

## **FIRST COMMUNION**

**RECEPTION OF THE EUCHARIST USUALLY OCCURS FOR CHILDREN IN THE SECOND GRADE. OUR PARISH POLICIES REQUIRE THAT CHILDREN RECEIVE TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS OF FAITH FORMATION INCLUDING THE YEAR THAT THE SACRAMENT IS CELEBRATED TO PARTICIPATE IN A SACRAMENTAL CELEBRATION. THIS MEANS THAT YOUR CHILD SHOULD BE ATTENDING EITHER ST. RITA CATHOLIC SCHOOL OR PARTICIPATING IN OUR CCE PROGRAM SINCE AT LEAST THE FIRST GRADE AND BE A REGULAR MASS PARTICIPANT.**

**WHO: ANY BAPTIZED CATHOLIC WHO IS IN THE SECOND GRADE. THERE IS ALSO A PARENT COMPONENT WHICH CONSISTS OF AN EVENING PARENTS MEETING FOR RECONCILIATION AND EUCHARIST.**

**WHAT: THE PREPARATION PROCESS INCLUDES NOT ONLY CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION BUT ALSO A RETREAT DAY KNOWN AS "JESUS DAY".**

**WHEN: CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION IS DONE ON SUNDAY MORNINGS FOR ALL PARISH CHILDREN IN TWO FOUR WEEK SEGMENTS. FOUR WEEKS FOR RECONCILIATION AND FOUR WEEKS FOR EUCHARIST. THE CELEBRATION IS USUALLY HELD AT ONE OF OUR SUNDAY MASSES DURING THE EASTER SEASON.**

**IF YOUR CHILD WAS BAPTIZED AS AN INFANT AND IS NOW IN THE THIRD GRADE OR ABOVE AND NEEDS TO RECEIVE THE EUCHARIST FOR THE FIRST TIME CONTACT THE OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION.**