

## PREPARING CHILDREN FOR THE SACRAMENTS

Celebrations of the Sacraments are not isolated events. They take their place within a process of growth in faith from birth to adolescence. Children receive first Communion in the year they turn nine.

Discernment of a child's readiness for the Sacraments by parents and pastor is more important than the child's age or year level and might mean that the Sacraments are celebrated earlier or later than the norm.

Like the catechumenate for adults, the process of sacramental preparations is marked by prayer and ritual; catechesis and learning, conversion of life and a developing sense of mission. It is a collaborative process: parish-based, family-centered and school-supported.

- The PARISH is responsible for establishing and running programs for sacramental preparation and for the celebration of the Sacraments.
- The FAMILY is where the faith is learned and lived. Parents, the first educators of their children, share with them the Catholic faith and the experience of belonging to the Church. They are best placed to discern readiness for the Sacraments and make the formal request of the parish for their child's admission to sacramental preparation.
- The Catholic SCHOOL provides catechesis on the Sacraments at each year level, before, during and after the periods of sacramental preparation.

Extract from *Sacramental Policy of the Archdiocese of Brisbane.*

## Some Other Important Notes!

- One of the parents must be Catholic for their child to proceed with Confirmation, First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation
- Where parents are separated there is a special form for both parents to complete.
- With regard to the above, or any other pastoral concerns you have, please make an appointment with Fr Jan or one of the parish pastoral team. There are numerous ways we can help.
- You need a copy of the child's Baptism if child was confirmed in another parish.
- If you cannot fit in with the schedule we respectfully ask you to postpone to the next program. Arriving late and leaving early is not acceptable.

### AT YOUR SERVICE

Parish Pastoral and Sacramental Teams

### CHURCHES

Stella Maris Church  
Church St, Maroochydore  
St Peter's, Elizabeth St, Coolum  
St Mary's, King St, Buderim  
St Catherine of Siena, Sippy Downs Dr, Sippy Downs

### PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Website: <http://www.saintsonwaves.com>  
Parish Office Email: [suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au](mailto:suncoast@bne.catholic.net.au)  
Office Phone: 5443 3488



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## our Faith our Children the Sacraments



### MAROOCHYDORE CATHOLIC PARISH

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

# To make it easier for you! Just follow the simple STEPS of the parish programme!

## A Message from your Parish Sacramental Team

Congratulations on taking this step towards these most important milestones in your child's life.

We look forward with joy to the children continuing their faith journey through these Sacraments of *Confirmation, First Holy Communion and First Reconciliation.*

Of all the gifts that we share with our children, faith has to be our first and most precious. It requires priority.

It is important for your child, however, that you do not choose dates for the Sacraments and invite family members before attending a Parent Information Night.

Good will on everybody's part assures us this will be a year of abundant blessings.

PARISH SACRAMENTAL TEAM

## Step 1

### Parent Information Night

Parents (one or both) must attend one of these nights. Children do not attend.

*The family can only proceed to the next step after attending one of these nights.*

**Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore**

**Monday 3rd February**

**7-8 pm**

**Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore**

**Tuesday 14th July**

**7-8 pm**



Extract from  
Third Edition, September 2015

**Sacramental Policy of the  
Archdiocese of Brisbane**

### INTRODUCTION

The Sacraments are before all else the action of Jesus Christ, risen from the dead and alive in his Body the Church.

They are celebrated communally with the active participation of the parish under the oversight of the Bishop whose responsibility it is to *control, promote and protect the entire liturgical life of the Church entrusted to [him]* (Vatican II, CD 15).

## Step 2

### First Communion

(Choose Round A or Round B)

#### Round A (Autumn)

##### SESSION 1 (WORKSHOP)

**Sunday 26th April**

**11.30—2pm or 3pm—5.30pm**

Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore

##### First Communion Weekends

9th & 10th May

16th & 17th May

23rd & 24th May

**Choose one of the Parish Masses on one of these weekends.**

#### Round B

##### SESSION 1 (WORKSHOP)

**Sunday 11th October**

**11.30—2pm or 3pm—5.30pm**

Stella Maris Church, Maroochydore

##### First Communion Weekends

17th & 18th October

24th & 25th October

Sat 31st October

**Choose one of the Parish Masses on one of these weekends.**