

HN Parish Families & Holy Name School Families
SPN-BS Parish Families & St. Philip Neri Catholic School Families
2023-2024

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION INFORMATION

PARENT & SPONSOR SESSIONS: We invite and strongly encourage all parents with children in St. Philip Neri Catholic School and Holy Name School, or in our Religious Education program, as well as parents homeschooling their children, to attend catechetical presentations especially suited for them. We believe that parents are the first and best educators and formators of their children in the Faith. Through these presentations, we want parents to understand what their children are learning to fortify their lessons and to model what they have learned at home. When parents understand, discuss, and live their Faith in the home, on the sports field, and in their communities, their children are sure to follow. All sessions for parents will occur in the St. Philip Neri Activity Center (gym) and be conducted in the language specified. Sponsors are especially welcome to attend these sessions, especially the presentations regarding Baptism and Confirmation. **Parents of children who are receiving a sacrament in the current 2023-2024 academic year must:**

1. Attend the corresponding Parent Sessions (at least one parent must attend but, ideally, both parents would be present), and
2. Provide to the SPN Catholic School Office (or SPN Parish Office) certificates for any sacraments previously received, i.e., Baptism, First Communion, and Confirmation.

RECEPTION OF SACRAMENTS: The reception of sacraments and rehearsals for such occasions will occur in St. Philip Neri Church and in Holy Name Church – please see the information regarding sacramental rehearsals and reception dates and locations on the following pages.

ATTIRE FOR SACRAMENTS: Because the color white is bright, pure, and free from blemish, it is the symbolic color of Christian dignity. Altar servers and clergy wear white garments called albs (*alba* is the Latin word for white) whenever they perform their sacred functions, and the baptized are dressed in a white gown after their Baptism. Because Confirmation and Holy Communion are Sacraments of Initiation and are, thus, especially tied to Baptism, we ask girls and boys to dress in white clothing when they receive any of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and/or First Communion.

We realize that it may be difficult to find boys' trousers or even suits that are white, so we ask families simply to do the best they can within reason and within their financial limitations.

- **Girls' Sacramental Attire:**
 - **Required:** A modest, white dress or a modest, white blouse.
 - **Encouraged:** A modest, white skirt, skorts, or pants, and dress shoes, preferably white.
- **Boys' Sacramental Attire:**
 - **Required:** A button-down, long-sleeve, white shirt with collar
 - **Encouraged:** White pants or nice trousers (no jeans), dress shoes, a tie, and a suitcoat.

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SACRAMENTAL REHEARSALS & RECEPTION DETAILS

First Reconciliation Options (required before receiving First Communion)

- **Required Session for Parents of Children Receiving First Reconciliation (Parental attendance is required at EITHER the session in English OR the session in Spanish)**
 - *Nov. 8 – **Parent Session in English: Sin, Baptism, and the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation**
 - *Nov. 15 – **Parent Session in Spanish: The Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation**
- **Nov. 28 – 1st Reconciliation at 6:30 p.m. in St. Philip Neri Church**
 - Tour of Confessionals: TBD by the R.E. catechists and pastor of St. Philip Neri-Blessed Sacrament during the regular R.E. class times on Nov. 15
- **Nov. 29 – 1st Reconciliation for Holy Name School students at 1 p.m. in Holy Name Church**
 - Tour of Confessionals: TBD by the HN School teachers and pastor of Holy Name Church during school time
- **Dec. 5 – 1st Reconciliation at 6:30 p.m. in Holy Name Church**

First Communion Options (customarily received around the age of 7 or 8)

- **Required Session for Parents of Children Receiving First Communion (Parental attendance is required at EITHER the session in English OR the session in Spanish)**
 - *March 6 (previously March 13) – **Parent Session in English: The Eucharist and the Mass**
 - *March 20 – **Parent Session in Spanish: The Eucharist and the Mass**
- **April 7 – 1st Communion for SPN Catholic School and SPN-BS at 10 a.m. in St. Philip Neri Church (English)**
 - **April 6 – Required Practice at 11 a.m. in St. Philip Neri Church**
- **April 20 – 1st Communion for HN School and HN at 5 p.m. in Holy Name Church (English)**
 - April 19 – Required Practice at 6:30 p.m. in Holy Name Church
- **April 21 – 1st Communion for HN at 12:30 p.m. in Holy Name Church (Spanish)**
 - April 20 – Required Practice at 11 a.m. in Holy Name Church

Confirmation Options (customarily received around the age of 13 or older)

- **Required Session for Parents of Children Receiving Confirmation (Parental attendance is required at EITHER the session in English OR the session in Spanish)**
 - *January 24 – **Parent Session in Spanish: Confirmation and the Mission of the Spirit**
 - *January 31 – **Parent Session in English: Confirmation and the Mission of the Spirit**
- **April 28 – Confirmation for HN School and HN at 3 p.m. in Holy Name Church (Bilingual)**
 - April 27 – Required Practice at 11 a.m. in Holy Name Church
- **May 6 (Previously May 3) – Confirmation for SPN Catholic School and SPN-BS at 6 p.m. in St. Philip Neri Church (English)**
 - **May 5 – Required Practice at 6 p.m. in St. Philip Neri Church**

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Schedule of Parents Enrichment Sessions: 2023-2024 Academic Year

Presentations for parents and sponsors will take place on the dates listed in the Activity Center [gym] of St. Philip Neri Catholic School from 6:15 p.m. until 7:30 p.m.

OCTOBER

- 11 – **Parent Session in English**: Created in Love (The Creator of the Universe; Made in His Image)

NOVEMBER

- *8 – **Parent Session in English: Sin, Baptism, and the Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation**
- *15 – **Parent Session in Spanish: The Sacrament of Penance & Reconciliation**

DECEMBER

- ~~13 – **Parent Session in English: Jesus, Our Savior & the Rosary**~~

JANUARY

- 10 – **Parent Session in English**: Christ's Humanity & Sacramentality
- *24 – **Parent Session in Spanish: Confirmation and the Mission of the Spirit**
- *31 – **Parent Session in English: Confirmation and the Mission of the Spirit**

MARCH

- *6 – **Parent Session in English: The Eucharist and the Mass**
- *20 – **Parent Session in Spanish: The Eucharist and the Mass**

APRIL

- 10 – **Parent Session in English**: The Catholic Church (The People of God; the Structure of the Church; and a Tour of a Catholic Church)