



The Catholic Parish of Frenchs Forest

St Anthony in the Fields, St Martin de Porres and Our Lady of Good Counsel

Parish Office: 9 Currie Road, Forestville
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Monday 21st March 11

Dear Parents,

The Parish now invites you to enrol your child for the Sacrament of Eucharist i.e. First Holy Communion. This Sacrament completes the process by which your child now becomes a full member of our Eucharistic Community, receiving the Body and Blood of Christ in Holy Communion.

Your child follows the example of your family. They should now have a basic understanding of why we as Catholics participate in weekly Sunday Mass. We gather together with the Parish Community young and old. We hear and reflect upon God speaking to us in the Bible. We actively participate in the Eucharist as Jesus commanded us, "Do this in memory of me".

In word, song and action we give praise, worship and thanksgiving to God our loving Father for all that God has done for us. In prayer and petition we place before God all our human needs. Placing our trust in God and the church is not always easy. Our Parish family is here to welcome, support and encourage you and to respond to any questions and difficulties.

Our Parish schools and our Catechists amongst our many State schools are also here to support and nurture your children and family through this sacramental journey.

This programme requires participation at four weekly meetings of both your child and at least one parent in a small group led by a group leader, this being a volunteer parent. Each session lasts for 1 hour. This is a special time for you and your child. We ask you to consider siblings not accompanying you and your child to these meetings where possible as they can be distracting for the children and the parents in the programme. Unfortunately we are not able to offer child care arrangements.

<p>Thursday 5th May – 7.30 for 7.45pm start</p>	<p>PARENTS' MEETING – at least one parent must attend</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With Fr. Michael and the Parish Sacramental Co-ordinators in the Forestville Parish Hall, 9 Currie Road, Forestville. Park in the street or the school grounds • To review and discuss our understanding of the Sacrament of Eucharist • To complete your child's enrolment for the programme • To provide a family photograph [if this has not already been done] with their name and phone number on the reverse side, to pin on cardboard for display in church • To pay \$30.00 for work sheets and certificate (payable per sacrament) • Choose a Mass time for your child to receive the Sacrament of First Eucharist • Check your session time for the 4 weekly sessions to prepare for the sacrament
<p>Sunday 8th May Either: 8.30am or 6.00pm Mass at St. Martin de Porres, Davidson or 6pm Vigil or 10.00am Mass at Our Lady of Good Counsel, Forestville or 6pm Vigil or 9am Mass at St Anthony in the Fields, Terry Hills</p>	<p>PRESENTATION MASS: At the beginning of Mass, your child is presented with you to the Parish Community when you will express your commitment to the programme, and the Parish community will promise to pray for you during this time. Every child in the First Eucharist Programme must attend one of these Masses.</p>
<p>Week beginning Monday 9th May for 4 weeks</p>	<p>Commencement of weekly small group sessions with your child and at least one parent.</p>
<p>Saturday 4th June until Sunday 26th June</p>	<p>Sacrament of First Eucharist at any one of the four normal Sunday Masses. Chosen by parents at Information night 8.30am or 6pm at Davidson or 6pm Vigil or 10am at Forestville or 6pm Vigil or 9 am Terry Hills</p>

If you have any questions prior to the Parents' Meeting, please contact the Sacramental Co-ordinators, for Forestville, Estelle Markandu 99752046 or for Davidson and Terrey Hills, Bronwyn Ballesty 0431787750.

Yours sincerely in Jesus Christ,

Fr. Michael O'Toole,
 Parish Priest.