation programme.

Please Save the Date: Wednesday, January 16, 2019

A Parent's Registration/Information Meeting in the Parish Hall, at **7:00 pm**. Register your child, receive program details and address your questions or concerns.

Let us together try to discover how the Holy Spirit wants us to make sacramental Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist a *truly lived* experience.

We look forward to the blessings in supporting and sharing this journey of faith with you and your child(ren).

Sincerely yours, in serving Jesus,

Mrs. Marguerite Hewer.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marguerite J.M. Hewer".

"Lord, please give me the same spirit you want the children I teach to have." – Blessed Marie Rose Durocher

Mrs. Marguerite Hewer, CPM, CYM,

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