



**Saint Margaret Mary | Mount Saint Peter | Saint Joseph |
Saint Mary of Czestochowa
First Reconciliation and Eucharist Preparation**



Dear Parents,

It is with great joy that we look forward to working alongside you to help prepare your child to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. As Catholics, we believe that the Eucharist (Holy Communion) is the “source and summit of the Christian life.” Through our frequent reception of God’s mercy in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and His Body and Blood poured out for us in the Eucharist, we are nourished by the gift of God’s grace and brought closer into communion with our loving God.

In this letter, you will find important information about sacramental preparation for the Parish communities of Lower Burrell and New Kensington.

- **First Reconciliation/Communion Registration form**

If you plan to have your child receive their sacraments in one of our four parishes this year (Mount St. Peter, St. Joseph, St. Mary of Czestochowa, and St. Margaret Mary), please complete the online sacramental preparation registration form. This form can be found on the NKCC and SMM parish websites under “Sacramental Preparation.”

- **Baptismal Certificate**

If your child was not baptized at one of our four parishes, you will need to submit a copy of your child’s baptismal certificate from the parish at which they were baptized. Please submit a copy of this certificate to me by October 17.

- **Sacramental Preparation Components**

Sacramental Preparation in the Diocese of Greensburg has two main components: participation in a parish faith formation program or Catholic school (proximate preparation) and participation in a parish sacramental preparation program (immediate preparation). More details on this policy can be found in the accompanying documents. These two components, combined with regular participation in Sunday Mass, build up a foundation of faith upon which to deepen and nurture your child’s relationship with God.

- **Parent Meeting**

There will be a mandatory parent information meeting to kick off the sacramental preparation year. There are two sessions offered for this meeting: **Monday, September 28 at 6:30pm and Tuesday, September 29 at 6:30pm.** Both sessions will be at Mount Saint Peter Church.

Once again, we look forward to working with you and your child in preparing for these beautiful sacramental encounters with Jesus. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

God Bless,

Tim Ruflin

*Regional Director of Faith Formation & Discipleship
Catholic Parishes of New Kensington and Lower Burrell*

truflin@dioceseofgreensburg.org
(724) 335-2336 ext. 6322