

November 23, 2015

Dear Parents,

Receiving the holy sacrament is a major step in a child's life of faith, and it is a step the church takes quite seriously. The impact of the sacrament on the life of the believer is not something that happens only upon receiving their first communion; but is a life long journey of faith. Since Saint Ann's takes the sacrament of Holy Communion very seriously, we have slightly embellished the curriculum for this class. Formerly known as First Intentional Communion, the class and the service will now be called *Exploring the Eucharist*, as this more fully encompasses what this class and service are all about.

This year, the Exploring the Eucharist service will be on Sunday, May 1st, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. In addition there will be two one hour meetings with the clergy on the following dates:
Saturday, April 23, 10:00 – 11:00 the clergy will go over the service with the children.
Saturday, April 30, 10:00 – 11:00 the clergy and children will bake the bread to be used at the service.

The following requirements must also be met in order for your child to participant in the Exploring the Eucharist service:

1. Your child must regularly attend Sunday School (meaning three out of four Sundays a month).
2. The parents and the child must regularly attend (meaning three out of four weeks a month) one of our weekend Eucharistic services. The service times are as follows: Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and Sunday at 8:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m. or 11:30 a.m.
3. It is my hope your child will choose to participate in our Youth Sunday service; which is the first Sunday of every month at the 10:00 service. This would include being either a gift presenter of the bread and wine, an usher, singing in our children's choir or simply coming to sit on the chancel steps with the other children for the youth sermon.
4. If the parents are not members of Saint Ann's, they must make themselves known to the rector and become actively involved in the life of the parish. This includes regular attendance and providing financial support to the parish in the form of a pledge.
5. Appropriate dress for this service is regular Sunday attire. We are requesting no tiaras, veils, or bouquets be worn; instead simple dress clothing be worn for both boys and girls.

I look forward to meeting you and your involvement in the life of Saint Ann's.

The Reverend Diane Britt
Rector