

## 2023

### October

Monday 30<sup>th</sup> 7.00pm

**Parents' Meeting with Father David (Church)**

### November

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> 6.45pm

Class for children (Church Rooms)

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> 6.45pm

Class for children

### December

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> 6.45pm

Class for children

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> 6.45 pm

Class for children

## 2024

### January

Monday 8<sup>th</sup> 6.45pm

Class for children

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> 6.45pm

Class for children

### February

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> 6.45pm

Class and **Parents' meeting with Father David**

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> 6.45pm

Class for children

### March

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> 6.45pm

Class for children

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> 11.30am

**First Confession Service (for families)**

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> 6.45 pm

Class for children

### April

Monday 15<sup>th</sup> 6.45pm

Class for children

Monday 29<sup>th</sup> 6.45pm

Class for children

### May

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> 6.45pm

Class and **Parents' meeting with Father David**

### June

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> 6.45pm

Class for children

Monday 17<sup>th</sup> 6.45pm

Rehearsal for children

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> 11.30am or

**First Holy Communion Mass**

Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> 11.30am

**First Holy Communion Mass**

# First Holy Communion

St Etheldreda's Church, Ely

## Information for Parents



2023 – 2024

## **Welcome**

Welcome to the First Holy Communion Programme at St Etheldreda's Church, Ely. The aim of this programme is to prepare your child to make two of the Church's sacraments – Confession and Holy Communion – for the first time, and for them to continue to come to Mass and receive Communion from then on. As well as a course of lessons over the next school year, your child needs support from you to make their first Confession and Communion. They will have many questions as they deepen their knowledge of the Catholic Faith and think about what it means for them. This booklet gives more information about the commitment you are making. We are here to help you at the parents' meetings and during the course.

## **Course content for children**

Our aim is for the course to be enjoyable and interesting and for the children to learn important information about their faith and think deeply about what it means.

In the first term we learn about God and the Creation, and why God created us. We learn about the Church and the Trinity. We begin to learn about Jesus through the Christmas story.

In the second term we think about how Jesus wants His people to behave. We learn about right and wrong, being sorry and seeking forgiveness, and forgiving each other. We learn that God forgives us. The children make their First Confession. Following this we learn about the Easter story and the Last Supper.

In the third term, we learn about the meaning of Communion, why we come to Mass and we think about our relationship with God.

## **The role of parents**

As parents we set a very important example to our children. We show them how to be faithful members of the Catholic Church and followers of Jesus. When you register your child on this course, you are agreeing to:

1. Take your child to Mass with you.
2. Bring your child to classes on time at 18:45 and be there at 19:45 to meet your child after each class
3. Come to the parents' meetings to find out how to support your child.
4. Pray with your child.
5. Help your child to prepare for their First Confession.
6. Help your child to prepare for their First Holy Communion.
7. Bring your child to Mass regularly once they have made their First Communion. Being a member of the Church does not end when the course ends.

We are here to help you during the coming year. You can ask Father David and the catechists - Paul and Sarah Raynes, Ben Thompson and Grazyna Karwoska-Budd - for help.

The cost of the course is £10 for the children's book and for basic stationery.