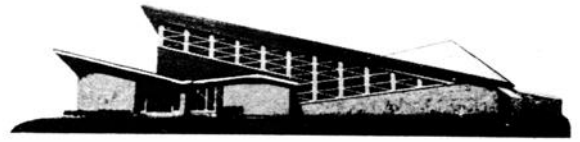


St. John the Evangelist Church

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June 2023

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As the school year draws to a close, we are reaching out to parents who have children that will be eligible to prepare for and celebrate Sacraments next year. We would like to ensure that you stay connected to the parish so that you can be informed of dates for the registration for Sacraments.

As you may know, each year the Church extends an invitation to our young people to prepare for the celebration of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation respectively, in accordance with the Sacramental Norms currently published by the Archdiocese of Toronto.

As a parent, you are responsible for the *initial preparation* of your child for Sacraments through Prayer, Sunday Mass, the Sacraments, and living a Christian lifestyle. The school curriculum, along with the faith-filled witness of the teaching staff, enhances that important base with a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith. The *immediate preparation*, catechesis and celebration of the Sacraments, is the responsibility of the Church and the family.

Registration for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist for the Grade Two children will take place early next fall at the Church, after school begins. Registration for Confirmation for the Grade Seven children will also take place in the fall. Please see the attached schedule and mark your calendars accordingly.

The size of our parish and the number of children celebrating Sacraments often means that we have to schedule more than one ceremony for each Sacrament. Please note that **the booking of dates for all First Eucharist and Confirmation Masses this year will be done through Eventbrite** (information regarding this will be emailed to parents after they attend the registration night in the fall). More complete details regarding the Sacrament preparation programs will appear in the parish bulletin and on our website at <https://stjohntheevangelistwh.archtoronto.org>. **Once these programs begin, no late registrations will be accepted** and those not registered will be required to wait and register the following year. So that you do not miss registration elsewhere, it is important to know that **Sacraments are celebrated in the parish where you are registered and normally attend.**

If your child has **not** been baptized in the Roman Catholic Church and you wish to prepare him/her to receive these Sacraments, please call the Parish Office as soon as possible to arrange for Baptism. Only those children who have been baptized in the Roman Catholic Church are able to receive Sacraments.

We wish to remind all families that the first step in preparing to celebrate these Sacraments is to commit or recommit to weekly participation in the Sunday Eucharist (Mass). We look forward to meeting you and your families at Mass as we all enjoy the quieter days of summer.

Sincerely,

Rev. Francisco Fernandez Siles
Pastor