

## Sacraments of Initiation

*In the case of Baptism:* Eucharist and Confirmation in the Faith, children and adults must be prepared. These sacraments bring one progressively into a fuller communion with the priesthood of Jesus Christ and His Church. Christian living is a lifelong journey.

*Infant Baptism:* Please contact the rectory in advance of an expected birth or adoption process. Parents and Godparents participate in a pre-baptism preparation. This gives them an opportunity to reflect on the meaning of Baptism and to have questions answered concerning the Sacrament and the ceremony.

*In the case of the First Eucharist:* Yes, the Eucharist is initiation into the faith, each time we receive it. The first time one is to do so means one is ready through an internal understanding of the Sacrament. Generally, one is at least seven years of age when receiving for the first time. Thus, the child must have been in our religious formation program for two years.

*In the case of Confirmation:* Confirmation is the next step into the sharing of Christ's priesthood. It demands more knowledge and understanding of the faith by the person. Thus, here too, the youth is expected to be in our religious formation program for two years prior to Confirmation.

Parent participation is expected and provided for throughout the process of initiating children and youth. Adult education is offered throughout the year by announcement.