

## St. Catherine of Siena Parish

# 1st Reconciliation & 1st Communion Sacramental Preparation 2023-2024 Calendar

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**St. Catherine School/Homeschool Families:** For the 2023-2024 Academic Year, classes will take place within the 2nd Grade religion class during regular school hours (or at home, for homeschool families).

**Public School Families:** For the 2023-2024 Academic Year, student classes will take place at the same time as *Loreto: Forming Families in the Faith* program (see dates on back/attached). (Visit: [www.stcatherineofsiena.org/family-catechesis](http://www.stcatherineofsiena.org/family-catechesis) to learn more)

**ALL Sacramental Families/Parents:** Regardless of which school your child attends (including homeschool families), all families are required to attend the events listed below. For PARENT-ONLY meetings, at least ONE parent is required to attend these meetings (in case of a legitimate need, another suitable proxy may attend in their place, i.e. grandparent). For families with children in both 2nd and 8th grade & in need of special arrangements, please contact [jdkimes@stcatherineofsiena.org](mailto:jdkimes@stcatherineofsiena.org).

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**2nd Grade Sacramental Prep  
Family Meeting (Parent & Child)**  
Thursday, Sept 14 at 6:30 PM  
St. Catherine, Gymnasium

**1st Communion Retreat/"Jesus Day"**  
Sunday, Apr 14 @ 1pm-4:30pm  
St. Catherine, McCrystal Hall  
(Will Use Entire Campus)

**1st Rec. (Parent-Only) Meeting**  
Thursday, Nov 16 at 6:30 PM  
St. Catherine, McCrystal Hall

**1st Communion Mass**  
Sunday, May 5 at 2 PM  
St. Catherine Church

**1st Reconciliation Retreat  
(Family Welcome)**  
Sunday, Feb 25 at 1 PM - 2:30 PM  
St. Catherine Church

**Our Lady's Farm**  
Tuesday, May 7 (ALL DAY)  
Falmouth, KY  
*(Family and friends are welcome!  
Students enrolled in public school can  
receive an excused absence for the day  
as well as transportation assistance,  
should they wish to attend.)*

**1st Reconciliation Service**  
Thursday, Feb 29 at 6:30 PM  
St. Catherine Church  
*(Social to follow in McCrystal Hall!)*

**1st Comm. (Parent-Only) Meeting**  
Thursday, Mar 14 at 6:30 PM  
St. Catherine, McCrystal Hall

**May Crowning & Procession**  
Wednesday, May 8 at 5:30 PM (Mass)  
St. Catherine Church

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**Class Dates for Public School Families:**

***2nd Grade Sacramental Preparation***

*NOTE: Classes will take place in the St. Catherine School Bldg. Student dropoff/pickup will be at the parish center (To enter bldg, please use doors leading to the lobby by the gym).*

## 2023

- Sept. 6 at 6:30 - 8 PM (*Loreto*)
- Oct. 4 at 6:30 - 8 PM (*Loreto*)
- Nov. 8 at 6:30 - 8 PM (*Loreto*)\*
- Dec. 6 at 6:30 - 8 PM (*Loreto*)

## 2024

- Jan. 10 at 6:30 - 8 PM (*Loreto*)\*
- Feb. 7 at 6:30 - 8 PM (*Loreto*)
- Mar. 6 at 6:30 - 8 PM (*Loreto*)
- Apr. 10 at 6:30 - 8 PM (*Loreto*)

**PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING:**

\*Our regular Sacramental Preparation classes will take place simultaneously as *Loreto: Forming Families in the Faith*.

\* Classes will typically take place on the First Wednesday of the Month from 6:30pm - 8pm, with the following exceptions (as illustrated above):

- Nov. 1 is All Saints Day, so class will be rescheduled for Nov. 8
- Jan. 3 is Christmas Break, so class will be rescheduled for Jan. 10
- Apri. 3 is Spring Break, so class with be rescheduled for Apr 10

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**FORMATION AT HOME / PACING SCHEDULE (CHILD):**

*At a child's baptism, according to the Rite of Baptism in the Catholic Church, the parents of the child are asked the following question: "You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him (her) in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him (her) up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?" In order for the child to be baptized, the parents (or at least the Catholic party, if only one parent of the child is Catholic) must accept this responsibility.*

*In order to faithfully fulfill this commitment, it is vitally important that parents be intimately involved in the Sacramental Preparation of their child(ren). To that end, the following schedule lays out a SUGGESTED pacing schedule for 2nd Grade families that choose to watch BLESSED as a part of the parish's First Reconciliation/First Communion Sacramental Preparation:*

**HOMEPAGE**

**"BLESSED" on Dynamic + (FREE ACCESS):**

<https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/plus/blessed-seasons.html>

**VIDEOS** (Total Amount of Hours: 5 hours)

First Reconciliation: Seasons 1-6 are dedicated to preparation for the Sacrament of First Reconciliation.

First Communion: Seasons 7-12 are dedicated to preparation for the Sacrament of First Communion.

