

**All important events in life need preparation so that we make sure that everything is clear and goes as we hope. At this important point in your child's life with God, Reconciliation and First Holy Communion need careful preparation too.**

### **Is your child ready?**

The age of 7 or 8 is considered in the life of the church to be the time to offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. You are the people who know if your child is ready for this next stage in their sacramental life.

### **Do you as a family have a regular commitment to the Church?**

When your child was baptised, you made a promise to bring them up in the life of the Catholic Church. The next stage of your child's faith journey is important and an opportunity for you to refresh or renew your commitment.

**The preparation programme begins with a meeting for parents on Wednesday 16 Jan at 7:00pm. This will help us to prepare for the Mass of Enrolment which will take place on Sunday 27 Jan 2019 at 10:00am.**

**The classes for children take place on Sundays during Mass, beginning on Sunday 03 February 2019 at 09:45 prompt, in St. Anne's Community Centre.** This will enable you as a family to continue to get to know life in the parish worshipping community.

As parents, you are the first and foremost example in your child's religious development. The example you set in your daily life develops your child's Christian attitudes and behaviour, and you do this through sharing together, family customs and traditions. All this is part of the Sacramental preparation, and for this reason, this preparation needs to be a true family journey.

### **Are you ready to take on this commitment?**

When the preparation sessions start on 03 February they will continue through to First Holy Communion day Sunday 19 May 2019. (see separate sheet for the dates of the sessions) the sessions will begin at **09:45 in St. Anne's Community Centre**. They will then **join you in Mass** at the offertory. There will also be 5 parents' meetings, also held in St. Anne's Community Centre, three before First Reconciliation and two before First Holy Communion. It is most important that you participate in, and contribute during the journey your child is

making towards Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

### **What does the programme involve?**

We will be using the books 'Loved and Forgiven' for Reconciliation and 'Meet Christ With Joy' for Holy Communion. These are to be used at home and will support you as a family with your preparation.

### **When is First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion?**

First Reconciliation will take place on Saturday 30 March 2019 at 10:00am and is the first important milestone on the journey towards First Holy Communion, which will take place on Sunday 19 May 2019 at 1:00pm. This is a great time of celebration for your child, your family and indeed for the whole parish family.

### **How are parents involved?**

It is most important that you feel able to participate in and contribute during the journey your child is making towards Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. To support you in this, parent information evenings are held during the preparation time. These evenings are an opportunity for you, Fr. Gerry and the catechists to discuss the programme and allow for general sharing of information, including the practical arrangements.

### **What to do next.....**

Complete the enrolment form and **return to the Presbytery by Friday 14 December**. Talk to your child about the Sacraments and prepare them to take part in the programme.

# St Anne's Buxton

## DATES FOR THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME OF RECONCILIATION AND HOLY COMMUNION 2019

If you decide to enrol your child in the Sacramental programme, it is essential that you fully support your child as they prepare for this important milestone in their lives. You can do this by working together, praying together, attending parents' meetings and most importantly, attending Mass together.



You are the first teachers in your child's religious development and act as role models for them. We will endeavour to build on your example as together we prepare for your child for the Sacraments of

The dates below are for the parents' meetings and church services. The meetings are for parents and not suitable for children. The classes for children begin on **Sunday 03 February 2019 at 09:45 in the Community Centre**.

Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

Weds 16 Jan 2019	Parents meeting, St. Anne's Community Centre, 7:00pm
27 January 2019	Enrolment Mass at St Anne's Church 10:00am Children to be brought to St Anne's Community Centre at 09:45am
Weds 27 Feb	Parents meeting, St. Anne's Community Centre, 7:00pm
Weds 13 March	Parents meeting, St. Anne's Community Centre, 7:00pm
Sat 30 March	Sacrament of Reconciliation, St Anne's Church, 10:00am
Weds 10 April	Parents meeting, St. Anne's Community Centre, 7:00pm
Weds 08 May	Parents meeting, St. Anne's Community Centre at 7:00pm
Sun 12 May	Rehearsal, St Anne's Church, 11:00am (after Mass)
Sun 19 May	First Holy Communion Celebration, St Anne's Church, 1:00pm

## Preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist