

**ST. JOHN PAUL II PARISH**

**PRESTON**

Priest: Fr. Sam Ofiah MSP

The Sacred Heart Presbytery, 44 Beech Grove, Ashton-on-Ribble, Preston. PR2 1DU. 01772-726674

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Deacon: Rev. Chris Barwise; 01772-760045

First Confession and First Holy Communion

School Year 2023/2024

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Due to a shortage of Catechists we have not been able to provide a sacramental preparation programme for the current Year 4.

In order to rectify this we will be providing two programmes in the next school year. The first programme, which is chiefly for next school year's Year 5, will commence on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023. We are aware that some children will want to be with relations from another year group. We will do our best to accommodate this. The first session is for registration of the children, giving an outline of the programme and any questions. This will be held in Sacred Heart Community Centre.

The actual preparation sessions will take place in Sacred Heart Church on Thursday evenings. The children will make their First Holy Communion on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

When your child was baptised you made a promise to bring your child up in the practice of the faith. We want to help you maintain this promise by asking you to stay with your son/daughter at each of the sessions. You will be asked to join in the discussions. We also ask you to start bringing your daughter/son to Mass on Sundays before the programme starts. This will help a great deal in their preparation and encourage you all to maintain your attendance at Mass after they have received Holy Communion for the first time. Mass attendance is a very important part of being a Catholic. Please will you make sure that your son/daughter is able to pray the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory be unassisted before the programme commences.

The second programme will follow the same format with the same requirements. This programme will commence on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024 for registration. The children will make their First Holy Communion on June 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024.

We understand that some children desire to be baptised. We are more than happy to work with this. The children will take part in the whole programme and will be baptised shortly before the First Confession date.

**Please complete the attached Registration form and return to your school by Friday July 14<sup>th</sup>. Forms can be delivered to Sacred Heart Presbytery after this date.**

If your son/daughter was baptised at Sacred Heart Church or St. Peter and St. Paul's Church you do not need to provide a Baptismal Certificate just the date. If the Baptism took place anywhere else then a certificate must be provided with the application form.

God bless you all.

Fr. Sam Ofiah MSP

Deacon Chris Barwise

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023

## **PROGRAMME 2023/2024**

### **Sacred Heart Church**

#### **Programme 1 (mainly for Year 5) 2023**

|                      |                                     |                    |                     |               |
|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Registration         | Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> September    | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Centre | 18:00 - 19:15 |
| Session 1            | Thursday 14 <sup>th</sup> September | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 – 19:15 |
| Session 2            | Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> September | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 - 19:15 |
| Session 3            | Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> September | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 - 19:15 |
| Session 4            | Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> October    | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 – 19:15 |
| Session 5            | Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> October   | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 – 19:15 |
| Session 6            | Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November   | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 - 19:15 |
| Session 7            | Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> November   | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 – 19:15 |
| Practice             | Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> November  | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 – 19:15 |
| First Confession     | Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> November  | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00         |
| First Holy Communion | Sunday November 26 <sup>th</sup>    | Parents/Guardians  | Sacred Heart Church | 10:00         |

#### **Programme 2 (mainly for Year 4) 2024**

|                      |                                    |                    |                     |               |
|----------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Registration         | Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January    | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Centre | 18:00 - 19:15 |
| Session 1            | Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February  | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 – 19:15 |
| Session 2            | Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> February | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 - 19:15 |
| Session 3            | Thursday 29 <sup>th</sup> February | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 - 19:15 |
| Session 4            | Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March     | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 – 19:15 |
| Session 5            | Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March    | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 – 19:15 |
| Session 6            | Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> April    | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 - 19:15 |
| Session 7            | Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May       | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 – 19:15 |
| Practice             | Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> May      | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00 – 19:15 |
| First Confession     | Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> May      | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 18:00         |
| First Holy Communion | Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June        | Children & Parents | Sacred Heart Church | 10:00         |

**First Confession and First Holy Communion – 2023/2024**

**Child's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Child's Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parents Names:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School** \_\_\_\_\_

**Year Group (2023/24)** \_\_\_\_\_

**We (I) want our (my) son/daughter to receive the Sacraments of First Penance and First Holy Communion**

**We (I) and our (my) son/daughter will attend all required evening sessions to prepare for the First Penance and First Holy Communion.**

**We (I) will take our (my) son/daughter to Mass very Sunday to prepare for the First Penance and First Holy Communion**

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **(Parent)**

**I enclosed a copy of my child's Certificate of Baptism.**

**Nb If your child was baptised at Sacred Heart Church, SS Peter & Paul's Church or St. Walburge's Church please give details of when & where your child's baptism took place.**

Please note that when you enrol your child on September 4<sup>th</sup> you will be asked to provide a mobile telephone number and any medical condition that your child may be experiencing. This and any other information will be retained by the Parish for the sole use of contacting you in an emergency or to receive reminders of sessions. This and all the other personal information will be kept for the duration of the programme and will not be shared with anybody outside the Catechists group or for any other purpose. You will also be asked to sign a consent form for photographs to be taken.

**First Holy Communion & First Confession – 2023/2024  
Registration Form  
Please bring this form to the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

**Programme 1 or Programme 2**

Christian Name(s).....

Preferred Name.....Surname.....

Address.....

.....

Child's Date of Birth.....Child's Date of Baptism.....

Place of Baptism.....Verified.....

Name of Main Contact.....

Relationship to the Child.....

Main Contact's telephone number.....

Does your Child have any medical condition(s) that we need to know about? Yes/No.

If yes please give details.....

Is there any other information that wish to share with us? A meeting can be held with you to discuss any situation.

Please note that by enrolling your child you are consenting to provide a mobile telephone number and any medical condition that your child may be experiencing. This and any other information will be retained by the Parish for the sole use of contacting you in an emergency or to receive reminders of sessions. This and all the other personal information will be kept for the duration of the programme and a further seven years but will not be shared with anybody outside the Catechists group or for any other purpose. Medical information may be shared in case of an emergency.