



St. Joseph Church | 5050 St. Joseph's Road | Coopersburg, PA 18036 | 610.965.2877 | [www.stjoescoopersburg.org](http://www.stjoescoopersburg.org)

## First Eucharist 2024

*\*The information enclosed applies to both St. Joseph PREP students and St. Mike's students.\**

**Please note: All dates & event details are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.** All attendees and/or volunteers must comply with all health and safety protocols put forth by the Parish. Thank you for your cooperation! **Contact Mrs. Janessa O'Donnell with any questions or concerns – [janessa.odonnell@stjoescoopersburg.org](mailto:janessa.odonnell@stjoescoopersburg.org).**

- **PARENTS/GUARDIANS** – Please email Janessa O'Donnell at [janessa.odonnell@stjoescoopersburg.org](mailto:janessa.odonnell@stjoescoopersburg.org) to be added to our email communication list. Email will be the main form of communication to all First Eucharist students, both St. Mike's & PREP.
- We will collect the following **information for our Parish Records**. You will be notified of the information we have on-hand, and have the opportunity to make adjustments as needed.
  - Child's Full Name
  - Date of Birth & Location (town/city/state/country)
  - Father's First & Last Names
  - Mother's First Name & Maiden Name
  - Date & Location of Baptism (parish name, town/city/state/country)
- **First Eucharist Parent/Guardian Information Meeting & Reflection - *Date to be determined for January/February 2024; meeting typically takes place on a weeknight.***
  - We ask that at least one parent/guardian attend the meeting (even if you have had a child receive the Sacrament previously).
  - This meeting is for adults only, not your student.
  - In addition to information specific to our parish, we will also engage in prayerful discussion & reflection.
- **First Eucharist Retreat & Rehearsal - Saturday, April 27, 2024, from 9:00AM-12PM.**
  - Drop off - Parish Center; Pick up - Church. The retreat will be held in the Parish Center. Rehearsal will be held in the church.
  - **Attendance is required.**
  - Parent Volunteers will be needed - Mrs. O'Donnell will provide more information closer to the date.
- **Reception of the Sacrament of First Holy Eucharist - Saturday, May 4, 2024 at 10:00AM in the church.**
  - Students should arrive fully dressed no later than 9:45AM. Girls will gather in the Children's Room, and the boys will gather in the Toy Room/Parish Library.
  - Families of the First Communicants are asked to remain quiet in the church while waiting in reverence for the service to begin.
  - A professional photographer will be present to take your child's photo as they receive the sacrament. A group photo of the students with Fr. Buckley will be taken immediately following the Mass.
- **Presentation of the First Communicants & May Crowning - Sunday, May 5, at the 9:00AM Mass.**
  - The First Communicants are invited to wear their special outfits to this Mass and be recognized by our Parish Family. They will participate in a May Crowning for Mary.
  - Students may wish to bring to this Mass any gifts, relics and/or Bibles they want to have blessed by Fr. Buckley. When Mass has ended, students should line up at the front of the altar with their items, and Fr. Buckley will bless the items.

- **St. Joe's First Eucharist Dress Code**

- Girls' Attire**

- White Dress - Church-appropriate length, cut, and style
    - Dress Shoes (No flip-flops or sandals) - If shoes have a heel, please make sure your daughter is able to walk comfortably in them.
    - Veils are not required.

- Boys' Attire**

- Button-down dress shirt (white is preferred, light/pastel colors acceptable)
    - Church-appropriate tie or bow-tie
    - Long, dress pants (white, black, navy, tan/khaki are all acceptable)
    - Dress shoes (No flip flops or sandals)
    - Suit coat is optional.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Gloves are not permitted. We ask that the children do not carry anything (rosaries, purses, prayer books, etc.).