

Sacramental Programme 2023

Important Information

Dear Parents / Caregivers

We hope you and your child enjoy this preparation course, and we have some FAQ that we hope this information sheet will help to answer. Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is something not covered here.

1. How long is the course?

The Sacramental Programme has 09 sessions. It is compulsory to attend nine classes to enable children and parents / caregivers to prepare for receiving the Sacraments. A list of dates of the sessions, and the Sacrament ceremonies are attached with this sheet.

2. What will my child be taught in Class?

Classes are taught using the Auckland Diocese guidelines. Booklets will be given to work on at home. Each session we will let you know what work is required to be completed at home before the next session. We have learnt that no matter what we teach in class or Church, nothing will take root unless it is supported in the home. The Parent classes are designed to help you acquire the knowledge and language to feel confident in sharing the faith with your children. Most of the sessions will be a mixture of children alone with their teachers, as well as combined parent/ children sessions.

At the end of the class time, the children with parents are encouraged to go to the Church where they will sit as a group to celebrate Mass. This enables them to connect with the Mass.

3. Who are the Teachers?

Our teachers are volunteers and we are very grateful of the time they give to help prepare your children to take these special Sacraments. Fr Rory will be teaching the Parents Class

4. When / Where will the Sessions be held

All the sessions will begin at 3pm on a Sunday afternoon at Sacred Heart Church in Ponsonby.

The parent's and children's sessions will be held in the Hall next to the Church.

5. Can we bring Siblings to the classes?

Sorry there is no provisions for younger siblings to be cared for by the teachers during the sessions. Parents must be responsible for siblings not included in the programme. It can be distracting for both teachers and attendees to have other children at the back of the classrooms. We appreciate it if you could make alternative arrangements for childcare whilst you are attending the course.

6. Photographs?

We ask you to supply a recent photo of your child, with their full name on the back of the photo at the beginning of our first session. These are placed on the board at the back of the Church. The parishioners are then asked to pray for all those preparing to take the Sacraments of initiation into the Church.

I do hope this information has been useful. If you need any further information about anything please contact Eddie Eyre, either by email eeyre1952@gmail.com or mobile 0274820187.

Eddie Eyre

For Parish Priest, Fr Rory Morrissey