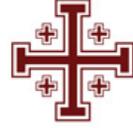




Saints John and Paul Parish School of Religion

280 Weaver Street, Larchmont, NY 10538

914-834-4597 jshea@sjpparish.org



The Sacrament of First Holy Communion

Following are the instructions for our First Holy Communion Masses. Please understand that the instructions are for the good of all the children receiving the Sacrament. Ignoring the instructions—especially in regards to the number of people coming up to receive Communion with the children -- will only lead to unnecessary unpleasantness. Please read the note at the end of this letter regarding this carefully.

Dress Code:

- Boys should wear a suit or a blazer and slacks shirt and tie. The color scheme is up to you. No shorts, sandals or sneakers.
- Girls should wear dresses. Shoulders should be covered. Veils should not cover the face.
- All children's hands must be free—no gloves, rosaries, medals or flowers.
 - There are pictures of past First Communions on the bulletin board outside my office.

Seating:

- Each family will be assigned to a pew, which generally holds eight to nine adults not counting children on laps. Parents and siblings should be seated in the family pew.
- There will be **very limited** extra seating available in the back.



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Instructions:

- Children and Parents gather in the auditorium **30 minutes** prior to their Mass (at 10:30 AM or at 1:30 PM).
 - We will have a final “practice” with the children.
 - The group photo will be taken
 - Information regarding the photographer will be forthcoming.
- Parents will please go into the church fifteen minutes prior to the Mass, find their assigned pew and wait for their child to process in. Do not remain in the auditorium.
 - Children will sit together
 - Boys in front of the Blessed Mother statue
 - Girls in front of St. Joseph
 - Boys on the right (Our Lady’s statue) and girls on the left (St. Joseph).
- Behind the children, a pew will be marked by a banner for each family in the same order as the children are situated.
 - The pews generally hold eight to nine adults not counting children on laps.
 - Parents should sit at the end of the pew by the middle aisle.
- The procession at the end of the Mass is led by the altar servers and then the children will be directed to follow. The clergy comes next and then the families.



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- Please take your child's banner with you.
- We will conclude in the gym for more photos and a reception.

Any questions should be asked by email; please do not call the office. Thank you.