



NORTH HARBOUR PARISH 2026/27 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM INFORMATION BOOKLET

Families journeying together in their Faith...



Step 1:

Confirmation



Step 2:

Reconciliation



Step 3:

Eucharist

Enrolments close at 9pm on Friday 25th September

***** PLEASE READ THROUGH THIS INFORMATION BOOKLET BEFORE ENROLLING *****

Broken Bay Diocese Pre-requisites for the Sacramental Program:

- Your child must be in Yr 3 and above.
- Your child must be baptised— see in FAQ about Baptisms in other Christian denominations. Proof of Baptism is required.

You will need:

- A copy of your child's Baptism Certificate and an email address of the place of Baptism (please have these ready around enrolment time).
- A copy of your Child's Confirmation Sponsor's Baptism Certificate.

To Register/Enrol:

Go to Parish Website **OR** Use the trybooking link:

<https://www.trybooking.com/DKNKF>

OR



Please note: A separate Enrolment/Registration (\$35 payment) will be required for each of the **3 Sacraments**— Confirmation, First Reconciliation and First Communion. Please feel comfortable to tell us if you are not able to cover this as we understand that living expenses can be a challenging part of family life.



Our Parish Sacramental Program

Our Parish Sacramental Program is:

- **Parish-based**
- **Family-focused and**
- **School-supported.**

It aims to support you and your family as you grow together in faith by praying together, learning from Scripture and living out the mission of Jesus Christ. We invite you, as a family, to join our parish community, as we share our faith together, seeking a life in the light of God's love, through the example of Jesus, His son.

Our 2026/27 Sacramental Program Structure:

Step 1: Confirmation, Term 4 2026

Step 2: Reconciliation, Term 1 2027

Step 3: First Communion, Term 2 2027

(Please see the following pages for all dates and times)

2026/27 Sacramental Parent Information Meeting

All Parents are required to attend the Sacramental Parent Information Meeting taking place at St Kieran's Church on the following dates:

9:30am Tuesday 15th September OR 7:00pm Tuesday 15th September

(CHOOSE ONE SESSION ONLY)

The Structure of the Program

Your child will receive a workbook at the beginning of each Sacrament which contains 4 lessons:

- **Lesson 1:** Your child and 1 parent will be asked to come to St Kieran's for about 1 hour and 20 mins for Lesson 1 which also doubles as a Parent Information Session. Bookings essential via an email from Ursula.
- **Lessons 2 and 3:** will be covered in Family Groups. We create family groups of about 6 children, and one parent each, who meet in a home or in the Parish Centre. A group Leader is needed for each group– more information given at the meeting.
- **Lesson 4:** will be covered at home with your child and at the practice too. Families are also asked to attend mass during preparation for Sacraments.

Step 1: The Sacrament of Confirmation

At Confirmation, the graces received in Baptism are sealed with the reception of the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit. Receiving Confirmation enables your child to participate more fully in the worshipping and apostolic life of the church. The words that Jesus shared with his disciples at Pentecost apply to each of us at Confirmation: "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses." (Acts 1:8) At this sacred time, we pray that the Holy Spirit will draw the children and their families closer to a friendship with Jesus and inspire them to continue his mission to show the world God's love.

Confirmation Term 4 2026- Dates and Times

Registrations close 5pm Friday 25th September, 2026.

Family Preparation Sessions:

Preparation for the Sacrament will take place in October/November.

- **Lesson 1:** (For children and 1 parent– booking essential)
Monday, 12th October at 4pm **OR** Monday, 12th October at 6pm
OR Tuesday, 13th October at 6pm (All sessions to take place at St Kieran's)
- **Lessons 2 and 3:** 14th October - 15th November in Family Groups
- **Lesson 4:** will take place in the **Confirmation Practice**.

Rite of Enrolment:

The Rite will be held on 24/25th October, during any weekend Mass.

Presentation Mass and Presentation of the Creed:

The Presentation of the Creed will be held on 7/8th November, during any weekend Mass.

Confirmation Practice (Lesson 4):

-Monday, 16th November at 6:00pm, St Kieran's Church

-Tuesday, 17th November at 6:00pm, St Kieran's Church

Sacrament of Confirmation:

The ceremony will take place:

3pm Saturday, 28th November, 2026

at The Treacy Centre, 1 Dreadnought Rd, Oxford Falls.



