



St Richard Parish, Skelmersdale

Serving the Churches of St Mary Queen of Apostles, St Richard's and St Francis of Assisi.

184 Liverpool Road
Skelmersdale
WN8 8BX
Tel: 01695 720095
strichard@rcaol.org.uk

Skelmersdale Catholic Churches Sacramental Programme

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am happy to inform you that our new Sacramental Programme, (Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion) for 2024/2025 will begin on the weekend of 28/29 September 2024. The programme is open to all children who will be in Year 4 or above in September and who have been baptised.

Sacraments like Reconciliation and First Communion are part of God's gift to us. Reconciliation is the gift of forgiveness and through Eucharist we come into communion with Jesus. The programme we follow in Skelmersdale is used in the Liverpool Archdiocese and is called "With You Always". It is based on Family Catechesis which is a way of supporting parents to pass on their faith to their children. So parents, catechists and school work together to teach the children about the Sacraments.

As parents during Baptism you accepted the responsibility of training your child in the practice of the Catholic Faith. The parish community promised to support you in these duties. The First Communion programme is based on completing seven units. There are two worksheets for each unit, one for your child and one for you to help them complete their sheet.

This year the programme will be:-

Week 16th September letters and forms sent to schools and available in Churches

Weekend 21st/22nd September catechists available after Mass to answer any questions

Weekend 28th/29th September all children attend a Mass with parents to start the programme.

Children and parents attend one session a month to work on the programme. The sessions are held in church during Mass. After Mass there is a short session for parents. Parents pick one church to attend. Dates will be given at

Mass times are:
Saturday 5pm in St Mary's
Sunday 9am in St Richard's
Sunday 11am in St Francis'

You can attend any church and you do not need to attend the same Church each time as central records are kept. If you wish your child to join the programme complete the attached *Registration Form* and bring your child to one of the churches. Forms can be returned to school or brought to Church. (The Letter and Form also available at: <https://www.strichard-skelmersdale.org.uk>).

We ask for a voluntary £5 contribution towards the cost of the file and worksheets. Please put it in the envelope with your form and either return it to school or bring it to church. Please do not let finance determine whether your child receives Communion as we can help in various ways. If you have any queries please contact me on 07745879986 or k.gresty@sky.com

Yours Sincerely,

Fr Kenny Hyde
Parish Priest

Mrs Kath Gresty
Senior Catechist



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Please complete as clearly as possible

Name of Child: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Baptism: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

Name of Parent/ Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Contact no: _____

E-mail: _____

School: _____

As parents/carers of the above named child we would like our child to be part of the Sacramental Programme. We understand that it is necessary for our child and ourselves to attend all of the sessions.

We also agree that the data on this form can be stored electronically.

All information is held in strict confidence and is only used for the First Holy Communion records.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

**It is important that this form is returned as soon as possible
to the School or to the Church**