

Our Lady of the Southern Cross Sacramental Program 2025



The Eucharist is essential for us: it is Christ who wishes to enter our lives and fill us with his grace - Pope Francis

Thursday 21st February, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Sacrament of First Eucharist, or First Holy Communion, is an important part of the OLSC Sacramental Program. As we begin to prepare for this celebration, we would like to share some information with you. To receive the Sacrament of Eucharist, children must be baptised Catholic or have been welcomed into the Catholic Church and received the Sacrament of First Reconciliation.

Children will prepare for the sacrament as part of their Religious Education studies. An important part of this preparation is the participation in a Family Sacramental Evening. This will take place **Tuesday 6th May** at **OLSC**, from **6.30-7.30pm**. We also request that children receiving the Sacrament of First Eucharist attend the Community Mass prior to the sacrament - **16th March** at **10am** at the OLSC Sports Centre. Attendance at these events is compulsory for those receiving the sacrament, as they are designed to deepen the faith and understanding of all within the family to allow the sacrament to be celebrated with reverence and understanding.

There will be two celebrations of the Sacrament of First Eucharist this year: **Sunday 18th May** and **Sunday 15th June**. Both will take place at **10am**, in the **OLSC Sports Centre**. These celebrations will be part of the Community Mass. **Everyone is invited to attend these celebrations, in support of those receiving the Sacrament.**

As part of their preparation for the Sacrament, your child/ren will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation at school prior to Eucharist, on **Tuesday 6th May**.

On the other side of this note, there is some extra information to read over this also. If you have indicated your child will receive the sacrament this year, please complete, cut off and return the bottom of this note as soon as possible.

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Student's Full Name:______ Learning Group:_____

Please circle your preferred date for First Eucharist:

Sunday 18th May

Sunday 15th June

I would like to take this opportunity to also answer some questions you may have. Children should wear 'Sunday best' clothing to their First Eucharist. This may include nice trousers, a shirt and jumper or jacket for boys and nice trousers or skirt, top or a shirt and a jumper or jacket for girls. Girls may also choose to wear a nice dress or a traditional white 'First Communion dress'. Please avoid denim and runners if possible.

Please arrive 15 minutes before Mass so that children can gather for the entrance procession with Father. Each child will be allocated a row. The children will sit at the end of the row. Each child's family may join them in the same row.

Also, to assist you in preparing your child/ren to receive the sacrament, I invite you to practise the various Mass responses which you can view in <u>this slideshow</u>. (Link: <u>www.shorturl.at/fjsvQ</u>)

Aaron G	Aubriana M	Alice F	Amy C	Anthony F
Chantelle L	Clarisse M	Dezzy U	Elvin L	Emmanuel C
Erin M	Isaac G	Jeicob D	Katie C	Kgosi M
Khloe S	Lauren P	Lucas U	Nina D	Romeo L
Seth B	Sophia M	Toby R	Quinn L	

The following children have indicated they will be receiving the Sacrament this year:

If you believe your child should be celebrating the Sacrament of First Eucharist and their name is not on the list above, please contact me.

As a school we look forward to spending some time with you and your child to reflect and prepare for their celebration of the Sacrament of First Eucharist. If you have any questions, please see me at school or email me at: jdini@olscwyn.catholic.edu.au

Kind Regards,

John Dini (Catholic Identity Leader)