

ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL FAITH FORMATION REGISTRATION FORM 2025-2026

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY

Family Last Name: _____ Parish ID (Envelope #): _____ Different parish? _____

Student(s) live with: Both Parents Mother Father Guardian (Relationship): _____

FULL Home Address (including town & zip): _____

Main E-Mail Address for Updates (please check regularly): _____

Mother's Full (Maiden) Name: _____ Cell #: _____

Father's Full Name: _____ Cell #: _____

Married: Y N Divorced: Y N If divorced, Joint Custodian permission for child(ren) to attend classes: Y N

If divorced, signature of Joint Custodian: _____ Date: _____

We need to be aware of any special circumstances, custody issues, etc. pertaining to your child(ren). Please note:

1st Alternate Allowed to Pick Up Student(s): _____ Cell #: _____

2nd Alternate Allowed to Pick Up Student(s): _____ Cell #: _____

Name: Last _____ First: _____ Middle: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth (city/state): _____ Grade (Fall 2025): _____

School (2025-2026): _____

Sex: M F Baptismal Date: _____ Reconciliation Y N Communion Y N Confirmation Y N

Place of Baptism (church/city/state): _____

Special learning needs, allergies, chronic medical problems or other physical restrictions or dietary requirements:

Name: Last _____ First: _____ Middle: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Place of Birth (city/state): _____ Grade (Fall 2025): _____

School (2025-2026): _____

Sex: M F Baptismal Date: _____ Reconciliation Y N Communion Y N Confirmation Y N

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Saint Michael the Archangel Catholic Church may participate in videotape, motion picture, audio recording or still photograph productions that involve the use of students' names, likenesses or voices. Such productions may be used for educational or exhibition purposes by Saint Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in perpetuity and may be copied, copyrighted, edited and distributed by Saint Michael the Archangel Catholic Church in perpetuity unless said consent is revoked in writing. Please check all that apply below:

- ☐ I AUTHORIZE and give consent to use the name, portrait, or other likeness of my child for the parish bulletin, website, social media, news releases, media, wall decorations and other promotional activities.
- ☐ I DO NOT AUTHORIZE the use of the name, portrait, or other likeness of my child for parish promotional activities.
- ☐ I understand a copy of all my child(ren)'s Sacramental Certificates must be on file.
- ☐ I understand two consecutive years of *recent* faith formation are required before a child can receive a sacrament.
- ☐ I understand that if my child is in 1st or 2nd year sacramental prep, 75% attendance and comprehension is required.
- ☐ **I understand that if my child is in 1st or 2nd year sacramental prep, 75% attendance at weekend Mass is required.**
- ☐ I would like to make a tax-deductible donation to assist those unable to pay. Donation: _____
- ☐ I agree to read and abide by the policies in the Faith Formation Handbook, The Diocese of St. Petersburg Safe Environment Harassment Policy, and the Parent Letter for Sacramental preparation.

No family will be denied due to inability to pay. We can provide financial assistance.

*Fees are non-refundable once classes begin.

Father or Legal Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mother or Legal Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| FOR OFFICE USE | | Staff Member: _____ | Remind: Y N |
| \$25 Registration X Children = _____ | | + \$25 for Retreat X Children = _____ | = Total Due: _____ |
| Amount Paid: _____ | Cash Online | Check #: _____ | Receipt #: _____ Amount Owed: _____ |



St. Michael the Archangel Catholic Church

8014 State Road 52 Hudson, FL 34667

Dear Parents,

Welcome to First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion! This is such an important step in your child's faith journey as they experience first-hand God's mercy and love and Christ's TRUE Body and Blood. These sacraments really are the start of your child's lifelong faith journey toward Confirmation and beyond! We are excited to collaborate with you on this critical step.

To stay up-to-date on everything First Communion prep directly on your phone, please follow the instructions on the last page. This will be the main (only) source of Faith Formation communication. (I do not really use email since many people do not check it regularly).

There are several expectations for you and your child in order to ensure your child is prepared for these sacraments:

- ☐ **Parents must attend weekend Mass each week with their children.** This habit is THE most important part of your child's faith formation and lifelong journey. Drop your offertory envelope in the collection boxes each time you attend Mass (regardless of if there is money in it). Please do not put multiple envelopes in as only one will "count" each week. A bare minimum of 75% Mass attendance at St. Michael is required (including Holy Days of Obligation).
- ☐ If your child is new to St. Michael Faith Formation, a letter from your previous parish must be submitted. The letter should affirm that your child had at least 75% attendance in their Faith Formation program last year. **This letter is due no later than October 19, 2025.**
- ☐ Parents must submit a Certificate of Baptism: Very important; your child cannot receive First Reconciliation nor First Communion without this unless Baptized at St. Michael parish. **A copy of this is due no later than October 19, 2025.** If your child has not been Baptized, please call immediately.
- ☐ Students will be required to attend at least 75% of the classes every Sunday from 10:15-11:30am (immediately following the 9am Mass) in the Malin Center (please see the schedule).
- ☐ Students must have a 75% competency of the material assigned in the classes.
- ☐ Students must be able to recite these prayers: Sign of the Cross, Glory Be, Our Father, Hail Mary, and one of the acceptable versions of the Act of Contrition by 3/22/26 (please see last page of this document).
 - Parents need to help their children memorize these prayers, the catechists won't be able to.
- ☐ Parents must complete two online certificate programs and attend two parent sessions on 10/26/25 & 2/22/26. Please see "Online Parent Certification Information" for instructions.
- ☐ Parents and children must participate in a morning retreat on Saturday, April 25th, 2026 from 9am-12:30pm. To demonstrate the importance of the sacrament and to set an example, parents are expected to make a good Confession during the retreat prior to their child. Please take note NOW and clear your calendars for this.
- ☐ Parents and children must attend the First Communion Mass rehearsal on Saturday, May 2nd, at 9am in the Church. Please take note NOW and clear your calendars for this.
- ☐ Parents and children must obviously participate in the actual First Communion Mass on Sunday, May 3rd, at 9am. Please take note NOW and clear your calendars for this.

