



St Richard Parish, Skelmersdale

Serving the Churches of St Mary Queen of Apostles, St Richard's and St Francis of Assisi.

184 Liverpool Road
Skelmersdale
WN8 8BX
Tel: 01695 720095
strichard@rcaol.org.uk

Skelmersdale Catholic Churches Sacramental Programme

Dear Parent/Guardian,

I am happy to inform you that our Sacramental Programme (**Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion**) for 2025/2026 will begin on the weekend of 27/28 September 2025. The programme is open to all children who will be in Year 4 or above in September and who have been baptised.

Sacraments like Reconciliation and First Communion are part of God's gift to us. Reconciliation is the gift of forgiveness and through Eucharist we come into communion with Jesus. The journey to a child's First Communion is an important and joyful occasion for them. As parents during Baptism you accepted the responsibility of helping your child in the practice of the Catholic Faith. The parish community also promised to support you in these duties. So as you walk with your child on this journey our parish community is here to help you.

The First Communion programme we use is based on the completion of a handbook. It is designed to help your child understand the meaning of Eucharist and deepen their relationship with Jesus. Children and parents attend one session a month at Mass to work on the programme. A Catechist leads the children's session during Mass and the parents are asked to attend a 10 minute session at the end of Mass. Parents pick one church to attend. Dates will be confirmed at the first session but are generally the third weekend in the month.

Mass times are:

Saturday	5 pm in St Mary
Sunday	9 am in St Richard's
Sunday	11am in St Francis'

You can attend any church and you do not need to attend the same Church each month as central attendance records are kept. If you wish your child to join the programme complete the attached Registration form and bring your child to one of the churches on 27th or 28th. Forms can be returned to school or brought to Church.

We ask for a voluntary £5 contribution towards the cost of the file and worksheets. Please put it in the envelope with your form and either return it to school or bring it to church. Please do not let finance determine whether your child receives Communion as we can help in various ways.

If you have any queries or concerns throughout the programme please talk to a Catechist or contact me on 07745879986 or k.gresty@sky.com

Yours Sincerely,

Fr Kenny Hyde
Parish Priest

Mrs Kath Gresty
Senior Catechist



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Please complete as clearly as possible

Name of Child: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Place of Baptism: _____

Date of Baptism: _____

Name of Parent/ Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Contact no: _____

E-mail: _____

School: _____

As parents/carers of the above named child we would like our child to be part of the Sacramental Programme. We understand that it is necessary for our child and ourselves to attend all of the sessions.

We also agree that the data on this form can be stored electronically.

All information is held in strict confidence and is only used for the First Holy Communion records.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

**It is important that this form is returned as soon as possible
to the School or to the Church**