



YOUTH SACRAMENT PATHWAYS

Walking alongside your child as they prepare to receive the Sacraments is a beautiful journey, and we are so blessed to support your family every step of the way. Because every child's faith path is unique, the information below outlines our standard pathways and guidelines to help us partner with you in creating the best preparation plan for your child.

PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS

If these requirements are not completed, reception of the sacrament will be delayed one year.

Religious Education/non-Catholic school students:

1. Attend at least 80% of required meetings
2. Attend all required retreats
3. Submit all required assignments and paperwork

MBS School students and those from other Catholic schools must:

1. Complete at least 80% of their religion class contact hours
2. Attend all required retreats
3. Submit all required assignments and paperwork

Both groups will apply their requirements to the preparation within the dedicated 8th grade Confirmation program if that program applies to them.

WHAT ARE SACRAMENTS?

The Sacraments are seven visible, effective signs instituted by Christ to bestow God's invisible grace upon us. They are sacred encounters where we tangibly experience God's presence, love, and spiritual strength at key moments in our lives.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

- Baptism
- Confirmation
- Eucharist (First Holy Communion)

SACRAMENTS OF HEALING

- Reconciliation (Penance)
- Anointing of the Sick

SACRAMENTS OF VOCATION

- Holy Orders
- Matrimony

WHAT IS OCIA, OCIT, OCIC?

OCI stands for **Order of Christian Initiation**, the official process of spiritual formation and sacramental preparation through which Adults (**OCIA**), Children (**OCIC**), and Teens (**OCIT**) are guided into full communion with the Catholic Church.

THE STANDARD

SECOND GRADE PROCESS

A second grade student who is baptized Catholic and registered at Most Blessed Sacrament follows the standard First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion process through the school or Religious Education.

If the student attends a Catholic school other than Most Blessed Sacrament, they are encouraged to attend Religious Education but not required. They must attend the First Holy Communion retreat.

THE STANDARD

EIGHTH GRADE PROCESS

An eighth grade student who is baptized Catholic, has received First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, and is registered at Most Blessed Sacrament follows the standard Confirmation process.

All Confirmation candidates attend the required Confirmation meetings with a parent and/or sponsor. These meetings include both Most Blessed Sacrament School students and students from other schools.

ADORE is not required for students on the standard Confirmation path but is strongly encouraged to provide the fullest possible formation and parish experience.

STUDENTS REGISTERED

AT ANOTHER PARISH

If a family registered at another Catholic parish requests sacramental preparation and reception through Most Blessed Sacrament:

1. The family must explain why it is making the request.
2. The family must provide a letter from its parish Pastor or Pastoral Leader acknowledging preparation and reception through Most Blessed Sacrament.
3. The letter must be submitted to the appropriate parish and/or school leadership.
4. The student must follow the appropriate Most Blessed Sacrament process for the student's grade.

The letter is required without exception. If it is not submitted, reception of the sacrament will be delayed until the requirement is completed.

UNBAPTIZED STUDENTS

IN KINDERGARTEN OR 1ST GRADE

The parents must attend the parish Baptism class and schedule the Baptism through the parish office.

The family is expected to register at Most Blessed Sacrament.

SECOND GRADE STUDENTS NEEDING BAPTISM

A second grade student needing Baptism who has attended Most Blessed Sacrament School or another Catholic school continuously since Kindergarten may follow the Standard Second Grade Process, provided they receive Baptism prior to the First Reconciliation date and meet the stated Preparation Requirements. Alternatively, these students may receive all of their sacraments of initiation at the Easter Vigil at one time, while still fulfilling the stated Preparation Requirements.

If the student has only completed 1st grade in a Catholic school (or has limited Catholic school history), they must attend Wednesday night Religious Education and complete the assigned OCIC preparation. In this case, the student will attend Wednesday evening sessions in addition to their daytime school religion instruction to ensure a solid faith foundation.

- **Sacramental Order:** The student will receive Baptism separately before receiving First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, unless opting to receive all sacraments of initiation together at the Easter Vigil.
- **Confirmation:** If not confirmed at the Easter Vigil, the student will receive Confirmation through the standard Confirmation process in eighth grade.

STUDENTS IN 3RD-6TH GRADE NEEDING CONVERSION OR MISSING SACRAMENTS

The student's familiarity with Catholicism and previous Catholic education must be evaluated before a formation plan is assigned.

The evaluation will consider:

1. How long the student has attended Most Blessed Sacrament School or another Catholic formation program.
2. The amount and consistency of the student's previous Catholic education.
3. The student's current knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith.
4. The sacraments the student has already received.

A student **with limited Catholic education** will attend Wednesday night Religious Education and complete the OCIC process. This applies to any student with limited formal instruction, including those who have attended Most Blessed Sacrament School or another Catholic school for only a short time.

A school student **with substantial Catholic education** may not be required to attend Religious Education. For example, a fifth grade student who has attended Most Blessed Sacrament School since Kindergarten may receive an individualized preparation plan based on the student's existing formation.

An unbaptized student will receive preparation for First Reconciliation but will not receive the sacrament before Baptism. The student will receive Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion **at the Easter Vigil**.

A baptized student will receive First Reconciliation, and then Confirmation and First Holy Communion **at the Easter Vigil**.

A student confirmed through OCIC will not be confirmed again in eighth grade.

STUDENTS IN 7TH-12TH GRADE

NEEDING CONVERSION OR MISSING SACRAMENTS

The student's familiarity with Catholicism and previous Catholic education must be evaluated before a formation plan is assigned.

The evaluation will consider:

1. How long the student has attended Most Blessed Sacrament School or another Catholic formation program.
2. The amount and consistency of the student's previous Catholic education.
3. The student's current knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith.
4. The sacraments the student has already received.

A student with limited Catholic education must:

1. Attend ADORE.
2. Complete the assigned OCIT materials and follow up.
3. Attend the required Confirmation meetings with a parent and/or sponsor.

This applies to both catholic schools students and students that attend other schools. Students complete these requirements outside the school day.

ADORE provides the student's regular parish formation setting. The OCIT materials and Confirmation meetings provide specific initiation and sacramental preparation.

A student with substantial Catholic education may not be required to attend ADORE. For example, an eighth-grade student who has attended Most Blessed Sacrament School or another Catholic school continuously since Kindergarten may receive an individualized preparation plan based on their existing formation.

Required OCIT materials, follow up, and Confirmation meetings will be determined as part of the student's individualized preparation plan.

An unbaptized student will receive preparation for First Reconciliation but will not receive the sacrament before Baptism. The student will receive Baptism, Confirmation, and First Holy Communion at the Easter Vigil.

A baptized student will receive First Reconciliation and any other sacraments the student is missing.

A student confirmed through OCIT will not be confirmed again.

PARISH REGISTRATION

Families using Most Blessed Sacrament for conversion or sacramental preparation are expected to register at Most Blessed Sacrament.