

To: Parents of 1st Communicants
From: Gary Heun, Director of Religious Education
Re: 1st Communion Banners

January 5, 2019

Dear Parent,

Your child(ren) will receive First Communion on May 4th at the 5:00pm liturgy or on May 5th at the 11:00am liturgy. First Communion, like Baptism and Confirmation, is a Sacrament of Initiation and should be celebrated within the parish community.

Since this event is a family celebration, we are continuing the custom of having you participate in the celebration with your child. One thing we would like you to do is go over the gospel reading, **John 21:1-19**, which will be used at the liturgy. Please refer to your bible and read this passage with your child.

One activity we would like each family to participate in is making a banner that will help decorate the church for First Communion. More importantly, it is an easy project that can involve the entire family. The following steps will help you create a lovely banner that can become a keepsake for you and your child.

1. Some suggestions for material are: dowel, felt, linen, cotton, and burlap; please no paper. The finished banner should be **10" wide and 20" long**. The banner should be made to hang vertically. Please place a dowel in the hem with string or yarn attached to each end of the dowel so that it can be hung. We will not be able to use banners that are not of this dimension.
2. Various materials can be used to decorate the banner. Symbols or phrases can be cut out of cloth or felt and either glued or sewn to the banner. **The focus of this year's First Communion liturgy is: "Feed My Sheep."** This also may be helpful in banner making. Any theme that relates to Eucharist can be used such as "Body of Christ", "Come, Lord Jesus", "Bread of Life", etc. The banner can also be decorated with cutouts of a host and chalice, a loaf of bread and grapes, or sprigs of wheat.
3. **The banners should be brought to class on or before April 29th**. Please place your child's name and teacher's name on the back of the banner so that they may be returned.

Rehearsal and Liturgy Assignments: There will be a parent and child First Communion Rehearsal on Saturday, May 4th in the Church. Those who have been assigned to the 5:00pm liturgy (Rel. Ed families' last name A-G and Mrs. Madigan's class) have their rehearsal at 9:30am. Those who have been assigned to the 11:00am liturgy (Rel. Ed families' last name H-Z and Mrs. Krueger's class) have their rehearsal at 10:30am.

If you have any questions, please call Mr. Heun at 258-8821.

Sincerely,

Gary Heun, Director
Religious Education