

# MARY HELP OF CHRISTIANS SAWTELL

## PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM FOR CHILDREN



Parents are recognised by the Church as the first and best teachers of their children in the ways of the Faith and Christian values. For this reason the preparation for the Sacraments of Confirmation, Reconciliation and First Eucharist is through our parish based, family centred program.

For each sacrament the preparation begins with parent meetings to discuss and be informed about the sacraments, and their parental role in the preparation process. Following this, parents and children participate in a series of small group sessions which are facilitated by a group companion. We encourage parents to volunteer for the role of group companions. Training and support is provided.

A practice session is usually held before the celebration of the sacrament.

Notification for enrolment in the program is advertised in the Parish bulletin and website and also through MHOC Primary School.

Details of each sacrament are provided below.

All enquiries and questions can be directed to Carolyn Tumminello (Parish Pastoral Associate) at the Parish Office 66583544 or [caztumm@gmail.com](mailto:caztumm@gmail.com)



## **CONFIRMATION**

To be eligible to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, a child needs to have been baptised and be in Year 2 or up to 15 years old.

Confirmation dates are subject to the Bishop's calendar but usually occurs in June or July.



## **RECONCILIATION**

Children who have been confirmed will be eligible to prepare for and receive this sacrament later in the same year. Once again, the format for preparation is the same as for Confirmation. The children will receive the sacrament with the 1<sup>st</sup> Rite.



## **FIRST EUCHARIST**

Eligible children will prepare for their First Holy Communion in the year following the reception of Confirmation and Reconciliation. In addition to the meetings and practice, the children will also celebrate the 2<sup>nd</sup> Rite of Reconciliation prior to receiving their First Holy Communion.

Following this there will also be a celebratory brunch with the candidates.