

# SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION @ ST. MAX

## TIMELINE

*Revised 5/4/2017*

### **FIRST PENANCE/FIRST COMMUNION**

#### **PHASE 1: Parent Orientation**

Parents interested in beginning preparation for sacraments with their children take part in a session providing an overview to the process.

#### **PHASE 2: Pre-Registration**

All those who have participated in the orientation are invited to pre-register for sacramental preparation using an online process.

#### **PHASE 3: Pastor Interview**

After pre-registration, before the catechesis begins, families are invited to an interview with the pastor, usually 3-4 months prior to celebration. Interviews are scheduled using an online tool, and must be completed before the catechetical sessions begin.

#### **PHASE 4: Catechetical Formation**

After the pastor interview, as catechesis sessions begin, all who have completed phases 1-3 are invited to participate in the catechetical formation, comprised of parent sessions, parent/child sessions, and retreat. There is a catechetical formation period for First Penance and one for First Communion; they need not be done consecutively, but they certainly can be.

#### **PHASE 5: Celebration**

Children celebrate the Sacraments of First Penance and First Communion

#### **PHASE 6: Mystagogy**

Having celebrated God's love for us in the sacrament, the period of *mystagogy* ("exploring the mysteries") begins as children celebrate the sacraments frequently throughout their lives.

### **CONFIRMATION**

#### **PHASE 1: Parent Orientation**

Parents interested in beginning preparation for sacraments with their children take part in a session providing an overview to the process.

#### **PHASE 2: Pre-Registration**

All those who have participated in the orientation are invited to pre-register for sacramental preparation using an online process.

#### **PHASE 3: Catechetical Formation**

All who have pre-registered are invited to participate in the catechetical formation, comprised of an opening event, sessions for candidates and sponsors, a retreat, and work at home on a portfolio.

#### **PHASE 4: Pastor Interview**

After catechesis, candidates interview with the pastor, to review their portfolio and talk about the family's journey of faith. Interviews are scheduled using an online tool, and must be completed before celebration can take place.

#### **PHASE 5: Celebration**

Candidates celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation.

#### **PHASE 6: Mystagogy**

Having celebrated God's love for us in the sacrament, the period of *mystagogy* ("exploring the mysteries") begins. The newly-confirmed participate in a mystagogy kickoff event, to reflect on their experience in the sacrament, and to talk about what this sacrament means for their continuing faith life.