



# HOLY FAMILY

7321 BURKITTSVILLE ROAD † MIDDLETOWN MARYLAND 21769

January 4, 2017

Dear Parents,

Congratulations on your child's upcoming First Eucharist Celebration! This can be one of the most memorable times in a child's life. I pray that it is truly a joyous experience for your child, and that your family experiences a renewed closeness in receiving Holy Communion together.

Our preparation for First Eucharist is very similar to our preparation for Reconciliation. Parents and children prepare mostly at home using a workbook. The completed workbooks are due by May 3<sup>rd</sup>. More importantly, your family's weekly participation in Mass is vital to your child's preparation. It is here that Jesus reveals himself to us and we express our gratitude and love for him and his Church; your child's preparation comes alive as they better understand receiving Jesus in this very special way.

In light of the important task ahead of you, the parish will provide two mandatory Parent-Child workshops. The first workshop will take place **Saturday, January 28 from 9:30am-Noon** and the second workshop will take place **Wednesday, May 3 from 6:00-7:00pm** (please see back of letter for the full schedule and how to schedule your child's first communion).

We want you to know we have read your evaluations of our First Reconciliation program and in light of this, we have added an additional session for our First Eucharist preparation. This session is for parents only and will take place **during Faith Formation classes on Monday, March 13 and Tuesday, March 14**. The purpose of this session will be to provide you with further guidance in preparing your children and answer any questions you have about the materials and what you have worked on thus far during the preparation process. While this session is not mandatory, we strongly encourage your attendance.

Your presence at each workshop and session is essential to your child's Sacramental preparation. Please contact me in the Faith Formation office prior to any meeting that you must unavoidably miss. Thank you for bringing your child to the fullness of the Eucharist by helping him/her to prepare for the reception of first Holy Communion. Christian parenting is a holy vocation, a sacred responsibility of continuing to guide your family to know, love, and serve Jesus. Know of my prayers for you and your children.

In Christ,

Caroline Rohr  
Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry