

# Sacraments

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Guidelines regarding preparation for first Eucharist, first Reconciliation, and Confirmation:

Children in 2nd grade are eligible for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. Our formal preparation program is held within the 2nd grade year. Students preparing for their first Eucharist, first Reconciliation, or Confirmation must attend Catholic Faith Formation classes, at a minimum, in both the year prior to preparing and the year of preparation.

For children who are older than the traditional preparation year for a sacrament and have not celebrated that sacrament, special arrangements can be made through the Faith Formation office. The child will be prepared in the traditional preparation grade or through the Rite of Christian Initiation for Children, which is offered through the parish.

## St. Agnes Faith Formation First Reconciliation

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First Reconciliation classes will be held during regular CFF class time (9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.) beginning October 8, 2017. We will have normal CFF instruction before and after the six week preparation period. It will be required that at least one parent attend all First Reconciliation preparation classes. Our reconciliation program is designed to involve the entire family in this Sacramental preparation.

If your child was not baptized at St. Agnes, we must have a copy of their baptism certificate.

Each child should know the Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary and Act of Contrition prior to First Reconciliation. Please start praying them daily with your children at home.

### First Reconciliation Schedule:

October 8, 2017 at 9:15am	First Reconciliation preparation begins – Session 1 – Introduction of our Reconciliation Families at 10:30am Mass
October 15	Session 2
October 22	Session 3
October 29	Session 4
November 3	Reconciliation Family service project-Tag party and dinner– 6:00 p.m. – Parish Center
November 5	Session 5
November 6 and 7	First Reconciliation Interviews with Fr. Mat *
November 12	Session 6 (Photographs of children taken during CFF, for banner)
November 18	First Reconciliation – 4:00 p.m. at St. Agnes Church

\*Fr. Mat will be conducting interviews with each child during their preparation. Interviews will be scheduled November 6 during 4-5pm and November 7 during 5-6pm. Sign-up sheets will be posted at a later date. Each interview is about 10 minutes in length.

# St. Agnes Faith Formation

## First Communion

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First Communion will be take place on May 6, 2017 during the 10:30a.m. Mass. The preparation process for First Eucharist is similar to First Reconciliation. It will be required that at least one parent attend all First Communion preparation classes. We will also ask that the children and their families be involved at Masses during their formation by bringing up the gifts at least once as a family. Sign-up sheets will be available at a later date and training is provided.

### First Eucharist Schedule:

March 11 <sup>th</sup> at 9:15am	First Eucharist preparation begins for Students and Parents – Session 1 (Training for bringing up the gifts immediately after 10:30am Mass)
March 18	Session 2
March 25	Session 3 (Baptismal candle turn in date) – Palm Sunday Procession
March 29	7pm Holy Thursday Candle Procession at the end of Mass
April 8	Session 4
April 15	Session 5
April 22	Session 6
April 30 & May 1	First Communion Interviews with Fr. Mat *
April 29	Session 7 Bread Making of rehearsal bread / Lamb walk and pot luck lunch 12 -3pm
May 4th	First Communion Rehearsal at 6pm in the Church
May 6	First Eucharist – 10:30am at St. Agnes Church / arrive at 10am

Here are a few things to keep in mind:

- We will need each child's baptismal candle for First Eucharist. If you cannot find their original candle, we can provide a candle for you. We will collect these during the preparation period.
- We ask that the boys wear a white shirt, tie and dress pants. A jacket looks nice but is not required. We prefer they wear dress shoes, not sneakers for First Eucharist.
- We ask that the girls not wear veils for First Eucharist. They can have wreaths of flowers in their hair or other accessories if desired. We want First Eucharist to be about receiving the body and blood of Christ, not so much about what we wear.

\*Fr. Mat will be conducting interviews with each child during their preparation. Interviews will be scheduled April 30<sup>th</sup> during 4-5pm and May 1st during 5-6pm. Sign-up sheets will be posted at a later date. Each interview is about 10 minutes in length.

# St. Agnes Confirmation

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Our next confirmation celebration is scheduled for Fall of 2018. Students who wish to be confirmed need have a year prior of formation (2016 -2017) in order to begin sacramental prep and to be eligible for confirmation the following year.

Parents are in partnership with the St. Agnes community in fulfilling their baptismal promise and supported in providing a deeper encounter with Christ for their children. Parents are asked if they can reasonably partnership with St. Agnes to journey for this sacrament. It is alright to wait if you cannot say yes to prioritize Formation at this year in your family's lives.

We wish to prepare our youth to encounter the Gifts of the Sacraments. We delve into the Word, Worship, Community and Witness our Faith through service. Our Catholic Faith gives us the communal language of prayer elements in Mass. We know how to give thanks and praise to God. The service learning hours offer a lifestyle experience of Christian living, a life in Christ. Initiation into our Faith is the responsibility of our faith community.

Confirmation class of 2018 will be using DECISION POINT as their primary curriculum this coming faith formation year. We have chosen this curriculum for many reasons and one of the main benefits of this curriculum is the integration of technology that will help guide our faith formation towards growing in faith for 21st Century learners.

Parents and Sponsors - You join them on the journey! DECISION POINT has been designed to ignite a conversation about the genius of Catholicism between candidates and their parents, sponsors, catechists, teachers, peers, and priests. In fact, as you get into the materials, you may have the same reaction that many Confirmation leaders had in our focus groups when they said, "Every Catholic should experience this program—not just teens preparing for Confirmation!"

The young Catholic in your life is about to begin an incredible journey as he or she prepares for Confirmation. It is our hope that this program will not only prepare young Catholics for the Sacrament of Confirmation in a dynamic way, but also teach and inspire them to respond and cooperate with God's grace in all the circumstances of their daily lives, long after their Confirmation has passed.

A version of the program is available in the form of emails sent twice a week. In this way, parents and sponsors can have an incredible adult faith formation experience alongside the candidates as they prepare for Confirmation. To sign up for the email version of DECISION POINT, please visit [DynamicCatholic.com/Confirmation/For-Parents-and-Sponsors](http://DynamicCatholic.com/Confirmation/For-Parents-and-Sponsors). If you sign up, over the course of the next 36 weeks you will receive the same films that are on the apps, in your inbox twice a week (every Monday and Thursday). There is also an app you can download for free! This will enable you to talk to your young Catholic about their DECISION POINT experience—and nurture your own spiritual journey. With topics like how to become a good decision maker, relationships, prayer, the Eucharist, and finding your mission, we hope DECISION POINT is a transformational experience for your whole family.

# St Agnes Youth Mass Calendar for 2017 -2018

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September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017, at 5pm (Held 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend due to Labor Day Holiday)  
October 1<sup>st</sup> at 5pm  
November 5<sup>th</sup> at 5pm  
December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5pm  
January 7<sup>th</sup> 2018, at 5pm  
February 11<sup>th</sup> at 5pm (Held 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend due to Super Bowl)  
March 17<sup>th</sup> Saturday at 5:30pm at St. Agnes returning from overnight Confirmation Retreat at PriestField  
April 8<sup>th</sup> at 5pm (Held 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday due to Easter)  
No May Youth Mass  
June 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5pm

September 9<sup>th</sup> 2018, at 5pm (Held 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend due to Labor Day Holiday)  
October 7<sup>th</sup> at 5pm  
November 4<sup>th</sup> at 5pm

# St Agnes Confirmation Calendar for 2017 -2018

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All Sundays are obligatory for the faithful to participate in the Mass

## *SEPTEMBER*

Sept 10 Youth Mass at 5pm

Sept 17 Confirmation Formation Classes begin 9:15 a.m. Parish Picnic following the 10:30 a.m. Mass

Sept 24 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m.

## *OCTOBER*

Oct 1 Blessing of the Animals at 2 p.m.

Youth Mass – 5 p.m. and Dinner to follow

Oct 8 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m. for Students and Parents joint class taught by Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu.  
Introduction of students preparing for Confirmation at 10:30am Mass

Oct 15 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m. for Students and Parents joint class taught by Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu.

Oct 22 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m. for Students and Parents joint class taught by Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu.

Oct 29 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m. for Students and Parents joint class taught by Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu.

## *NOVEMBER*

Nov 1 Holy Day of Obligation – All Saint's Day

Nov 5<sup>th</sup> Youth Mass at 5pm – Dinner to follow

Nov 12<sup>th</sup> – Office of Youth Ministry Dioceses of Wheeling / at St. James Middle School/ High School Day Confirmation Retreat /November 12, 2017  
St. James Catholic Church, 49 Crosswinds Drive – Charles Town, WV  
Cost: \$25 (Breakfast & Lunch included)  
You must attend this retreat or April 7/8 Net Retreat. One diocesan retreat is required/

No Confirmation Formation at St. Agnes - Veteran's Day weekend

Nov 19 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m.