Please address any questions or concerns to Andy Gotsch at agotsch@saintmichaelchurch.org or 727-379-1558. Thank you for entrusting your child to us and we look forward to a joyful and Spirit-filled year!

--Andy Gotsch

Please keep this page for your records.

Online Parent Certification Information

It has probably been awhile since you took any religious education classes. That's OK, but faith formation is a lifelong and ongoing process. Through our First Reconciliation and First Communion requirements, we are giving you the opportunity to learn more about your Catholic Faith. Engaging in this material will help you better prepare your child for their upcoming sacraments and, hopefully, encourage you to continue learning about the depth of our faith!

The certification programs were created by and run through Ascension Press. I have completed both of them and I found them to be very engaging and informative. Each course is \$10, will take about two hours to complete, and includes:

- PDF of the Parent Guide (you don't have to read it to complete the course, hopefully you use it through the year)
- About 65 minutes of video with no segment being longer than 15 minutes
- 12 Multiple Choice or True / False questions to check your understanding of the material
- 24 Reflection and Discussion questions
- 6.5 screens / pages of reading

Whenever possible, try to have both parents take the courses together and complete the reflection and discussion questions together.

The first course is called "Renewed" and can be accessed by going to:

<https://ascensionpress.com/collections/renewed-and-received/products/renewed-online-parent-certification>

Registration and payment is done through Ascension Press and must be completed by Wednesday, October 1st. Please forward your confirmation email to me on or before Friday, October 3rd. You will then receive a document with the Video Reflection and Discussion Questions. Complete the course and submit your certificate through email by Friday, October 17th.

We will have a required in-person parent session on Sunday, October 26th in Parish Center 3 from 10:15-11:30am while your child is in class. Please bring your completed Video Reflection and Discussion Questions so you are prepared to participate.

The second course is called "Received" and can be accessed by going to:

<https://ascensionpress.com/collections/renewed-and-received/products/received-online-parent-certification>

Registration and payment is done through Ascension Press and must be completed by Wednesday, January 28th. Please forward your confirmation email to me on or before Friday, January 30th. You will then receive a document with the Video Reflection and Discussion Questions. Complete the course and submit your certificate through email by Friday, February 13th.

We will have a required in-person parent session on Sunday, February 22nd in Parish Center 3 from 10:15-11:30am while your child is in class. Please bring your completed Video Reflection and Discussion Questions so you are prepared to participate.

DATES

| | Registration & Payment | Confirmation Email to Andy | Complete Course Submit Certificate | Required Parent Session |
|----------|------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Renewed | Wed 10/1/25 | Fri 10/3/25 | Fri 10/17/25 | Sun 10/26/25 |
| Received | Wed 1/28/26 | Fri 1/30/26 | Fri 2/13/26 | Sun 2/22/26 |

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Andy Gotsch at agotsch@saintmichaelchurch.org or 727-379-1558.

TeamReach Communication App



Please download and create an account for the TeamReach app. Once you have the app set-up, on the main screen, you'll see a place to enter a "Group Code." Enter the group code: **Faith001** This will enroll you in the overall Faith Formation communications. Go back to the main screen and enter group code: **Eucharist001** This will enroll you in the First Communion specific communications. For both of the groups, press the "gear" icon in the upper right corner and make sure that "Push Notifications" is on, indicated by it being green. *I will pretty much be using TeamReach exclusively for communications. It is your responsibility to be up-to-date on what's going on.* Thank you!

First Communion Mass Dress Code

First Holy Communion is a very important event in your child's life and an exciting time for the whole family as well as the community of St. Michael Parish.

Girls

Traditionally, girls wear a white dress, which is a symbol of purity and a reminder of their Baptism. However, any appropriate dress in either white or pastel colors is acceptable. We do not require a veil. Some of our girls wear veils, others choose flowers, ribbons, a tiara, etc. although none of these are required. Gloves are not allowed as they cause difficulties in receiving Communion. Gloves can be worn for pictures. Jewelry is not permitted. We have had years when a girl was playing with her bracelet, it broke, and the beads went everywhere, creating a hazard.

Boys

Boys are required to wear dress pants, a dress shirt, and a tie. Jackets are optional. Dress shoes if possible.

Memorizing Prayers

These prayers must be memorized: Sign of the Cross, Glory Be, Our Father, Hail Mary, and one of the acceptable versions of the Act of Contrition (see below). The sooner the better, but **absolutely no later than Sunday, March 22, 2026**. Parents need to help their children memorize these prayers, the catechists won't have time in class to be able to.



I cannot recommend using the **Hallow** app enough. If used regularly, it will help your child memorize their prayers much faster. The app allows the user to hear the prayer being read by a warm, human voice and read along while listening, then the they can read along aloud while listening. Your child will use THREE senses hearing, reading, and speaking to memorize. I can't imagine an easier way for them to learn. Get it in your app store!



Try Hallow for FREE for 3 Months! You DO NOT need to put a credit card in for the Free Trial!

Scan the QR code, create an account online, then download the app from your app store. Easy!

Note this code will not work if someone already is a Hallow Plus subscriber or if they already did a free trial of Hallow

The Free Version of Hallow has all of the prayers your child needs to memorize.