

Dear SHCS 2nd Grade Parent,

2026-2027 Term

First Reconciliation and First Eucharist are very special events in the life of a child, the child's family, and the life of the entire Parish. We at St. Helen work with parents and children to make these two sacraments positive and memorable events for all participants.

Here are some very important dates coming up in **2026-2027** for you to mark your calendars.

SHCS 2nd gr. students will begin preparing for their First Reconciliation (confession) during their school day and making the **Sacrament of Reconciliation on Wednesday, February 24 in the Church, at 6 p.m.** Your child will be memorizing the "Act of Contrition" please practice with them at home.

We will hold an information night for parents for **First Communion on Wednesday, September 23 at 6 p.m. in the Parish Hall.** If your child is making their First Communion this year at least one parent needs to be present.

We will be holding rehearsals during their school days in the Spring, as well as one large group rehearsal **Tuesday, March 30, 2027, in the Church at 6 p.m.**

A First Communion Retreat Day is being held on Saturday, February 27 from 9-12 in the Parish Hall. We will incorporate a rehearsal as well as a very special craft that morning. You can drop off your child after signing in or you are welcome to stay.

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Eucharist on Saturday, April 3 at 5:30 p.m. in the Church. The official Church Photographer will be available for First Holy Communion photography by 2:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall. (there is no photography permitted during Mass) Father Matt will also be available for family pictures in the Church following Mass. If you have any questions, please direct them to the Religious Education Office by calling 562-5954. **If there is an unforeseen change in any of the above dates, you will be notified as soon as possible.*

Finally, there is simply no substitute for regular active participation in the Mass on Sunday. (or Vigil Mass, Saturday) The documents of the Second Vatican Council refer to our celebration of the Eucharist as "the source and summit" of all that we do. The Mass calls us to be disciples of Jesus Christ, nourishes us for that task and then sends us forth to practice our faith in the coming week. Always remember,

you are the most influential person in your child's life, and the reverence you model for the Holy Eucharist is the reverence they will learn to imitate.

We look forward to celebrating with great joy these two Holy Sacraments!

Yours in Christ,

Paige Fies, Director of Religious Education

DOES YOUR CHILD NEED SACRAMENTS?

If you have a child who is not baptized, OR have a child above 2nd grade level, needing First Reconciliation & First Holy Communion, we have the information for you.

Please call the Religious Education office: 772-562-5954. There are faith formation classes held on Sunday mornings, in the Christian Living Center on campus, your child can attend this year to begin their preparation for the Sacraments. The classes for the 2026/27 year begin September 13, 2026. A special class called the "CIC" class, (Christian Initiation for Children) is a comprehensive class for your child to teach them the foundations of the catholic faith as well as their sacramental preparation. Registration opens July 2026.

SACRAMENTAL COMMITMENT PARENT FORM-PENANCE & EUCHARIST 2027

Recognizing that my involvement is of special and vital importance in helping my child prepare to receive the Sacraments of First Penance & First Communion:

___ I will submit a copy of my child's baptism to the Religious Education office by **9/21/26**

___ I promise to see that my child attends Mass on the weekends and Holy Days of Obligation. I understand that 90% Mass attendance is necessary to receive the Sacraments in the Spring.

___ I agree to use my Mass vouchers each week and turn them in to the Priest as I exit Mass. I understand my current parish ID # needs to be on the voucher to achieve Mass credit. Please check your ID number at the parish office if needed. If you are currently registered at St. Helen, you have been assigned an ID #.

___ I understand it is my responsibility when traveling and attending Mass elsewhere, I will need to submit a signed hard copy of that church bulletin to the parish office as proof of Mass attendance. No email submissions accepted.

___ I understand that if I do NOT meet the 90% Mass attendance, my child's Sacraments will be delayed. My child will be rescheduled for Sacraments, provided Mass attendance has risen to 90%

___ I understand that a Mass attendance % report will be run from 9/13- 11/2/26 & again 11/9-3/15/27. A written % will be given to each family falling behind in their Mass attendance.

___ I understand I can choose to call the parish office to check my % anytime at: 567-5129.

***YOU MUST BE REGISTERED AT ST. HELEN CATHOLIC CHURCH TO RECEIVE SACRAMENTS HERE**

***You can easily register on our website www.sthelenvero.org**

___ I am currently registered at St. Helen Catholic Church.

___ I am not registered at St. Helen Catholic Church. I am registered at: _____ Catholic Church. **I understand I will be receiving my Sacraments at the Church I am registered with.**

___ My child will attend group rehearsal 3/30/27 & the Communion Retreat 2/ 27/27

___ I will attend the First Communion Parent Mtg. 9/ 23/26 at 6 p.m. Gym

___ I will help my child learn their Act Contrition and prayers and see that my child attends all practices and Communion retreat.

Parent Sign _____ Date: _____

Email _____ Phone _____

CONFIRMATION PROGRAM AGGREEMENT TERM: 2026/27

Name: _____

Date: _____

By entering the Confirmation Program at St. Helen Church, I will abide by the terms of this agreement:

___ I will submit a copy of my baptism by 9/9/25

___ I will attend Mass each weekend and Holy days of Obligation. I will achieve the required **90% required attendance**. I understand that by not meeting the 90% Mass attendance, this can delay the reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation.

___ I understand a % report will be run from Sept-Nov & Dec- March. I will be notified if I am not meeting Mass requirements. **This can delay the Sacrament of Confirmation.**

___ I will use my Mass vouchers weekly & turn them in after Mass. If traveling, I will submit a signed copy of the church bulletin to the parish office here.

___ I understand I must be registered at St. Helen Church to participate in our Confirmation program. My parish Id # _____

___ I will complete in Year One my service hours required this year, & Saint report. In year 2, service hour requirements & Letter to Pastor.

___ I will attend Youth group meetings 2x a month at a minimum. Wed or Sunday night's 6-8 pm Gym.

___ I will attend my classes with no more than 3 excused absences & complete my work that is assigned.

___ I will remain respectful & demonstrate positive behavior in class.

___ I will abide by the dress code: **jeans/no tears & t shirt. *No leggings, pajama pants, shorts.**

___ NO drugs, alcohol or vaping permitted on the church grounds. Violation of this policy will result in expulsion from the program.

By signing this form, you agree to the above:

Student signature: _____

Parent signature: _____