



*A Catholic Community guided by the Holy Spirit to proclaim Christ's love  
in worship, service and life-long learning.*

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June 2026

Next year you and your child are invited to participate in preparation for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation (You are Forgiven) and the Sacrament of First Eucharist (You are Loved). Each sacrament will have four sessions for upcoming 2nd – 3rd graders and a class for 4th - 6th graders. Amelia Gaspary and Debbie Henkelman will co-teach 2nd and 3rd graders in the school BASC room, and 4th through 6th will be taught by Maria Clemente in the school Library on Sundays between Mass (9:35-10:35 am). Classes will run from January through April.

Your active involvement as a parent is crucial to this journey. It will include helping in the classroom, regularly attending Mass together as a family, and participating in our parent sessions. As a parent, your role is to continue teaching at home, reinforcing the lessons learned in our sessions.

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is all about forgiveness and love. As a family, I am sure this is already a practice in your family life. Now is the time to reinforce God's message of forgiveness with your child.

In the **Sacrament of Eucharist**, God invites us to come to the table to be fed the bread of eternal life. Jesus sacrificed his body and blood to save us. When we go to Mass every weekend, we listen to the word of God and share in the Eucharist as a community. This reminds us that God is always with us and loves us unconditionally.

As part of the preparation, your child will need to learn and practice key prayers for both the sacraments and their personal prayer life. These prayers become second nature when they are part of your daily family routine—consider incorporating them into your morning, bedtime, or mealtime prayers.

Regular attendance at both **classes and weekend Mass** is required. This consistency not only supports your child's understanding but also deepens their relationship with God and the Church community.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Debbie Henkelman at [Debbie@saintclarechurch.org](mailto:Debbie@saintclarechurch.org) or 503.244.1037, ext. 103.