

Details to know about Penance and First Communion at St. Emily

The next big events:

1) **Come to confession:**

February 23 at 1:00 PM at St. Emily

If that time doesn't work for your family, your child can come to confession during the regularly scheduled time at either parish.

2) **Retreat** for families: (Come to one)

Saturday, April 13 at either 9:00 AM or 12:30 PM.

The retreat will be at St. Thomas Becket.

We will send out an RSVP form.

Parents are welcome to attend and volunteer. We'll ask if you're coming on the RSVP.

3) There will be **rehearsals** the week of the communion celebration, which the child and at least one adult should attend.

April 28, 2019 11:30 AM mass (Rehearsal - April 25, 6:30 PM)

May 5, 2019 11:30 AM mass (Rehearsal - May 2, 6:30 PM)

On the day of the celebration, the students need to be at church one hour before the mass.

Each family will have one reserved pew and the children will sit on the end of that pew.

About dress

For both boys and girls, what they wear should not be the focus for the day. It is not necessary to go to great expense to buy new clothes. It is an important day, but the importance is not based on what they wear.

For boys: Boys do not have to wear suits, although they are welcome to do so. A shirt and tie is also appropriate.

For girls: Girls can wear dresses and veils. The dress should **not** be floor length. (Little girls trip, forgetting to pick up their skirts.) Knee to ankle length is appropriate. Color is not an issue. Ivory (anything, actually) is fine. The girls should not wear gloves.

Neither boys nor girls should carry anything in the procession - candles, prayer books, rosaries, purses, etc.

Blessing Articles

If you would like religious articles blessed, send them with your child to Hajdu Hall. Fr. Presta will come by to bless them before mass. Then, we will get them to you in the pews before mass begins. (We have a system!)

Pictures

Families should **not** plan to take pictures or video during the ceremony. We will be there to pray and concentrating on photography detracts from this. There will be a professional photographer hired to take pictures of each child as he/she receives communion. (This print is included in your fee.) There will an opportunity to pose for pictures **after** the ceremony.

We will also take 'studio type' pictures of your child **before** the ceremony if the child is here on time! You will have the option to purchase those.