



Archdiocese of Birmingham  
**St. Mary's Catholic Academy**

Principal: Mrs S Rathbone BA (Hons) NPQH,  
Ford Green Road, Norton-le-Moors, Stoke on Trent, ST6 8EZ  
Telephone 01782 234820 Fax 01782 236523  
Email: [office@stmarysnewman.co.uk](mailto:office@stmarysnewman.co.uk)  
www. [www.stmarysstoke.co.uk](http://www.stmarysstoke.co.uk).



Monday, 16<sup>th</sup> October 2023

Dear parents/carers

**Re: Parental pastoral support & catechesis for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation**

Dear parents/carers

Firstly, may I thank you for returning the form of intent for your child's enrolment onto the Sacramental Program this academic year for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. We fully celebrate that you, as parents, are the first educators of your children and we would like the opportunity to be able to support you as you support your children's journey in faith. This year, in preparation for your child's Sacramental journey, we are delighted to be able to offer a short parent course that consistent of 4 sessions, completed over the course of 4 weeks.

This course offers an opportunity for you to revisit/strengthen your faith, it gives pastoral support and catechesis to the parents whose children are preparing for the sacraments. This is a great opportunity for parents to feel supported by the Church and to get to know each other as a friendship group. As we grow in faith together we can help our children to grow in faith too. We would strongly encourage attendance at the sessions for any parents who wish their children to receive the sacraments this academic year.

The content of the short course is outlined as below

- (1) THE POWER OF PRAYER. What is prayer? Does prayer make a difference? How to pray.
- (2) THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE CHURCH. How the Holy Spirit can change your life. No one gets into heaven alone. Why we need signs, symbols and sacraments.
- (3) FORGIVENESS, HEALING AND MISSION. Forgiveness and the Sacrament of Confession. Healing and the Sacrament of the Sick. Christian mission and the call to share our faith.
- (4) THE HOLY EUCHARIST. The meaning of the Mass. The Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass.

The sessions will take place on a Tuesday evening from 5pm -6pm and will be very informal and much focused on discussions in small groups, a cuppa and a biscuit!

**Session dates:**

Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November, Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November, Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November, Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November.

We very much look forward to sharing in these sessions with you. Please can you indicate your attendance on the reply slip and return to the school office by Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> October.

God Bless

Mrs. J A Scattergood

RE Lead

---

**Re: Parental pastoral support and catechesis for the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation**

I will be attending the Parental pastoral and catechesis sessions, beginning on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November 5-6pm:

Yes  No

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_