



## St Joseph's Primary School



### P4 Sacrament of First Eucharist 2023 Information

Saturday 22nd April 23 - 10am and 11.30am

St Joseph's RC Church, Clarkston

Saturday 22nd April - 1pm

St Bridget's RC Church, Eaglesham

20/03/2022

Dear P4 Parent/Guardian,

As we approach the final weeks before the children's First Communion Day, I hope your preparations are going well for Saturday 22nd April. We hope you find the below information helpful in planning for your child's special day.

#### WHEN IS THE COMMUNION?

Communion for St Joseph's pupils will take place on *Saturday 22nd April 2023*. The Sacrament will be conferred by Canon Stephen at both parish churches.

<u>St Joseph's RC Church, Clarkston</u>	<u>St Bridget's Church, Eaglesham</u>
10am - <b>P4a</b> 11.30am - <b>P4b</b>	1pm

#### WHO CAN COME?

At 10am and 11.30am Mass, the pews will be reserved for the children and their families. The pews can hold up to 9 people, **including the pupil** receiving the Sacrament. These will be labelled with your child's name, and **the pupil should sit nearest to the aisle.**

In the past three years we have adapted our Communion celebration to cater to the global pandemic. With all that we have learned and experienced we aim to preserve the prayerful and personal atmosphere fostered over these years. With that in mind, and in agreement with Canon Stephen and our colleagues at Our Lady of the Missions Primary, we have taken the decision to limit guests to the **8** people who will sit in the allocated pew with the Communicant.

**We would ask that everyone be seated ten minutes before the start of Mass.**

#### RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT

The children will receive their Communion along with 2 parents/guardians **before** the rest of the congregation. Due to the fact that the children will be sitting at the middle aisle and then returning via the side aisles, in order to allow them to get back to their original seats, when the rest of the congregation are receiving Communion, we ask that **all attendees leave the row when invited, even if they are not receiving Communion or a blessing** (excluding the Communicants and their parents/guardians)

The children are preparing to receive Holy Communion in their hand. You can help your child practise this at home.

## DVD AND PHOTOGRAPHY

A DVD of the service will be made available and a group photograph will be taken at the end of Mass. We would ask that at the end of the Mass, all parents and family members **remain seated** to allow us to assemble the children on the altar. After the school has taken their photograph, we will then invite parents and family to come forward and take photographs.

Because of the solemnity of the occasion, family and friends are asked **not to take photographs or recordings** during the ceremony.

## PARKING

St Joseph's Parish Church has a car park with approximately 30 spaces. We would ask that if you are bringing your car, that you are mindful of the local residents and park with care. We would also ask if you are attending the 10 am mass that the car park is **cleared** in time for visitors arriving for the 11:30 am mass.

Finally, we will continue to prepare pupils in school for receiving this Sacrament both spiritually and practically. We ask that you also continue to support your child at home, e.g you could ensure that your child knows key prayers found on their Google Classroom. We look forward to celebrating alongside your children and families in the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs H Addison*

Principal Teacher (Acting)