

**St Joseph's Retford Sacramental Preparation Programme
First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion 2023/2024**

Date	Liturgical Day	Lesson	Topic covered during lessons	Topics to be covered at home
26 November	Christ the King	1	Introduction – Salvation History Overview	
3 December	1 st Sunday of Advent	2	Our Heavenly Father (C1) The Blessed Trinity (C2)	
10 December	2 nd Sunday of Advent	3	God the Creator (C3) God Made Us (C4)	
17 December	3 rd Sunday of Advent (GS)	4	God is Offended (C5) Becoming a Child of God (C6)	
24 December	4 th Sunday of Advent		School Holiday. No Lesson	Preparing for Our Saviour (C10) The Saviour is Born (C11)
31 December	Holy Family		School Holiday. No Lesson	The Holy Family (C12)
7 January	Epiphany of the Lord	5	Obeying God Our Father (C7) God Gives Us His Laws (C8)	
14 January	2 nd Sunday Ordinary Time	6	I Choose to Love God (C9)	
21 January	3 rd Sunday Ordinary Time	7	Asking Forgiveness (C17)	
28 January	4 th Sunday Ordinary Time	8	Jesus Forgives (C18)	
4 February	5 th Sunday Ordinary Time	9	The Sacrament of Penance (C19)	
11 February	6 th Sunday Ordinary Time		Half Term. No Lesson	Good News (C13) Jesus our Teacher (C14)
18 February	1 st Sunday of Lent		Half Term. No Lesson	Let Us Pray (C15)
25 February	2 nd Sunday of Lent	10	Making Up for Our Offences (C20)	
3 March	3 rd Sunday of Lent	11	The Good Shepherd (C21)	
10 March	4 th Sunday of Lent (LS)	12	The Last Supper (C22)	
17 March	5 th Sunday of Lent	13	Jesus Dies for Us (C23)	
24 March	Palm Sunday		Attend Mass. No Lesson	
31 March	Easter Sunday		School Holiday. No Lesson	We believe (C16)
7 April	2 nd Sunday Easter		School Holiday. No Lesson	Jesus Returns to the Father (C29)
14 April	3 rd Sunday Easter		School Holiday. No Lesson	The Coming of the Holy Spirit (C30)
21 April	4 th Sunday Easter	14	He is Risen, Alleluia! (C24)	
28 April	5 th Sunday Easter	15	The Holy Mass (C25)	
5 May	6 th Sunday Easter		Bank Holiday Weekend. No Lesson.	
12 May	7 th Sunday Easter	16	What We Do at Mass (C26)	
19 May	Pentecost	17	Jesus Comes to Us (C27)	
26 May	Trinity Sunday		Half Term. No Lesson	God's Family – The Church (C31) Mary Our Mother (C32)
2 June	Corpus Christi		Half Term. No Lesson	Heaven, Our Home (C34)
9 June	10 th Sunday Ordinary Time	18	Jesus, My Lord and My God (C28)	
16 June	11 th Sunday Ordinary Time	19	Jesus is Always Present (C33)	
23 June	12 th Sunday Ordinary Time	20*	Rehearsal for First Confession (in church)	
29 June	Saturday??	21*	Day of Recollection for First Communion Families – Celebration of First Confession (in church)	Tentative - To Be Confirmed
30 June	Saints Peter and Paul	22*	Rehearsal for First Communion (in church)	
7 July	14 th Sunday Ordinary Time		First Communion Day	

Sessions will take place in the parish hall. Sessions with (*) will take place in church.

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Programme Outline:

Preparation for the first reception of the Sacraments of Penance and the Eucharist, with the law of God and salvation history as background. The lessons emphasize God's mercy and love. The curriculum covers Creation, the covenant with Moses, the Ten Commandments, redemption, forgiveness of sins, and the Mass.

Part I: Salvation History and Preparation for First Reconciliation

Chapters 1 – 9: The story of Creation through Moses; God teaches us through His Law. We obey through love. (Catechists)

Chapters 17 – 20: Forgiveness of sins in the Sacrament of Penance. (Catechists)

Part II: Knowing Jesus in His Life and through Prayer

Chapters 10 – 16: The birth and life of Christ, Miracles, Parables, Prayer. (Parents)

Part III: Preparation for First Communion and Life in the Church

Chapters 21 – 28, 33: Preparation for First Holy Communion; Jesus is the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for us. (Catechists)

Chapters 29 – 32, 34: We prepare for Life in Heaven through our life in the Church. (Parents)