



All the Church, all the Gospel, all the People, all the Time

2027 First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Sacramental Program

Dear Parents and Carers,

We welcome you and your child into the life of our Parish through the Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. These Sacraments of Initiation are a wonderful opportunity for parents and children to renew their faith, and for parents to reaffirm their commitment to the practice of the Catholic faith, which began at Baptism, and to deepen their relationship with Christ. This renewed commitment necessarily involves participation at Mass and the reception of the sacraments. This is also an opportunity for non-Catholic parents to understand and share in their child's faith journey.

The readiness necessary for the Sacrament of Reconciliation consists in your child knowing right and wrong. This includes, appropriate to the child's age, an understanding of what sin is. The readiness required for First Communion is similar: that the child is in the right disposition to receive Communion, and has the ability to recognise the difference between the Eucharist and ordinary bread and wine.

Children who are well prepared for Reconciliation generally welcome this opportunity to experience God's mercy. If your child is baptised Catholic, is in Year 4 or above, and would like to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion for the first time, please enrol them in our 2026 combined program. If your child has previously completed First Reconciliation but not First Holy Communion, you can enrol them for First Holy Communion only.

In their preparation for the sacraments we, the Parish and school community, will support you and your child. We do, however, rely on your involvement in home learning and ideally at Mass each weekend. Parish-run classes will be held on Wednesday evenings from 6.30pm to 7.30pm during the school term. Sessions will be held at Sacred Heart Church, 115 Hodgson Cres, Pearce.

If your child attends a non-Catholic school, I also strongly encourage you to enrol them in our School of Religion which runs during term times on Wednesdays from 4 to 5pm. This will support them in preparing for the Sacraments.

Enrolment for both these programs is now available on the on the Qkr! App (available on all smart phones) or via [Qkr! website](#) (choose Mary Help of Christians in the "institution" field). The fee/offering is \$80 for the combined program or \$60 for First Holy Communion only. For School of Religion, it is \$20 for the year. We encourage early enrolment so that we can plan ahead. For the Sacramental programs you will need to provide a copy of your child's baptism certificate when you enrol your child, so please ensure that you have a copy available.

This is a Parish-run program. If you have any inquiries or would like further details, please contact us in the Parish Office on 6286 1908 or via email at wodensouth.sacraments@cg.org.au.

If you would like to receive a copy of our Parish Bulletin via email, please email our Office Manager at WodenSouth@cg.org.au to be added to the distribution list.

Kind regards
Fr Emil Milat
Parish Priest
Mary Help of Christians Parish, South Woden, ACT

DATES FOR THE FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST HOLY COMMUNION COMBINED PROGRAM IN 2026

(for students in Year 4 and above in 2026)

Enrolments open on Thursday 19 November 2026 and close on 5 February 2027

As this is a combined program, even if your child is doing only the First Holy Communion part of the program, parents/carers still need to attend the Information Evening on 10 February, and you and your child will need to attend one of the Presentation Masses on the weekend of 14/15 February. First Holy Communion only families will then have a break until the First Holy Communion part of the program starting on 11 March.

Please note: the 2027 program has been condensed, so it is most important that you and your child attend all the sessions; please ensure that you keep the dates free so that you can. If this is an issue for you, please contact the office at wodensouth.sacraments@cq.org.au before enrolling.

10 Feb 2027 Wed 6:30pm **Parent/Carer Information Evening** for both Reconciliation and First Holy Communion programs (Children need not attend)

Presentation Masses for both Reconciliation and First Holy Communion programs

Saturday 13 February at 6pm OR Sunday 14 February at either 8.30 OR 10am

First reconciliation program

17 Feb Wed 6:30pm Reconciliation Sessions 1&2/Ash Wednesday

24 Feb Wed 6:30pm Reconciliation Session 3&4/Practice

Celebration of First Reconciliation

25 Feb Thur 6:30pm

First Holy Communion program

3 Mar Wed 6:30pm First Holy Communion Session 1

10 Mar Wed 6:30pm First Holy Communion Sessions 2&3

17 Mar Wed 6:30pm First Holy Communion Session 4 and Practice

First Holy Communion Masses

Saturday 20 March at 6pm OR Sunday 21 March at either 8:30 OR 10am

The cost/offering of the combined program is \$80 and the First Holy Communion only part of the program is \$60. Payments can be made on Qkr! when you enrol.

Please ensure you have a **copy of your child's Baptism certificate** to send to the office when you enrol your child, unless they were baptised at Sacred Heart.

This information is also available on our [website](http://www.mhoc.org.au/sacraments/first-holy-communion/):
(<http://www.mhoc.org.au/sacraments/first-holy-communion/>)

(Updated 18 June 2026)