



St Anne Parish
268 East Ave, Kitchener
519-745-5302

St Joseph Church
148 Madison Ave S., Kitchener
519-745-9302



September 2022

Dear parents and caregivers,

In our Catholic faith, children in grade two (around age seven) and above are eligible to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation (Confession) and Holy Eucharist for the first time. It is therefore with great joy that St Anne and St Joseph Parishes extend an invitation to your family to join our Sacramental Preparation this year.

As parents and caregivers, you know that *you are your child's first and most important teachers of faith*. Our goal is to walk with you, providing tools and information to help you prepare your child for these two Sacraments. We do this through a mix of take-home resources, monthly preparation sessions with children and parents/caregivers, and visits to St Anne and St Bernadette grade two and three classes.

To begin this process, families are asked to attend one of two Information Sessions:

Sunday October 2
6 pm, St Anne Parish
268 East Ave

OR

Monday October 3
6 pm, St Joseph Parish
148 Madison Ave. S.

This and all dates are for the child and parent/caregiver(s) together.

The St Anne and St Joseph faith communities work closely together, with a single pastoral team. Therefore, you may choose between Sunday evenings at St Anne or Monday evenings at St Joseph for preparation sessions. See the back of this page for dates. No matter where you prepare, your child will receive First Eucharist at your own parish.

We would like to extend a particular invitation to those families who need extra support during this process. Children with special needs are welcomed and valued, and we are happy to work with you to offer any accommodations or adaptations needed.

If you have any questions or concerns, please call the parish office, email us, or speak to us at Mass.

Yours in faith,

The Pastoral Team of St Anne and St Joseph

Father Brian Quigley
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Father Mussie Keflezghi
mussiemccj@gmail.com

Mary Forcier, Youth Minister
mforcier@hamiltondiocese.com

"Each time we receive Communion, we resemble Jesus more... as the bread and the wine are converted into the Body and Blood of the Lord, so too those who receive it with faith are transformed into a living Eucharist." – Pope Francis

St Anne Parish and St Joseph Church

FIRST RECONCILIATION & FIRST EUCHARIST 2023: Important Dates

All dates are for children and parents/caregivers to attend together.

Our monthly preparation sessions are offered from 6-7 pm at St Anne on Sundays, and St Joseph on Mondays. You may choose the location and date that best suits you for the year, regardless of which church or school you attend.

Sundays (at St Anne)	Mondays (at St Joseph)	
October 2 6-7 pm	October 3 6-7 pm	Information Meeting for Children and Parents/Caregivers
November 1		Registration Due
November 6 6-7 pm	November 7 6-7 pm	First Session for Reconciliation Resource Packages Distributed
December 4 6-7 pm	December 5 6-7 pm	Reconciliation session
<u>Saturday</u> January 14 1 pm-3:30 pm	<u>Saturday</u> January 21 1 pm-3:30 pm	Reconciliation retreat
January 22 6-7 pm	January 23 6-7 pm	Reconciliation Liturgy
February 5 6-7 pm	February 6 6-7 pm	First Communion Session
March 5 6-7 pm	March 6 6-7 pm	First Communion Session
April 2 6-7 pm	April 3 6-7 pm	First Communion Session

First Eucharist Date: St Joseph Families

First Eucharist
Sunday June 4, 11 am at St Joseph Parish Mass

Retreat
Saturday May 13 1-3:30 at St Joseph

First Eucharist Dates: St Anne Families

Due to the larger number of families at St Anne, we have 4 dates, limited to 12 families each. During registration, please indicate your first and second choice of date. Each date has a corresponding retreat.

<i>First Eucharist</i>	<i>Retreat</i>
1) Sunday April 30 9:30 am St Anne Parish Mass	Saturday, April 29 1-3:30 at St Anne
2) Sunday May 7 9:30 am St Anne Parish Mass	

<i>First Eucharist</i>	<i>Retreat</i>
3) Sunday May 14 9:30 am St Anne Parish Mass (Mother's Day)	Saturday, May 13 1-3:30 at St Joseph
4) Sunday May 28 9:30 am St Anne Parish Mass	