



FIRST COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2024

SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Preparation Activity	Who Attends
Saturday 13 January	3:30pm to 5pm	Family Session 1	Parent & Child
Sunday 14 January	9am	Children's Mass	Parent & Child
Sunday 21 January	During 9am Mass	Session 1	Parent & Child
Sunday 28 January	During 9am Mass	Session 2	Parent & Child
Sunday 4 February	During 9am Mass	Session 3	Parent & Child
HALF TERM BREAK			
Saturday 24 February	3:30pm to 5pm	Family Session 2	Parent & Child
Sunday 25 February	9am	Children's Mass	Parent & Child
Sunday 3 March	During 9am Mass	Session 4	Parent & Child
Sunday 10 March	During 9am Mass	Session 5	Parent & Child
Sunday 17 March	During 9am Mass	Session 6	Parent & Child
Saturday 23 March	3:30pm to 5pm	Family Session 3	Parent & Child
Sunday 24 March	9am	Children's Mass	Parent & Child
EASTER HOLIDAYS			
Saturday 20 April	3:30pm to 5pm	Family Session 4	Parent & Child
Sunday 21 April	9am	Children's Mass	Parent & Child
Sunday 28 April	During 9am Mass	Session 7	Parent & Child
Sunday 5 May	During 9am Mass	Session 8	Parent & Child
Sunday 12 May	During 9am Mass	Session 9	Parent & Child
Saturday 18 May	3:30pm to 5pm	Family Session 5	Parent & Child
Sunday 19 May	9am	Children's Mass	Parent & Child
HALF TERM BREAK			
First Reconciliation and First Communion Dates – <i>To Be Advised</i>			

All preparation activities take place in **St Joseph's Church**, Chalfont St Peter, SL9 8RY.

EXPECTATIONS OF PARENTS

- Decide/discern if this is the right time for their children to receive the sacraments.
- Support their children in preparing for both sacraments.
- Attend the Family Sessions on Saturdays, take their children to the Children's Masses and accompany their children to the Sunday Sessions during 9am Mass.
- Ensure their children attend every session. If a child cannot attend a preparation activity for any reason (e.g. sick), the Sacramental Preparation Team should be notified.
- Help the children to grow in faith through family prayer.

PREPARATION ACTIVITIES

Family Sessions

- Family Sessions will take place on Saturdays from 3:30pm to 5pm.
- They will start and finish with everyone joining together for prayer in the church.
- Communion Parents will join with Confirmation Parents for the adult session.

Children's Mass

- Candidates for First Holy Communion will be required to attend the Children's Masses per the schedule. These joyful celebrations will be specifically tailored to suit the youngest members of our congregation and there will be a Children's Choir.
- Candidates are encouraged to participate in the Mass – music, reading, offertory, etc.

Sunday Sessions

- There will be preparation lessons during the 9am Mass, per the schedule. We ask that you come to the 9am Mass if it is not your regular Mass for the duration of the programme.
- The children, accompanied by one parent, will be called forward at the start of Mass and then go out for their lesson. They will rejoin the congregation in church at the Offertory, the same time as Children's Liturgy.
- Parents and children are invited to join parishioners for refreshments after Mass.