Nov 26 No Confirmation Formation –Thanksgiving Holiday

## *DECEMBER*

Dec 3 - Family Advent Wreath Making Workshop at 3 p.m.

Dec 3 - Youth Mass – 5 p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent)

Dec 8 Holy Day of Obligation Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass

Dec 10 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m.

Dec 17 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m.

Dec 24 Christmas Eve Children's program service opportunity

Dec 25 Holy Day of Obligation Christmas Mass

Dec 31 No Confirmation Formation – Christmas Break

## *JANUARY 2018*

Jan 1 Holy Day of Obligation Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God Mass

Jan 7 Youth Mass at 5 p.m. and Dinner to follow

Jan 14 No Confirmation Formation - Martin Luther King holiday weekend

Jan 21 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m.

Jan 28 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m.

## FEBRUARY

Feb 3/4–Souper Bowl of Caring Service Project opportunity

Feb 4<sup>th</sup> Confirmation Formation Class at 9:15a.m.

Feb 10 Valentine's Day Babysitting Service opportunity provided by our Confirmation Students for parents with children in CFF students – Free of charge. 4-8pm. Crafts, snacks, activities and dinner provided. Reservations required. Adult Supervision is also provided. Confirmation students arrive at 3pm to set up.

Feb 11<sup>th</sup> Youth Mass at 5pm, Dinner to follow

Feb 18 No Confirmation Formation Presidents Day Weekend

Feb 23 Service opportunity Youth Night at Stations of the Cross, K-HS at 7 p.m./ Soup Supper at 6pm

Feb 25 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m. for Students and Parents joint class taught by Debbie Stollery

## MARCH

March 4<sup>th</sup> Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m. for Students and Parents joint class taught by Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu.

March 11<sup>th</sup> Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m. for Students and Parents joint class taught by Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu.

March 16/17 Confirmation Mandatory Overnight Retreat at Priest Field starts at 5:30pm – candlelight stations of the cross/ Finishes with Mass at 5:30 p.m. at St. Agnes

March 18 - No Confirmation Formation

March 25 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m. for Students and Parents joint class taught by Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu. Participate in Palm Sunday procession and Mass.

March 29<sup>th</sup> – Attend Holy Thursday Liturgy

March 30<sup>th</sup> – Attend Good Friday Liturgy

March 31 – Attend Holy Saturday Vigil Liturgy

## APRIL

April 1<sup>st</sup> No CFF – Easter Sunday

Children's Program at 10:15 a.m. / Service opportunity to assist with Egg Hunt after the 10:30 a.m. Mass

April 7<sup>th</sup> - *Middle schooler's NET Retreat 8:30 a.m. –4:00 p.m.*

April 8<sup>th</sup> - *9-12th Grades –8:30 a.m. –4:00 p.m.*

*St. James Catholic Church, 49 Crosswinds Drive – Charles Town, WV*

*Cost: \$25 (Breakfast & Lunch included)*

Youth Mass at 5 p.m. and Dinner to follow ( you are excused from YM if you are at Net that day)

April 15 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m. for Students and Parents joint class taught by Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu.

April 22 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m. for Students and Parents joint class taught by Dr. Rodica Stoicoiu.

April 29 Confirmation Formation Class 9:15 a.m. \*Service opportunity to assist 1<sup>st</sup> Eucharist in Baking Bread (only 4 Students)

### *MAY*

May 6 No Confirmation Formation Class - First Holy Communion at 10:30a.m. Service opportunity to assist with reception

May 10 Holy Day of Obligation - Ascension of Jesus

May 13 No Confirmation Formation Class – Mother's Day

May 20 Pentecost Sunday Procession at 10:15 am.

May 27 No Confirmation Formation Class- Memorial Day weekend

### *JUNE*

June 3<sup>rd</sup> Youth Mass at 5 p.m. and Cookout to follow

## St Agnes CFF (K-7) Calendar

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# for 2017 -2018

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All Sundays are obligatory for the faithful to participate in the Mass

## *August*

Aug 14 at 6pm and CFF Registration in the Church

Aug 16 at 7pm CFF Registration in the Church

Aug 20 Blessing of the backpacks during the 10:30am Mass/ Registration Sunday

August 27 – Catechist Breakfast and in-service training at 9:15 / Schedule 1:1 trainings with everyone.

