

# **St Joseph's Catholic Church Riverwood**

## **Dates for Sacramental Programs in 2022**

### **Confirmation (Year 6 & above) Preparation in Term 2, Celebration of Sacrament in Term 3**

**Information Night:** Wednesday 18 May 7:00pm (Week 4 in Term 2)

**Preparation classes:**

Sunday	29 May	8:20am
Sunday	5 June	8:20am
Sunday	19 June	8:20am
Sunday	26 June	8:20am

**Confirmation Practice and Confession Day:** Saturday 16 July from 2:30 – 4:30pm

**Confirmation:** Sunday 7 August at St Mary's Cathedral 12:30pm

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### **First Communion (Year 3 & above) Term 3**

**Information night:** Wednesday 22 June 7:00pm (Week 9 in Term 2)

**Preparation classes:**

Sunday	24 July	8:20am
Sunday	31 July	8:20am
Sunday	14 August	8:20am
Sunday	21 August	8:20am

**First Communion Practice and Confession Day:** Saturday 27 August from 2:30 – 4:30pm

**First Communion:** Sun 28 August from 11am

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### **First Confession (Year 2) Term 4**

**Information night:** Wednesday 14 September 7:00pm (Week 9 in Term 3)

**Preparation classes:**

Sunday	16 October	8:20am
Sunday	23 October	8:20am
Sunday	30 October	8:20am
Sunday	6 November	8:20am

**First Confession Liturgy:** Wednesday 9 November 7:00pm

**First Confession:** Saturday 12 November from 2:00pm

- Please see the reverse of this sheet for further information and the "Sacraments Explained" letter which outlines the Sacraments and the order in which they are received.
- Invitation letters will be handed to students prior to each sacramental program.

If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact the Parish Office by email at [stjosephriverwood@outlook.com](mailto:stjosephriverwood@outlook.com) or by phone on Tuesdays, Thursdays or Fridays on 9534 1537.

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# The Sacramental Program at St Joseph's Catholic Parish Riverwood

A Sacrament is a special sign of God's love and presence in our lives. Sacraments are God's gift to us through which we come closer to Jesus and his Church.

The sacraments start with **baptism**. If your child is not yet baptised, please contact the parish immediately to arrange to meet Fr John and organise the baptism.

Baptism is the gateway to the other sacraments. During the baptism ceremony, the child's parents make a commitment to teach the child the faith and continue the path of Christian Initiation through the reception of Confirmation and Holy Communion, which are normally celebrated during the child's primary school years in the following order.

- **First Confession, Year 2 (usually term 4)**
- **First Holy Communion, Year 3 (usually term 3)**
- **Confirmation, Year 6 (usually term 2)**

Preparation for the Sacraments of First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation is parish based. The Church expects parents to play an active part in this preparation by attending sacramental information nights, commitment Masses and sacramental lessons.

## *First Confession*

By his death on the cross, Jesus Christ redeemed man from sin. The Sacrament of First Confession restores life to the soul through forgiveness of our sins. Through Confession we come to God to receive forgiveness and healing in our lives and in our relationships.

The candidates celebrate the Sacrament of First Confession with their families at a special ceremony.

## *First Holy Communion*

In this sacrament we receive Jesus himself under the form of bread and are deeply united to Him and to our Christian brothers and sisters.

Students celebrate their First Communion when they are in Year 3. It is a special event for families and an ongoing Sacrament celebrated with our Parish and school family at Mass.

## *Confirmation*

Confirmation is the sacrament by which we receive a special outpouring of the Holy Spirit in a strengthening of the gifts we received in Baptism. Through Confirmation, the Holy Spirit gives us the increased ability to practise our Catholic faith in every aspect of our lives and to witness Christ in every situation.