

September 16, 2025

Dear Parents of 2nd graders,

Can you believe that we are almost a full month into the new school year? I hope everyone is doing well. Here at the parish, we are looking forward to preparing for sacraments. At St Charles and in the Diocese of Toledo, second grade is the year for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

Children receive the grace of the Sacrament of Penance (First Reconciliation) before receiving Holy Communion for the first time. *This sacrament restores us to God's grace and joins us with him in an intimate friendship (CCC1468) The Eucharist is "the source and summit of the Christian life." (CCC 1324)*

The 25-26 calendar is on the web page, stcharleslima.org. Here are some dates for next year and some requirements to be aware of:

- Complete the First Communion information sheet on stcharleslima.org which is found under the **Sacraments** tab (then scroll down to the **First Communion tab**). Follow the page down and click the **First Red tab** and complete by **October 1, 2025**.
- Provide a copy of your son/daughter's **Baptism Certificate** if baptized at a parish other than St. Charles by **October 2, 2025**. If your son/daughter was baptized at St. Charles, just provide us with the date they were baptized and your intention to help prepare them for the sacraments. **When you do this, you will receive an enrollment card.**
- Take part in **Enrollment Weekend** at one of the weekend Masses at St. Charles on **Saturday, October 11, 2025** or **either Mass on Sunday, October 12, 2025**
- Participate in a **First Reconciliation/First Communion Parent-Child Small Group Meeting**. Times will be scheduled for Wednesday, November 5 or Wednesday, November 12. Sign-up slots with exact times will be shared after Enrollment Sunday.
- Participate in the three **Parent-Child Learning Sessions**, which will take place **Sundays January 25, February 22, and March 22 from 9:15-10:15 am.**
- Participate in the **First Reconciliation/First Communion Retreat** on **Saturday, April 18, 2026 from 9:00am - Noon**. This will include the Sacrament of First Reconciliation.
- Attend **First Communion Rehearsal** on **Friday, May 1, 2026 at 6:00 pm.**
- Celebrate the **First Communion Mass** on **Sunday, May 3, 2026 at 1:00 pm.**

In order for your son/daughter to participate in First Holy Communion they must be baptized. If your son/daughter was never baptized or if they were baptized in a different Christian denomination, and you now have a desire for them to be baptized or become Catholic, there is a separate process for them prior to First Holy Communion. If this is the case, please contact Fr. Kent at 419-228-7635 or email at kaufmank@stcharleslima.org before **October 1, 2025** so we can meet and discuss the process.

Sincerely in Christ,

Rev. Kent Kaufman
Pastor