



Please read the following information and keep the first two pages. If your child wishes to receive their first Holy Communion, please go through the information below, and with them fill out the final sheet of this form and return it to Alan, Moira or the Parish Office, by **Sunday 11 September**.

First Holy Communion is open to children who are aged **seven and above** on 19 November.

SHOULD I RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION?

The following Questions & Answers may help you to understand first Holy Communion, but Alan, Moira, Daniel or Edwina will be pleased to answer any other questions you may have.

What is first Holy Communion?

This is the first time you receive Christ in the bread and wine at the Eucharist. The Eucharist is a 'sacrament': an outward sign of God's 'grace' (or, God's active love). In the Eucharist, we believe that Christ is present in a special way. We call this Real Presence.

Is there a preparation course?

Yes, there are seven sessions, covering Baptism, the Eucharist (two sessions), Jesus, Prayer and God in the world today. They take place in church on Saturday mornings from 10am to just before 11am. If this clashes with another event in your diary, alternative arrangements may be possible. Please ask.

These sessions are interactive and child-friendly, and they aim to help you to understand the significance of this important step.

Do I need to be baptised ('christened')?

Yes, and we will make sure this happens before your first Holy Communion.

What happens if I am not sure?

Talk to parents, friends or Moira, Alan, Daniel or Edwina. If you are still not sure, it may be best to wait. Sometimes people find answers to their questions by doing the course.

When would my first Holy Communion take place?

On Sunday **20 November** at the 10am Sung Eucharist, but it may also be possible on Saturday **19 November**, at the 5pm Family Eucharist.

By when do I have to decide?

You must let Alan or Moira know personally, by returning the last sheet of this form to one of them or to the Parish Office by **Sunday 11 September**.

Preparation

We ask parents and carers to be actively involved in **home preparation**, to give children a good grounding and to reinforce the teaching and learning they receive at church.

Packs with five topic headings will be distributed for this purpose at the beginning of September. If you work through them carefully with your child, you will find this to be a joyful experience, which may even deepen your own faith!

Preparation sessions **in church** are at **10am prompt** on:

17 September Session One (Baptism)

24 September Session Two (Eucharist 1)

1 October Session Three (Eucharist 2)

8 October Session Four (Jesus)

15 – 29 October: no sessions

5 November: 'Messy Saints' day and fireworks: no session

12 November Session Five (Prayer)

19 November Session Six (God in the world today; and practice for first Holy Communion)

BAPTISM OF ANYONE WHO HAS NOT ALREADY BEEN BAPTISED:

To be agreed.

First Holy Communion

Sunday 20 November
at the **10am Sung Eucharist**
at All Saints.

Yes, I would like to be enrolled for first Holy Communion.

I will attend the preparation classes, and the service on **20 November** (*or possibly 19 November*).

Child's signature:

Date:

Adult's supporting signature:

Date:

We need some basic information, to fill out our registers:

Candidate's Christian name(s) and surname:

Candidate's date of birth:

Please tick the appropriate box:

S/he has been baptised ('christened')

S/he has *not* been baptised

*Please bring details of your baptism to the **first class**, including photos or certificates.
If you have not been baptised, your baptism will be at All Saints before 19 November.*

Your address:

School:

Mother's Name:

Father's Name:

Please complete and return this form by Sunday 11 September to Alan or Moira or to:

All Saints Church, Lovelace Road, London, SE21 8JY

Email: ops@all-saints.org.uk