

SACRAMENTS 2009-2010

The Sacraments are signs of the larger mystery of our loving God encountering us in the here and now. “The liturgical life of the Church revolves around the sacraments, with the Eucharist at the center.” (*National Directory for Catechesis*)

The Catholic Church celebrates seven sacraments, all of which make Jesus present in a special way:

- Baptism: Jesus gives new life.
- Confirmation: Jesus gives his Spirit.
- Eucharist: Jesus nourishes us and strengthens our bond with God.
- Reconciliation: Jesus forgives.
- Anointing: Jesus heals the whole person.
- Marriage: Jesus loves us and calls us to love one another.
- Holy Orders: Jesus serves and invites us to spread the Good News.

Specifically at Our Lady of Lourdes:

Baptism

Children:

- Celebrated on the first and third Sundays of the month, usually on a Sunday at 1:00 p.m.; however, other arrangements may be made.
- ***First time parents*** need to register for baptismal preparation class which meets the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Office Center.
 - There are **no** classes in the months of March, July and December.
 - Baptisms are not scheduled during Lent.
 - Please call the Parish Office Center at 922-0715 to arrange for a date for the class and the celebration of the Sacrament of Baptism.

Adults:

usually participate in the **RCIA process**. (See RCIA for more information or contact the RCIA director at 922-0715.)

Requirements for baptismal sponsors/godparents:

- Both sponsors must be people that reflect Christian love, people who live their faith.
- At least one sponsor must be a practicing, confirmed Catholic and at least 16 years of age.
- The other sponsor need not be Catholic, but must be a practicing Christian of at least 16 years of age and have a firm faith.

Eucharist

is available daily within the celebration of the Mass or a communion service. See the bulletin cover for times. If you are homebound either temporarily or permanently, unable to attend Mass and would like to receive communion in the home, contact Sister Carla at the Parish Office Center—922-0715 x3330.

First Eucharist usually happens in the second grade. This year the dates have been scheduled for the weekend of April 24 and 25, 2010. Contact Carol Greulich at 347-2646 for more information.

Eucharistic Adoration

- takes place every Saturday from 9:00-3:30, beginning with a communion service at 8:30 a.m. and ending with benediction at 3:30.
- If you would like to volunteer on a regular basis to pray in front of the Blessed Sacrament for a half hour or an hour, contact the POC or sign up on the sheets provided in the gathering space.

Confirmation

- is received by eighth graders.
- Preparation for this sacrament takes place either at Our Lady of Lourdes School or in the Religious Education Program. In 2010 the Sacrament of Confirmation will take place Thursday evening, March 4. For more information, contact Carol Greulich at 347-2646.

Reconciliation

- is celebrated Saturdays from 2:00-3:30 p.m., the Thursday before every first Friday from 1:00-2:00 p.m. and 7:00-8:00 p.m. Outside of those times parishioners can also make an appointment with the pastor.
- **First Reconciliation** usually takes place in the second grade. This year it will take place on Wednesday, November 4, 2009, beginning at 7 p.m. in the church. Contact Carol Greulich at 347-2646 for more information.

Anointing of the Sick

can be requested whenever desired either in the home or in the hospital. Contact the Parish Office Center at 922-0715, or in the case of an emergency or serious illness call 347-2641.

Marriage

preparation normally begins eight months prior to the pre-arranged wedding date.

Contact the Parish Office Center at 922-0715 to select a date with the consent of the pastor or deacon.

Holy Orders:

Priesthood: Have you ever thought of becoming a priest? a permanent deacon?

Religious Life: Have you ever thought of becoming a religious brother or sister?

If you feel called to consider a life of service for Christ and His church, feel free to talk with Fr. Dave, Fr. Ted, Deacon Tom or Sister Carla. You could also contact Fr. Kyle Schnippel, Vocation Director for the Archdiocese of Cincinnati at 421-3131

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is the Church's way of initiating new members. It is the process during which one learns about the Catholic faith and decides whether or not he or she wishes to make a life commitment.

- **Who may attend RCIA?**
 - Persons who have never been baptized as Christians.
 - Persons who have been baptized in another Christian faith and are now interested in the Catholic tradition.
 - Persons who were baptized in the Catholic tradition, but not raised as Catholics.

- **Is a person obligated to become a Catholic after beginning the process?**

There is no obligation to make any kind of commitment, nor is there any pressure exerted upon anyone to become a Catholic.

- **What does a person do first if interested in pursuing Catholicism?**

Contact Sister Carla at the Parish Office Center at 922-0715 x3330 or cmurar@lourdes.org. Green flyers further explaining the process are available at all church entrances.

- **Inquiry Night** is scheduled before the beginning of the process to answer questions. Consult the Parish bulletin for date, time and place.