



DEVONPORT CATHOLIC PARISH

*St Francis de Sales & All Souls*



## Sacramental Programme — 2026

**Confirmation and First Holy Communion** are known as the **Sacraments of Initiation** because they complete the process which began when the child was baptised into the faith at an earlier age.

Confirmation is the reception of the spiritual gifts and graces promised by the risen Christ, and this is what 'confirms' the child as a member of the Church. The process is completed in the Eucharist, which is the source and summit of our faith, where the person is received into full communion with the Body of Christ.

The Church asks that all children receive the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** before completing the Sacraments of Initiation.

The **minimum age / level** for enrolment in the programme is **Year 4** and above.

### Schedule:

#### First Reconciliation Sessions

Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> March, 3.30-5.00pm: Reconciliation Session One

Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> March, 3.30-5.00pm: Reconciliation Session Two

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> or 29<sup>th</sup> March: 7.00pm: First Reconciliation** (with the parish, date to be confirmed)

#### Confirmation & First Communion Sessions

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 3.30-5.00pm: Confirmation Session One

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May, 3.30-5.00pm: Confirmation Session Two

Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May, 3.30-5.00pm: First Communion Session One

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> May, 3.30-5.00pm: First Communion Session Two

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> June, 9.30am: Sunday Mass + Practise for ceremony after Mass

**Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> June, 9.30am: Confirmation & First Communion**

(with Bishop Stephen Lowe)

Date & Time to be arranged: Follow-up Session

-- See Notes next page --

**Please Note:**

- 1 (a) **Baptism:** A prerequisite for enrolment in the parish Sacramental Programme is that the candidate has been, or is preparing to be, baptised in the Catholic Church. A valid Christian baptism received in a non-Catholic rite (eg Anglican, Presbyterian, etc) can be acceptable provided it is understood that reception of these Sacraments involves being received into the Roman Catholic Church. A preliminary discussion with the parish priest is necessary in this instance.
  - (b) **Parents** are the first and primary teachers of the faith to their children. The programme of instruction provided by the parish is there to supplement and support the learning that occurs in the home and which is an on-going process throughout life, but particularly during the formative years of a child. **It is highly recommended that attendance at Sunday Mass become a feature of family life (especially while enrolled with the sacramental programme) as a way to become familiar with the practices of the Catholic faith, the meanings associated with them, and as an exercise of belonging to the community of the faithful.**
  - (c) **Attendance:** It is a requirement of the programme that candidates attend all catechesis sessions and that at least one parent attend with them. A roll will be kept of attendance.
2. **Cost:** There is a fee to cover the cost of books and other materials used:
    - \$15 for the First Reconciliation Programme, and \$25 for the Confirmation & First Communion Programme.The fee is payable at the time of enrolment.
3. **Closing Date** for enrolments is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2026

Further enquiries to Stephen Bell 021 060 8561



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**2025 SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PROGRAMME**

**Enrolment Form** (minimum age / level : Year 4)

**Candidate's Full Name:**..... **Date of Birth:**.....

**School Attending:**..... **Year level:** .....

**Catholic Parish where child was Baptised:**.....

**Note 1:** For enrolment in the sacramental programme it is necessary to verify the candidate's Baptism in the Catholic Church. If the child was baptised somewhere other than Devonport please supply a copy of their Baptismal Certificate; if you do not possess one you will need to apply to the parish of baptism for a copy of their record. These are usually supplied free of charge.  
If your child has not been baptised in the Catholic Church but you wish to enrol, please speak with the Parish Priest about this as soon as possible (or ph Stephen Bell to discuss 0210608561)

**Sacraments enrolling for:** ✓

FIRST RECONCILIATION

CONFIRMATION

FIRST EUCHARIST

**Parent/Guardian Details:**

**Surname:**.....

**Mother's Name:**.....

**Father's Name:**.....

**Address:**.....

.....

**Email:** .....

**Phone:** .....

Fee payable: \$15 First Reconciliation + \$25 Confirmation - First Communion

Payment included: \$ ..... ( Cash or direct credit )

( Direct Credit: 02 0108 0706881 000 Ref: SacProg )

**Please leave the completed enrolment form, with a copy of Baptism certificate attached (if not baptised in Devonport), either at the St Leo's School Office, or to the parish office: 2A Albert Rd, or email to [office@devonportcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@devonportcatholic.org.nz) no later than Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026**