



**ALL SAINTS PARISH
PORT AUGUSTA AND WILMINGTON**
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Wednesday 7th February, 2024

Dear Families

Our Children's Sacramental Program for 2024

Following the successful introduction of Bishop Karol's new Sacramental Program in 2023, we continue this year with the Sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Eucharist, and Confirmation.

We do this as a Parish Family. The parish supports the parents as "first educators of their children in the ways of faith and life", so that the whole family grows in a loving relationship with Jesus as their saviour and friend. Meanwhile our Caritas College supports the children as they learn the tradition of our faith.

For an overview of this year's program, you are invited to attend a meeting at **All Saints Church, at 7.00 pm, Thursday 14th March. Would you kindly put this date in your diary please?**

Some key elements of the program:

- 6 weekends over a period of 8 weeks, for First Communion, and for Confirmation, and 5 for Reconciliation. Families attend Mass on each of these weekends.
- Resources provided for parents and young people to use at home, between weekends.
- Faith Friend – there are parishioners available to be a "faith friend" to you and your young person along the journey, or you might know a suitable person who could do this role.
- Flexibility – if you have an unavoidable absence on one of the key weekends, we have some "spare weekends" built in, to cover. There's also Monday or Friday Evening Mass if need be.
- Why the thorough preparation? Think of pre-season for sport – the better the preparation, the better the outcome. As parents you are the coaches and the role models, as your young ones enter a life-long relationship with Jesus, the one who saves us.
- The full program is on the Diocesan website – more info at the March 14 meeting.
- You're welcome to a conversation with Father Jim or Mrs Chloe Shanahan at any time.

In the meantime, let's pray for each other – all our families with children doing Sacraments. May Mary, the Mother of the Church, and Saint Mary of the Cross McKillop, pray for us.

On the next page is the schedule for each of the Sacraments. **Please enter the relevant weekends in your family's calendar.** If necessary, start planning around the "Spare" weekends, or the Monday or Friday option, for unavoidable absences.

If you know of any family who should have received a copy of this letter, but did not, please contact one of us and we'll send the letter to them.

Thank you for being the human foundation of your young people's life of faith. You are in our prayers, and the prayers of the parish family, as you engage with this year's Sacramental Program.

Yours in Christ Jesus,



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***P.S.** If there are young people who for any reason missed out on their sacraments in previous years, they are welcome to join this year's program. If they are a few years older, the home sessions are adapted for this.*

SCHEDULE FOR THE SACRAMENTS 2024

SACRAMENT	SESSION 1	SESSION 2	SESSION 3	SESSION 4	SESSION 5	SESSION 6
<u>First Eucharist</u>	Saturday 4 th OR Sunday 5 th May	Sat'day 11 th OR Sunday 12 th May <i>Spare: 18/19 May</i>	Saturday 25 th OR Sunday 26 th May	Saturday 1 st OR Sunday 2 nd June <i>Spare: 8/9 June</i>	Saturday 15 th OR Sunday 16 th June Celebration of the Sacrament	Saturday 22 nd OR Sunday 23 rd June Commissioning of students
<u>Confirmation</u>	Saturday 22 nd OR Sunday 23 rd June	Saturday 29 th OR Sunday 30 th June <i>Spare: 6/7, 13/14, 20/21 July</i>	Saturday 27 th OR Sunday 28 th July	Saturday 3 rd OR Sunday 4 th August <i>Spare: 10/11 August</i>	Sunday 18 th August 10.30 am Celebration of the Sacrament	Saturday 24 th or Sunday 25 th August Commissioning of students
<u>First Reconciliation</u>	Saturday 14 th or Sunday 15 th September	Saturday 21 st or Sunday 22 nd September <i>Spare: 28/29 September 5/6 and 12/13 October</i>	Saturday 19 th or Sunday 20 th October	Thursday 24 th October 7.00 pm Sacrament of Reconciliation	Saturday 26 th or Sunday 27 th October	