

# SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION @ ST. MAX

## TIMELINE

*Revised 9/12/2023*

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

#### **PHASE 1: Parent Information Meeting**

Parents interested in beginning preparation for sacraments with their children take part in a session providing an overview to the process. Attendance at one of these meetings is required each time you have a child preparing for a sacrament.

#### **PHASE 2: Registration**

All those who participate in the informational meeting are invited to complete a contract, liability form and submit Baptismal record (unless already on file at Saint Max) or by the specified deadline.

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

All who have completed phases 1 and 2 are invited to participate in the catechetical formation. There are three required sessions, in preparation for the celebration of First Penance. There is a “parents only” session which covers both penance and communion preparation, a retreat with parent and child, a prayer service with parent and child

There are three required sessions in preparation for the celebration of First Communion. There is a mini retreat with parent and child, a full retreat with parent and child and a prayer service with parent and child

#### **PHASE 4: Celebration**

The celebration of First Penance occurs after completion of this preparation. There is no group celebration of the Sacrament of First Penance.

First Communion Masses are celebrated after your family has completed the preparation sessions and your child has received the Sacrament of Penance for the first time.

### **CONFIRMATION**

#### **PHASE 1: Parent Information Meeting**

Parents interested in beginning preparation for sacraments with their children take part in a session providing an overview to the process. Attendance at one of these meetings is required each time you have a child preparing for a sacrament.

#### **PHASE 2: Registration**

All those who participate in the informational meeting are invited to complete a contract, liability form, Baptismal record (unless already on file at St. Max), sponsor form and parts of a portfolio by the specified deadline.

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

All who have completed phases 1 and 2 are invited to participate in the catechetical formation, comprised of a Sunday afternoon opening event, four prayer/small group sessions for candidates and sponsors (or parent if sponsors are unable to attend), a Saturday full day retreat, and additional work at home on a portfolio.

#### **PHASE 4: Conversation with the Pastor**

Candidates and sponsor or parent participate in a small group discussion. Discussions are limited to 15 candidates and will last 1 hour. Interviews are scheduled using an online tool.

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

Candidates celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation after completing the preparation sessions, interviewing and receiving the Sacrament of Penance.