*(NOTE: The link below visually separates the videos into two categories: First Communion and First Reconciliation. Each category has 6 sessions. However, when you click on the video thumbnail, it takes you to "Dynamic +", to the video library for the program:*  
<https://www.dynamiccatholic.com/blessed/blessed-program-view.html>*)*

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**ONLINE VERSION OF WORKBOOKS & LEADER'S GUIDES:**

First Reconciliation Workbook:

[https://files.dynamiccatholic.com/home/blessed/first-reconciliation/Blessed\\_FirstReconciliation\\_Workbook.pdf](https://files.dynamiccatholic.com/home/blessed/first-reconciliation/Blessed_FirstReconciliation_Workbook.pdf)

First Communion Workbook:

[https://files.dynamiccatholic.com/home/blessed/first-communion/downloads/Blessed\\_FirstCommunion\\_Workbook.pdf](https://files.dynamiccatholic.com/home/blessed/first-communion/downloads/Blessed_FirstCommunion_Workbook.pdf)

First Reconciliation Leader's Guide:

[https://files.dynamiccatholic.com/home/blessed/first-reconciliation/Blessed\\_FirstReconciliation\\_LeaderGuide.pdf](https://files.dynamiccatholic.com/home/blessed/first-reconciliation/Blessed_FirstReconciliation_LeaderGuide.pdf)

First Communion Leader's Guide:

[https://files.dynamiccatholic.com/home/blessed/first-communion/downloads/Blessed\\_FirstCommunion\\_LeaderGuide.pdf](https://files.dynamiccatholic.com/home/blessed/first-communion/downloads/Blessed_FirstCommunion_LeaderGuide.pdf)

**PACING SCHEDULE:**

**2023**

**SEPTEMBER**

Begin with: *Season 1 Episode 1*

(And watch all the way to *Season 2 Episode 2*)

**OCTOBER**

Begin with: *Season 2 Episode 3*

(And watch all the way to *Season 3 Episode 4*)

**NOVEMBER**

Begin with: *Season 3 Episode 5*

(And watch all the way to *Season 4 Episode 6*)

**DECEMBER**

Begin with: *Season 4 Episode 7*

(And watch all the way to *Season 6 Episode 1*)

**2024**

**JANUARY**

Begin with: *Season 6 Episode 2*

(And watch all the way to *Season 7 Episode 4*)

**FEBRUARY**

Begin with: *Season 7 Episode 5*

(And watch all the way to *Season 8 Episode 6*)

**MARCH**

Begin with: *Season 8 Episode 7*

(And watch all the way to *Season 10 Episode 1*)

**APRIL**

Begin with: *Season 10 Episode 2*

(And watch all the way to *Season 11 Episode 3*)

**MAY**

Begin with: *Season 11 Episode 4*

(And watch all the way to *Season 12 Episode 7*)

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**FORMATION AT HOME / PACING SCHEDULE (PARENT):**

*At a child's baptism, according to the Rite of Baptism in the Catholic Church, the parents of the child are asked the following question: "You have asked to have your child baptized. In doing so you are accepting the responsibility of training him (her) in the practice of the faith. It will be your duty to bring him (her) up to keep God's commandments as Christ taught us, by loving God and our neighbor. Do you clearly understand what you are undertaking?" In order for the child to be baptized, the parents (or at least the Catholic party, if only one parent of the child is Catholic) must accept this responsibility.*

*In order to faithfully fulfill this commitment, it is vitally important that parents be intimately involved in the Sacramental Preparation of their child(ren). To that end, we are working to equip parents with the skills and knowledge necessary so that they can assist forming their children in the faith! This year, we will be utilizing an online platform called, FORMED, and encourage parents to access the following information/videos to assist their students with Sacramental Preparation (but feel free to take a look around at other things too!). The two programs that we will be using for parental engagement are: FORGIVEN and PRESENCE. There is a total amount of approx 5 hrs worth of video content. Below are instructions for accessing the appropriate videos as well as "due dates":*

**INSTRUCTIONS**

**STEP 1:** Create an account on FORMED.org (You have access to a FREE account through St. Catherine of Siena!) Just visit <https://formed.org/signup> to get started.

**STEP 2:** Once you've created your account, sign in to FORMED at [www.formed.org](http://www.formed.org)

**STEP 3:** After signing in, locate the search bar to search for "Forgiven" and/or "Presence" (by Augustine Institute).

**STEP 4:** Complete the viewing "Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession" before attending the 1st Reconciliation parent meeting while using the accompanying study guide (**DUE: Nov. 16**):

FORGIVEN, Session 1: "Where are You?" (31:26)

FORGIVEN, Session 2: "An Encounter with Mercy" (26:54)

FORGIVEN, Session 3: "Embraced in Mercy: The Rite Explained" (33:50)

FORGIVE, Bonus Video: "Answering Common Questions about Confession" (38:07)

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**STEP 5:** Redo Steps 1-3 in order to complete the viewing of “Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist” prior to the 1st Communion Parent Meeting while using the accompanying study guide (**DUE MARCH 14**):

*PRESENCE, Episode 1: “God is with Us” (35:07)*

*PRESENCE, Episode 2: “The Story of the Eucharist” (40:43)*

*PRESENCE, Episode 3: “Bread for the Journey” (34:15)*

*PRESENCE, For Parents: “Preparing Your Child for First Holy Communion” (36:42)*

**OTHER RECOMMENDED RESOURCES FOR PARENTAL FORMATION:**

- <https://catalystcatholic.org/confession-resources>
- [\*Jesus and the Jewish Roots of the Eucharist: Unlocking the Secrets of the Last Supper\* \(By: Brant Pitre\)](#)
- [\*Seven Secrets of the Eucharist\* \(By: Vinny Flynn\)](#)