

Sacraments



The word 'Sacrament' derives from a Latin word meaning 'Oath' or 'Pledge'. There are seven sacraments in the Church: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony.

For most Christians, faith is rooted in a family experience. Most learn about Jesus not in a classroom, but in the words and deeds of parents and other believing adults. From them, children learn that God exists, what it means to be a Christian and what God has done through the long history of our human family. The first and most important teacher of the word of God is not the parish priest, the bishop or the pope, but parents who believe.

Faith is a family affair, not in its ultimate acceptance, which is essentially personal, but in its beginnings. It is this family centeredness of faith that the Church celebrates in each child's baptism, first communion and confirmation - the sacraments of initiation.

Children are introduced to Jesus not only by their parents, but also by observing kindly people who love them. They learn prayer by watching people praying at Church as well as at home. They learn what it means to serve others by listening to the stories of those who have spent their lives serving other people in simple - and sometimes heroic - ways. They learn the traditions of the Church and the wonders expressed in the Bible both from their parents and from those in the Church who teach them.

We want our children to begin to recognise God's presence in the actions of daily living and in the people who share that living. For it is through the ordinary actions of family life that we live the Eucharist. It also is through the simple actions of everyday living that we choose to grow. Through these growth experiences we build self esteem, recognise the gifts of offer moments of thankfulness, stand in awe of creation, reveal a basic stance that life is a gift to be celebrated.

Through family living we develop with our children the skills of resolving conflicts, of forgiving, of healing, of

Times of services

Christ the King		
Sunday	9.00 am	Mass
	12 noon	Mass
	4.30 pm	Evening Prayer: First Sunday of the Month
Monday	9.15 am	Mass
Tuesday	9.15 am	Mass
Wednesday	12 noon	Mass
Thursday	12 noon	Mass
Friday	9.15 am	Mass
	9.45 -10.15 am & 6.30 pm	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	7.00 pm	Mass
Saturday	10.00 am	Mass
	10.30 -11.30am	Holy Hour & Confessions
	6.00 pm	Mass for Sunday
	7.00 pm	Confessions
St. Augustine's		
Sunday	10.30 am	Mass
Wednesday	9.00 am	Mass
Saturday	11.00-11.30 am	Confessions: First Saturday of the Month

Contact details

Christ the King	
Parish Priest	Canon Tom Farrell, Parish Priest
email	father-tom@ctk-cov.org.uk
Address	14 Westhill Road, Coventry, CV6 2AA
Telephone	024 76591618
Website	www.ctk-cov.org.uk
St. Augustine's	
Address	Heathcote Street, Coventry, CV6 3BL

The Catholic Churches of

Christ the King & Our Lady of Lourdes
with **St. Augustine's**

Reconciliation,
First Communion &
Confirmation



This leaflet explains the above Sacraments and how to prepare.

Reconciliation

What is Reconciliation?



Reconciliation is also known as Confession and Penance. It is the act of admitting guilt and confessing sins. Jesus gave a level of authority to Priests to forgive sins and we confess our sins to these Priests.

Why should I confess?

Confession has many benefits. It allows us to express our sins and remorse and receive a relevant punishment for them by way of prayer.

How old should I be?

There is no age limit! Children are taught about confession in the preparation for First Communion, but it is more stressed during preparation for Confirmation.

How often should I go to confession?

Any grave sin that is in the Ten Commandments should be confessed at least once a year. It is useful to regularly confess lesser sins. Therefore it is recommended that we go to confession once a month.

What preparation needs to be done?

There isn't any preparation as such, although in order for each confession to be valid, the penitent must be truly sorry for the sins they have committed. They must also firmly intend to never commit them again, and to perform the penance set by the Priest.

Next steps

Please contact Fr Tom with your contact details, age and the sacrament you are interested in.

First Communion

What is Holy Communion?



Holy Communion, which is also known as the Eucharist, is the Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ. At the Last Supper which was the first Mass Jesus changed the bread and wine into his Body and Blood and commanded his disciples to 'do this in memory of me.'

What is the sacrament of First Holy Communion?

The sacrament is just the celebration held by the church and the candidate's family of their first reception of the Eucharist.

What do I need to know prior to the service?

As with all sacraments, it is recommended that you talk to your Priest about specifics relating to the service.

What are the benefits of Holy Communion?

- *It is a chance to become one with God.*
- *It gives us the promise of eternal life.*
- *As food develops the body, and keeps it healthy, so too the spiritual food, which is the Holy Body and Blood of Christ strengthens the soul so that it may continually grow in peace.*

The Sunday Eucharist

The Sunday celebration of the Lord's Day and his Eucharist is at the heart of the Church's life. "Sunday is the day on which the paschal mystery is celebrated in light of the apostolic tradition and is to be observed as the foremost holy day of obligation in the universal Church."

We have classes every year for children who wish to make their First Holy Communion. The start date is announced at Sunday Mass about one month before the classes begin.

Confirmation

What is Confirmation?



Confirmation is a chance to make the decision of reaffirming Catholicism as your faith. This is to say that you are old enough to make the choice to follow Catholicism. It is similar to the choices your parents made for you at baptism, but this time the choices are yours. It is the last stage of your admission into the church.

What are the benefits of Confirmation?

There are many benefits of Confirmation. It is a chance for you to prove to the Church the strength of your faith. It is a chance to understand your beliefs in the Church and in Catholicism as a religion.

How old should I be?

In some churches, particularly in the North of England, Confirmation precedes First Communion, although in the majority of churches, candidates are usually around 10 or 11 years of age. Your Priest will be able to give you further details.

What preparation needs to be done?

There will be a course of classes held by members of the Parish to help you through the questions which arise during this process. They are normally run on a weekly basis although it is up to the Parish to decide on a time and place to hold these meetings. Speak to your Parish Priest for further details about the next course.

Why does the Bishop perform the ceremony?

The Parish Priest, although he has a lot of authority in the daily running of the Parish, doesn't have the necessary authority and power to accept the candidates fully into the church. On certain occasions, if the Bishop is unable to attend the ceremony, then he will grant the Parish Priest special authority to perform the ceremony.

This is celebrated in our Parish every year and is available to anybody who is in Year 7 or above (10 years old).