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Our Lady of
PERPETUAL HELP
PARISH

22 June 2020

Dear Families,

We are excited to announce plans for First Holy Communion! Over three weekends, all children from our school and our parish religious education program (PREP), will receive the Holy Eucharist for the first time. We are reserving the noon Mass on July 5th, 12th and 19th for this purpose. These three masses are by invitation only, to be sure we have enough room with social distancing to accommodate our families.

Class 2A from PREP is invited on July 5th. OLPH school second graders are invited on July 12th. Class 2B from PREP is welcomed on July 19th. If these weekends prove unfeasible, we welcome families to schedule with us for regular Sunday Mass and we will reserve a pew.

Each family will be assigned a pew that can accommodate 4-5 people from the same household on the main aisle, and an additional 2-3 people (for example godparents or grandparents - if isolating together) can sit in the same pew along the side aisle. If the immediate family is larger, they may occupy the whole pew, not to exceed 8 people. It will not be possible for everyone who desires to witness this beautiful moment. We will be livestreaming and the recording will be available online. While keeping the required 6ft social distancing, we can realistically have in church up to 150 people total (depending on the number per household).

General guidelines for Weekend Masses during this time:

- Please allow extra time for entrance and exit.
- Masks are required for everyone 3yrs or older.
- No holy water in fonts. No physical sign of peace. No distribution of Precious Blood.
- Wash your hands before you arrive. Bring hand sanitizer for before holy Communion. Hand sanitizer dispensers are placed by all the doors. Please no bleach.
- Ministers of Holy Communion will put on masks for distribution.
- Masks should be worn in the communion line. After the priest places the communion in your hand, please step to the side, lower your mask, consume the Eucharist, and then re-mask.
- Eucharist distributed only in the hand for the time being at the conclusion of Mass.
- One main entrance (Fellowship Rd.) Two exits (St. Mary and St. Joseph altars.)
- No offertory collection. Please leave your gift in one of the baskets. We encourage online giving through Givelify.
- Two households may share a pew, but social distance is required (6ft).
- Music from the choir loft. Congregation discouraged from singing.

Some details for First Holy Communion:

- 1) Please arrive early, at least by 11:45am, for ease of seating and last minute instructions.
- 2) Avoid talking or gathering. Use time in church for prayer.
- 3) Take time and review with your child how to receive Jesus reverently, by making a throne with hands extended. With the complication of masks, we recommend you practice with your child at home with crackers or fish or some other substitute.
- 4) Children will sit on the end of the pew and are encouraged to wear First Holy Communion attire, including white dresses and suits. Family members are encouraged to wear "Sunday best" for the special occasion.
- 5) Please no photo or video in church. We will be live streaming. Respecting distance, you may take photos outside in the garden.
- 6) Unfortunately no photos or gathering in church before or after Mass - a diocesan rule.

If you have any questions, concerns or conflicts, please email rscanlon@olphparish.com or call the Rectory at 667-8850 as soon as possible so that we can resolve your concerns.

Thanks for your flexibility and willingness to adapt to these changes as we navigate together how to celebrate this awesome moment with your family. May this first Eucharist be the first of countless occasions to welcome Jesus into the heart of your child.

God bless!

Fr. Joel Wilson

Mr. Richard Scanlon

Mrs. Sue Obuchowski

Class List 2A (7/5)

Ryan Awrachow
Cullen Blair
Lilyana Cozens
Kenneth Daily
Brooke Daviers
Brandon Duus
Audrey Ford
Ian Ford
Brooke Franco
Nicholas Franco
Emma Grant

Class List School (7/12)

Vincent Bianco
Landon Cashin
Sophia Chapman
Amelia Rose Dixon
Liliana Dougherty
Shane Dougherty
Trevor Hermann
Kinsley Hoffner
Camille Ingram
Tyler Kuchera
Michael Layne
Camryn Lyons
Rose Pasqua
Gianna Prendergast
Alexander Rossi
Louise Schweizer
Evan Simkins

Class List 2B (7/19)

Alivia Rae Dillon
Milania Graus
Liam Handlon
Jackson Lambert
Grace Miller
Harrison Mormando
Callie Pierce
Melina Santore
Brielle Smith
Avery thiel
Addyson Cortright
Dillion Cortright