## *SEPTEMBER*

Sept 3 – Labor Day weekend

September 10 – Youth Mass and Social afterwards

Sept 17 - CFF Classes begin 9:15 a.m./ Catechetical Sunday Blessing at 10:30 a.m. Mass

Parish Picnic following the 10:30 a.m. Mass

Sept 23 - Catechist Dinner at Priest Field provided by the Dioceses

Sept 24 --CFF Class 9:15 a.m.

## *OCTOBER*

Oct 1- CFF Class 9:15 a.m. (K-7)

Blessing of the Animals at 2 p.m.

Youth Mass – 5 p.m. and Dinner to follow

Oct 8 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m. Start Reconciliation class's start for 2nd graders and their parents

Introduction of our Reconciliation / Confirmation Students at 10:30am Mass

Oct 15 -CFF Class 9:15 a.m.

Oct 22 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m.

Oct 29 - CFF Class 9:15a.m.

## *NOVEMBER*

Nov 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Day of Obligation – All Saint's Day



Nov 3 - Reconciliation Class Service Project – Tag Party in the parish hall at 6 p.m. with dinner

Nov 5 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m. (K-7)

Youth Mass at 5pm – Dinner to follow

Nov 12 - No CFF/Veteran's Day Weekend – First Reconciliation parents and students meet only

Nov 18 - First Reconciliation at 4 p.m.

Nov 19 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m. Teaching Touching Safety Lesson 5

Nov 26 No CFF –Thanksgiving Holiday

## *DECEMBER*

Dec 3 CFF Class 9:15 a.m.(K-7)

Family Advent Wreath Making Workshop at 3 p.m. Pre-registration needed /required for Confirmation

Youth Mass – 5 p.m. and Dinner to follow

Dec 8 - Holy Day of Obligation Feast of the Immaculate Conception Mass

Dec 10 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m.

Dec 17 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m.

December 24<sup>th</sup> Children's Program prior the Christmas Eve Mass, 5:15pm

Dec 25 Holy Day of Obligation Christmas Mass

Dec 31 - No CFF – Christmas Break

## *JANUARY*

Jan 7- CFF Class 9:15 a.m. (K-7)

Youth Mass at 5 p.m. and Dinner to follow

Jan 14 - No CFF - Martin Luther King holiday weekend

Jan 21 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m. Teaching Touching Safety Lesson 6

Jan 28 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m.

## *FEBRUARY*

Feb 4 CFF Class 9:15 a.m. –Souper Bowl of Caring Service Project

Feb 10 Valentine's Day Babysitting Service provided by our Confirmation Students for parents with children in CFF students – Free of charge. 4-8pm. Crafts, snacks, activities and dinner provided. Reservations required. Adult Supervision is also provided.

Feb 11 – CFF Class 9:15 a.m. (K-7)

Youth Mass at 5pm, Dinner to follow

Feb 18 - No CFF President's Day– Catechist in-service training at 9:15

Feb 23 - Youth Night at Stations of the Cross, K-HS at 7 p.m./ Soup Supper at 6pm

Feb 25 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m.

## *MARCH*

March 4 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m.

March 11- CFF Class 9:15 a.m.

March 16/17- Confirmation Overnight Retreat at Priest Field

March 18 - CFF Class 9:15a.m.

March 25 - CFF and Palm Sunday procession participation

## *APRIL*

April 1 - No CFF – Easter

Children's Program at 10:15 a.m. and Egg Hunt after the 10:30 a.m. Mass

April 7<sup>th</sup> - *Middle schooler's NET Retreat 8:30 a.m. –4:00 p.m.*  
*St. James Catholic Church, 49 Crosswinds Drive – Charles Town, WV*  
*Cost: \$25 (Breakfast & Lunch included)*

April 8 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m. (K-7)

Youth Mass at 5 p.m. and Dinner to follow

April 15 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m.

April 22 CFF Class 9:15 a.m.

April 29 - CFF Class 9:15 a.m. Last CFF (K-7 class)

Good Shepherd Sunday Lamb Walk for grades 2 and 3 from 12noon to 3pm.

## *MAY*

May 6- First Holy Communion at 10:30a.m.

May 10 - Holy Day of Obligation - Ascension of Jesus

May 20 – Pentecost Procession at 10:15a.m. gather in front of Church

