

Sacramental Program 2020

Reconciliation



First Eucharist



Confirmation





Dear Parents,

At St. Thomas the Apostle Parish, we offer all Catholic children in our community, who do not attend a Catholic school, the opportunity to attend and receive their Sacraments on a structured basis each Tuesday afternoon during school terms. This is possible through the generosity of our volunteers who champion the program and help prepare and facilitate the weekly classes.

Parents are the first teachers of faith. Just as parents teach their children to hold a spoon, when to say please and thank you, how to draw, how to walk, and how to relate to others, parents also teach their children about faith. Therefore the classes provided by our catechists are a support to the religious formation children receive at home. Through weekly attendance at the classes, prayer at home and Mass attendance with the family, your child will grow in faith through your support.

I trust that you will find this program very beneficial for your child and to your family's spiritual life.

Aim of the Program

1. To prepare children for reception of the Sacraments
2. To assist parents with the formal religious education of their children
3. To encourage them to participate in the life of the Parish and to see the church as their spiritual home.
4. To form an association with other catholic children in the community.

Copies of Certificates

When completing the enrolment form, please provide us with copies of all necessary sacramental certificates that your child has. This includes the Baptism Certificate. If your child is new to the program and wishing to receive the sacraments of First Holy Communion or Confirmation, a copy of their baptism certificate as well as their Reconciliation certificate is required.

Fees

A fee of \$70 per family, per year (to cover the cost of materials used, books purchased and general administration) **is due on enrolment**. Payment methods currently available are:

1. By cheque made payable to "St. Thomas the Apostle Parish"
2. By direct debit to:
 - Bank: National Australia Bank
 - BSB: 083 347
 - Account Number: 684881178
3. Cash payment made on the receipt of enrolment forms

** When making a direct debit payment, please make reference to **your surname** and the word "Catechetics" or 'CAT" so we can identify your individual payment.

Communication

Most communication comes from the Pastoral Associate via email. Notes will also be sent home during the year about coming events, and ways in which you can help your children in their faith development. Please make yourself known to your child's catechist early in the year. If you have any matter you would like to discuss, please contact the Pastoral Associate for the Catechetical Program.

Sacramental Programs

The sacramental programs offered are:

- Reconciliation – this is available for all children **in Grade 3** and higher
- First Holy Communion – this is available to all children **in Grade 4** and higher
- Confirmation – this is available to all children **in Grade 6** and higher

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish
57 Central Road
Blackburn VIC 3130
P: 03.9878.0818



Child Safeguarding in the Parish

The Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne holds the care, safety and wellbeing of children and young people as central and fundamental responsibilities of the Church. This commitment is drawn from and inherent to the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and the sanctity of each human person at the heart of the Gospel. Please feel free to view our website <http://stthomastheapostle.org.au/> for more information on our policies.

Our classes are run by the catechist and sometimes, volunteers. All members associated and connected with the program have a current and valid Working with Children's Check as part of legislation requirements in Victoria. Our gathering space for the class has been assessed for the suitability and safety of your children.

As part of the program, we welcome all parents to join in the class with your child and would love for you to be at every class if you wish to. Also, we require all children and parents to comply with a Code of Conduct that has been issued by the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne together with our parish.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact us on the details below.

St. Thomas the Apostle Parish

57 Central Road

Blackburn VIC 3130

P: 03.9878.0818

Office Enquiries

9878 0818

E: blackburn@cam.org.au

Direct Enquiries

Caren Garlick

Pastoral Associate for Youth Ministry

E: caren.garlick@cam.org.au

Caren Garlick
Pastoral Associate for Youth Ministry



Catechetical Program 2020 Enrolment Form

STUDENT DETAILS

Child Number One:

Name:

Date of Birth:

Sex: Male Female

Current School Attending:

Year Level/Grade for 2020:

Sacrament Enrolling for

Reconciliation

First Eucharist

Confirmation

Baptised in: St Thomas Blackburn Other: _____

Reconciliation: St Thomas Blackburn Other: _____

First Eucharist: St Thomas Blackburn Other: _____

Allergies:

Medical Conditions:

STUDENT DETAILS

Child Number Two:

Name:

Date of Birth:

Sex: Male Female

Current School Attending:

Year Level/Grade for 2020:



Sacrament Enrolling for

Reconciliation

First Eucharist

Confirmation

Baptised in: St Thomas Blackburn Other: _____

Reconciliation: St Thomas Blackburn Other: _____

First Eucharist: St Thomas Blackburn Other: _____

Allergies:

Medical Conditions:

PARENT DETAILS:

Mother
Name:

Mobile:

Email:

Father
Name:

Mobile:

Email:

Home Address:

Preferred Payment Method: Cash Direct Debit Cheque

OFFICE USE ONLY - Please indicate if payment received YES NO



Permission to use and publish images, videos and work samples of our children

Dear Parent/Guardian

We are seeking your permission to publish, if needed, images of your child and the work they may have done during the catechetical classes. These images and work are solely for the promotion of our Catholic catechetical classes to the parish.

With your permission, we may use your child's picture to put on our notice board in the church foyer closer to the date of their sacrament asking for the parish to pray for them in their journey of faith. We may also use any posters they have made during class time and pin these up in and around the church.

With your consent, you are agreeing to:

- Your child's picture to be published
- Your child's first name to be published
- Your child's work to be published

Your child's picture and work samples will not be used for any purpose other than to promote the Catholic catechetical lessons of St Thomas the Apostle Parish.

All pictures and work samples will either be stored, disposed of securely or given to the respective child to be taken home.

I hereby give permission for my child's pictures and work samples to be published in the church to promote the Catholic catechetical lessons of St Thomas the Apostle Parish.

Child Name	
Child Sacrament	
Parent Name	
Parent Signature	



St Thomas the Apostle

Children's Code of Conduct

As a participant of the **2020 Catechetical Program** (insert program name here) offered at St Thomas the Apostle Parish, I _____ will:

- Pay attention to and follow instructions given to me by leaders
- Always try my best to participate
- Actively listen to what other people have to say
- Treat everyone with respect and kindness regardless of age, gender, physical and mental abilities
- Treat everyone 'online' with the same respect as I would face to face
- Not use rude or offensive language
- Not hurt, abuse, bully, tease anyone else or form inappropriate relationships
- Not have or use tobacco, alcohol or banned drugs, or misuse other medication
- Tell an adult whom I trust about anything that makes me feel worried, afraid or unsafe
- I will not be alone with any adult present when I am at any function conducted as part of the Catechetical Program
- Make sure that an adult leading my activity knows my whereabouts at all times
- Treat the property around me with respect
- Treat other people's property with respect

Child Signature:	Date:
Parent/guardian name (required if participant is under 18 years):	
Parent Signature:	Date: