St. Edward Parish
5303 River Rd. N • Keizer OR 97303

Dear Parent/Guardian

The Sacraments of Initiation are an amazing opportunity in our faith journey! Through these Sacraments we are wholly initiated into the Catholic Church and receive the sacramental gifts, which better enable us to live out our faith to the fullest. With this milestone in our journey comes great responsibility and the sacraments should not be taken lightly. Our sacrament program is open to mid & high school students grade 7-12. There is a $75 sacramental fee for the Baptism, 1st Communion and/or Confirmation classes.

Listed below are the recommendations for the youth by the Archdiocese. St. Edwards has a two-year sacramental preparation requirement. To register, please read through the expectations carefully, sign, and return to the youth ministry office. If you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Christina Kosiewicz
christina.kosiewicz@sainteds.com

Sacramental Preparation Requirements

Year 1

Those planning to receive any/all of the Sacraments of Initiation are expected to be actively involved in the St. Edward's parish community (in addition to regular Mass attendance) the year prior to receiving the sacrament. Active involvement includes, but is not limited to regular attendance (weekly commitment) of one of the following:

- Sunday Night High School Youth Group
- Monda Night Mid-High Youth Group
- Liturgical Ministry (choir, hospitality, audio visual tech, altar serving, daily Mass etc.)

Year 2

The year students will be receiving the sacrament, after having completed one year of active involvement in the parish community, the following expectations need to be met (dates correspond to those on track to receive the sacrament Spring 2025 and are subject to change):

- Regular Mass attendance – Confirmation initiates us into full membership with the universal and local church, insisting on a personal commitment to attend Mass each Sunday and holy days of obligation; a willingness to contribute to the Eucharistic celebration by praying, listening, and singing.

- **Monthly meetings** – on a designated Sunday following the 10:30am Mass -OR- a Thursday at 6:30pm. A parent or sponsor will be expected to attend with their youth.

  Youth and Parent/guardian or sponsor will miss no more than 1 class, or it will be understood that they will continue classes in the next school year.
- Complete Journal – at each monthly meeting youth will receive a short reading and/or discussion questions to review. This will be completed by, and handed in at, their spring interview. These journals will be handed out at the 1st meeting in October meeting and are to be brought to every class.
- Turn in copy of Baptismal certificate (or Birth Certificate if needing Baptism) to Christina Kosiewicz at the office by Oct, 2026
- Choose a Baptismal and/or Confirmation Sponsor – a sponsor (Godparent) is someone who will support you in living the Catholic life and will pray with and for you for the duration of your life. Due Nov, 2026
- Choose a Confirmation name & write a brief 'why I'm choosing this Saint' reflection - One of the traditional practices in the Church at the time of Confirmation is taking on a saint's name. Due January, 2026
- Attend 2 retreats – see youth ministry calendar for options
- Read the Gospel of John – presents a good basic understanding of whom Jesus is and his invitation to faith. Due Feb, 2027
- Formal letter to Archbishop Sample - indicating desire to be confirmed – goal is to help Archbishop Sample know a little about you as he prepares to celebrate this awesome sacrament. A letter template is available upon request. Due March, 2027
- Written reflection on liturgical service – service is part of our call as Catholic Christians. After actively participating in at least 2 Masses/liturgies (audio visual, choir, lector, hospitality, etc.) for St. Edward Parish a written reflection is expected. Due April, 2027
- Exit Interview – all youth will set up time, during Lent, to meet with Christina and have a basic comprehension of the faith.
- **Lastly, continued involvement in parish life through one of the above-mentioned activities under year 1 requirements is expected.**

All 3 sacraments of initiation (Baptism, 1st Communion & Confirmation) occur at Easter Vigil Mass, March 27, 2027.
1st Communion will occur at Confirmation (date per Arch/Bishop's schedule).

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We have read and understand the Sacramental Preparation Requirements. Furthermore, we agree to fulfill said requirements, prior to receiving the Sacrament(s).

Parent/guardian Name: _____

Parent/guardian Signature: _____ Date _____

Youth Name: _____

Youth Signature: _____ Date _____