**St Joseph’s Oatley**

**First Holy Communion Program 2018**

**Information Sheet**

Dear Parents and Carers

Thank you for enrolling your child in our First Holy Communion Program. This sacrament of the Eucharist, through which we enter the deepest possible relationship with the Lord, is the high point of our Christian journey. This is the Sacrament we call “communion,” which literally means “union together.” It bonds us together with Jesus, with the Church which is the Body of Christ, and the Communion of Saints.

By being part of this program, you are continuing along that path that you set out on when you presented your child for baptism and are opening yourselves up to the Lord’s blessing and love that He wishes you and your child to experience.

**Some practical matters**

This program, here at St Joseph’s is designed to allow parents, godparents and other carers to participate in this journey so as to make possible a deeper spiritual bonding with your child. Your love will be an example to your child of God’s endless love.

**The place and time for the lessons**:

The lessons will be held at St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School in small groups in the classrooms (see dates below). The candidates will need to bring their programs each week, with their own pencils and erasers. Please enter via the Rosa St gate at St Joseph’s Catholic Primary School and please arrive at the lessons on time.

**First Communion Lesson Dates are as follows:**

Lesson 1 Sunday 20 May at 8.30am

Lesson 2 Sunday 27 May at 8.45am

Lesson 3 Sunday 3 June at 8.45am

Lesson 4 Sunday 10 June at 8.45am

**First Holy Communion Dates and Practice Dates are as follows:**

Mass 1: **Sat 16 June** **5.00pm** Parish Mass (max 14 candidates)

Practice Thursday 14 June 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Mass 2: **Sun 17 June 1.30** pm

Practice Friday 15 June 4.00pm – 5.00pm

Mass 3: **Sun 17 June 4.00 pm**

Practice: Fri 15 June 5.30pm – 6.30pm

There will be a special Reconciliation Session for candidates prior to making their First Communion on

**Saturday 9 June, at 3.30pm**.

Generally, girls wear white dresses and boys wear collared shirts (generally white) with long, dark pants. Please remember it may be cold so bring along a wrap or jumper for your child.

On behalf of the Parish of St Joseph’s Oatley, we look forward to journeying together with you over the coming months as we support the candidates in the preparation for their First Eucharist.

Should you have any questions please email Mrs Sandra Green on [sandragreen@optusnet.com.au](mailto:sandragreen@optusnet.com.au)

Mrs Sandra Green, (on behalf of Fr Paul Hilder, Parish Priest)