

Baptism

The Sacrament of Baptism is the beginning of our Christian faith journey, where we become a 'child of God', and friend and follower of Jesus Christ. We have a share in his life and we join his family, the Church.

The Parish of St Ambrose offers a program for parents/carers of babies and young children prior to their Baptism. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Parish 9743 1023 or sacraments@stambrose.org.au.

RCIA

The RCIA program (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is a process offered to non-Christians who seek to know more about the Catholic Church's beliefs and teachings. The process starts with a discussion with Fr Chaminda and continues with learning more about the Catholic faith and then candidates, if they wish, can become Catholics.

Further information can be obtained by contacting the Parish on 9743 1023 or admin@stambrose.org.au.

Parish Based Family Centred Programs

In the Parish of St Ambrose, the sacraments of First Reconciliation, First Holy Communion and Confirmation are **organised by the parish**.

But in reality, the **responsibility for a child's spiritual growth** rests with the parents or carers, who the Church see as the primary teachers of the faith. This is why our programs are family-centred. Family involvement is crucial in all aspects of each program. Parent/carer and child discussion is a key component. These are also opportunities for parents/carers to be open to growth in their own faith.

The sacramental programs are supported by our local Catholic primary school, as well as the catechists who attend the public schools in the parish. All our parish children complete the same program.

If any candidate is of an age where they would like to celebrate a Sacrament this year, but are not baptised, please contact the Sacramental Co-ordinator as soon as possible.



The Catholic Parish of
St Ambrose
Concord West

Megan Harris
Sacramental Coordinator
2 Burke St, Concord West 2138

Phone: 97431023
Email: sacraments@stambrose.org.au
(Thursday and Friday)

The Celebration of Sacraments 2021



Baptism
Reconciliation
Holy Communion
Confirmation

St Ambrose Catholic Church

First Reconciliation

The Sacrament of Reconciliation (also known as Penance or Confession) celebrates God's forgiveness and is a pre-requisite to the celebration of First Holy Communion.

To participate in this program, a child must be Catholic (either Baptised Catholic or received into the Catholic Church from another denomination). It is offered to children from **Year 2** onwards. The program also caters for older children, so if children have missed out in previous years, they are still very welcome to register.

This program begins in Term 2 of the school year. It begins with an information evening for parents and then continues with four x 1 hour parish-based sessions with both child and a parent/carer. These sessions are held in the St Ambrose Church.



Key dates for First Reconciliation 2021

(Subject to change due to COVID)

Parent Information Night: Thurs 10 June @ 7pm

Sessions : 3.30pm, 5.30pm or 7pm on Thurs 17 June, 24 June, 15 July & 22 July **OR** 3.30pm on Fri 18 June, 25 June, 16 July & 23 July

Ceremonies: Saturday 31 July, 7 Aug, or 14 Aug @ 2pm

First Holy Communion

The Sacrament of First Holy Communion welcomes children to the Table of the Lord for the first time. It is offered to children from **Year 3 onwards** who have celebrated their First Reconciliation.

This program begins in Term 4 of the school year, and includes a Parent Information Night and four x 1 hour sessions for both child and a parent. These sessions are held in the St Ambrose Church.

There may be a reflection day focussing on the important aspects of their Holy Communion journey. The children are expected to attend. This will be confirmed at the Parent Information Night.

There will be a practice afternoon on the Fridays prior to the First Holy Communion masses.

Key dates for

First Holy Communion 2021

(Subject to change due to COVID)

Parent Information Night: Thurs 16 Sept @ 7pm

Sessions : 3.30pm, 5.30pm or 7pm on Thurs 7 Oct, 14 Oct, 21 Oct & 28 Oct **OR** 3.30pm on Fri 8 Oct, 15 Oct, 22 Oct & 29 Oct.

Reflection Day: TBC

Masses: Sun 7 Nov, 14 Nov or 21 Nov @ 11am

If a candidate is of an age where they would like to celebrate a Sacrament this year, but are not baptised, please contact the Sacramental Co-ordinator.



Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation strengthens the gifts of the Holy Spirit received in Baptism. It completes the process of initiation into the Church.

The program will run in Term 2 of the school year and is offered to all young people in **Year 6 or above** who have made their First Holy Communion.

The program begins with a Parent Night and continues with four x 1 hour sessions for all participants and at least one parent held in the St Ambrose Church.

We may have a reflection day focussing on the important aspects of the upcoming Confirmation. All children are expected to attend. This will be confirmed at the Parent Information Night.

There will be a practice afternoon prior to the Confirmation ceremonies.



Key dates for Confirmation 2021

(Subject to change due to COVID)

Parent Information Night: Thurs 25 March @ 6.30pm

Sessions: 3.30pm, 5.30pm or 7pm on Thurs 22 April, 29 April, 6 May & 13 May **OR** 4pm on Fri 23 April, 30 April, 7 May & 14 May

Reflection Day: TBC

Ceremonies: Fri 21st May @ 7pm or Sat 22nd May @ 11am or 2pm.