Hendra & Northgate Parish Sacramental Programme

Parents are the first and primary formers in faith of their children. It is through the example parents set in living their faith that the children learn the most about their relationship with Jesus.

The Christian initiation of children who are baptised as infants (under the age of 4 years) is separated in time, but not meaning. Children over the age of 7 who are not baptised enter in a faith journey adapted from the rite of Christian initiation of Adults wherein they are prepared to celebrate the combined rites of Christian initiation which are Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, in the same ceremony during the Easter Vigil.

Children baptised as infants celebrate Confirmation and Eucharist sometime after the age of seven when parents consider their child is ready.

Hendra & Northgate Catholic Parish provides support to parents in their role as they prepare their children to complete their Christian initiation through Confirmation and their first reception of Eucharist.

The journey commences March this year. Parents are asked to register their child and attend a parent information session. Children are enrolled during a Sunday Eucharist wherein they commit to the journey and are blessed, similar to the corresponding rite in the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults. During the course of the next 12 months, children are presented with a Bible, the Lord’s Prayer, The Apostles’ Creed, the Australian Children’s Mass Book and Praying Together (see below the details of the resources). They are called forward from the community on these occasions, prayed over and blessed.

A series of the workbooks and activity sheets are provided for the parents to work through with their children.

The whole family is invited to become involved on a more intentional level in the life of the parish if not already doing so.

Children celebrate the Rite of Confirmation on a weeknight soon after the feast of Pentecost (midyear) and celebrate their First Communion during the Parish Masses on the weekend following Confirmation.

This year Confirmation will be celebrated by Archbishop Mark Coleridge on the 16th October at a time to be advised and Communion on the week of the 19th and 20th October.

If you had other plans for this weekend and cannot change them; then consider joining the programme next year.

The journey is gentle and flexible. While there are set dates and timelines, parents and children work together at their own pace through the workbooks and sheets, and meet with the Parish Team twice throughout the journey to ask any questions, give feedback and to seek support.

Registration forms will be available this evening and returned to Parish Office Monday, Wednesday or Friday from 9am by 26th April. Late registrations are held over to the following year.

For further information and to discuss whether your child is ready, please contact the Parish on 3268 3040 or email: pmc.hendra@bne.catholic.net.au.
Resources: In order of presentation to children:

- The Holy Bible. NRSV. Catholic edition.
- The Lord’s Prayer. Liturgy Brisbane.
- The Apostles’ Creed. Liturgy Brisbane.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2013

Parent Night: 13 March

Enrolment Weekend for the Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation): 27th & 28th April

Sessions:
- Wednesday 1 May
- Wednesday 8 May
- Wednesday 15 May
- Wednesday 22 May

Reception of the Sacrament of Penance: Wednesday evening 29 May

Enrolment Weekend for Confirmation/Eucharist: Wednesday 17th & 18th August

Sessions
- Wednesday 21 August
- Wednesday 28 August
- Wednesday 4 September
- Wednesday 11 September
- Wednesday 18 September
- Wednesday 9 October

Children receive the Sacrament of Confirmation: Wednesday evening 16th October

First Eucharist will be celebrated at the weekend Masses of: 19th & 20th October

Sessions held in Parish Hall at 6.30 pm sharp (1 hour meeting)