

Parish Sacramental Pathway Master Sheet

For first enquiries • St Mary's • St John Bosco • St Edward's Parish

FIRST: welcome → establish Baptism and sacramental history → refer uncertainties to the priest → assign the correct books. A date is agreed through the priest after the required checks. Urgent or danger-of-death cases go to him immediately.

Person and pathway	Teaching book and activity guide	Priest checks or essential distinction
Infant Baptism Unbaptised infant or child below the age of reason	My Child's Baptism + Baptism Activity & Conversation Companion. Prepare parents and godparents; link faith, prayer and family life.	Consent, founded hope of Catholic upbringing, suitable godparents and records. Older children need the appropriate initiation route.
Christian initiation of children Unbaptised child of catechetical age	Priest-assigned, age-appropriate catechumenal material and activities. Follow the appropriate rites; ordinarily Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist together.	Baptismal history, age and capacity, parental involvement, readiness and rites. No sacramental Confession before Baptism.
Reception of baptised children Non-Catholic child of catechetical age	Coming into the Catholic Church preparation catechism + Activity and Conversation Guide. Preparation includes Confession, Reception and completion of initiation.	Validity of Baptism, Catholic status and earlier sacraments. Valid Baptism is not repeated. The priest directs the sequence and rite.
First Confession and Communion Baptised Catholic child	My First Confession Catechism, then My First Holy Communion Catechism, with assigned activity guides. First sacramental Confession precedes First Holy Communion.	Baptism, age and capacity, understanding, disposition, Sunday Mass and practical readiness. Parents remain involved.
Confirmation for young people Catholic young person not confirmed	My Confirmation Catechism + Confirmation Activity & Conversation Companion. Include prayer, Mass, Confession, sponsor support and witness.	Previous sacraments, free intention, proper disposition, sponsor and minister. Age or school year alone does not establish readiness.
RCIA or catechumenate Unbaptised adult	Becoming Catholic RCIA A Catechumenate Companion + RCIA Activity & Conversation Companion. Follow the periods and rites through initiation and mystagogy.	Possible previous Baptism, marriage history, conversion and readiness. Ordinarily Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist together. No sacramental Confession before Baptism.
Reception into Full Communion Validly baptised non-Catholic adult	Coming into Full Communion Catholic Preparation Book + Mentor Activity and Conversation Guide. Formation, Catholic Confession as appropriate, profession and Reception.	Baptism, marriage history and prior Confirmation. The priest directs Confirmation and Eucharist as required. Valid Baptism is not repeated.
Adult Confirmation Already-Catholic adult not confirmed	Preparing for Adult Confirmation Catholic Preparation Companion + Mentor Activity and Conversation Guide. Mass, prayer, Confession, readiness and continuing discipleship.	Catholic status, records, prior Confirmation or chrismation, missing First Communion, disposition and minister's faculty.
Returning to the Faith Catholic returning after time away	Returning to the Faith Catholic Companion + Activity and Conversation Guide. Welcome, Sunday Mass, Confession when needed, prayer and ordinary Catholic life.	Missing sacraments follow their own route. Personal sacramental circumstances go privately to the priest. Finishing the guide is not a gate before Mass or Confession.
Marriage Couple seeking Catholic marriage	Marriage Catholic Couple Preparation Book + Activity and Conversation Guide. Couple conversations accompany the priest's preparation and practical arrangements.	Freedom to marry, previous marriages, consent, permissions or dispensations, liturgical and civil requirements. Mentors do not approve these.

CHECK FIRST: uncertain Baptism, missing records, Eastern Catholic or Orthodox background, previous Reception, uncertain Confirmation or any previous marriage. Never assume Eastern chrismation is missing. The priest assesses these cases before routing.

AT EVERY MEETING: welcome and listen → activity → preparation book → discussion and understanding → prayer → one practical step. Readiness governs progress. Record no actual sins; safeguarding concerns follow the diocesan reporting route immediately.