Step 2: First Reconciliation

The sacrament of Reconciliation allows us to experience God's unconditional forgiveness. We are called to be united with Jesus and with others as one people. God's love for us does not end when we fail and, by expressing our sorrow and remorse for our sins in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we experience healing and forgiveness as our sins are absolved and we can start afresh.

The priest, through his ordination, is given authority to forgive and confer Reconciliation. The children will be experiencing Reconciliation in the form of the Second Rite where the community comes together to hear God's word, pray together and sing together. The children will go to the priest for individual Reconciliation and Absolution.

First Reconciliation Term 1 2027 Dates and Times

Registration/Enrolments 7th Dec 2026– 15th Jan 2027

Family Preparation Sessions:

Preparation for the Sacrament will take place in February and March.

- **Lesson 1:** For children and Parents (Bookings essential)
- Mon 1st Feb at 4pm **OR** Mon 1st Feb at 6pm **OR** Tues 2nd Feb at 6pm (All sessions take place at St Kieran's)
- **Lessons 2, 3 and 4:** In Family Prep Sessions 3rd Feb- 6th March.

Rite of Enrolment:

The Rite will be held on 6/7th Feb at any weekend mass.

Presentation of the Cross:


The Presentation will take place on 20th/21st Feb at any weekend mass.

First Reconciliation Practice:

No First Reconciliation Practice needed.

Sacrament of First Reconciliation:

- **6pm Tues 9th March in St Kieran's Church**
- **6pm Wed 10th March in St Kieran's Church**
- **6pm Tues 16th March in St Cecilia's Church**
- **6pm Wed 17th March in St Cecilia's Church**



*"Be kind to each other,
tenderhearted, forgiving
one another, just as
God through Christ has
forgiven you."*

—Ephesians 4:32

Step 3: The Sacrament of First Communion

The Sacrament of Holy Communion completes the Christian process of Initiation. When we celebrate this Sacrament, we remember what Jesus did for us during his life, and at his death and resurrection. The Sacrament particularly brings to mind the Last Supper, which was the final meal that Jesus shared with his disciples. During that meal, Jesus gave us the Eucharist to help us remember him in a special way. When we receive Communion, we believe that we receive the person of Jesus into our soul. We become one with him and one with each other - we become "The body of Christ".

The Sunday Eucharist (Mass) is the highest point of our worship as a parish community.

First Communion Term 2 2027– Dates and Times

Registrations/Enrolments: 22nd March- 16th April

- **Lesson 1:** For children and Parents (Bookings essential)
Mon 3rd May at 4pm **OR** Mon 3rd May at 6pm **OR** Tues 4th May at 6pm
(All sessions at St Kieran's)
- **Lessons 2 and 3:** in Family Prep sessions 5th May - 5th June.
- **Lesson 4:** Will take place in the First Communion Practice.

Rite of Enrolment:

Will take place on 8/9th May at all weekend masses. TBC

Presentation of the Our Father:

Will take place on 29/30th May at any weekend mass.

First Communion Practices (Lesson 4):

- 4pm Mon 7th June in St Kieran's Church
- 6pm Mon 7th June in St Kieran's Church
- 4pm Tues 8th June in St Cecilia's Church
- 6pm Tues 8th June in St Cecilia's Church

Sacrament of First Communion:

- 5:30pm Sat 19th June St Kieran's Church
- 9:00am Sun 20th June St Cecilia's Church
- 9:30am Sun 20th June St Kieran's Church
- 5:00pm Sun 20th June St Kieran's Church

- 5:30pm Sat 26th June St Kieran's Church
- 9:00am Sun 27th June St Cecilia's Church
- 9:30am Sun 27th June St Kieran's Church
- 5:00pm Sun 27th June St Kieran's Church



Frequently asked questions:

Why doesn't my child's school run the program?

Broken Bay Diocese Sacramental Program is parish-based. Each year, we have approximately 130 children from as many as 18 different schools participating in the program. We believe that parents are the first teachers of faith and that the Sacramental Program is an opportunity for whole families to deepen their faith journey together. We form Family Groups so that you are not only supported by the parish but by other families too.

Why is Confirmation the first sacrament to be received?

The order in which Sacraments are received varies from diocese to diocese throughout Australia. In our Diocese of Broken Bay, we follow the traditional order, meaning that Confirmation is celebrated before First Reconciliation (or Confession/Penance) and First Communion (or Eucharist). The order that sacraments are received in varies from diocese to diocese throughout Australia.

Why do you need my child's baptism certificate?

It is part of the Broken Bay Diocese requirements to provide a Baptism Certificate. This is so that we can notify the parish where your child was Baptised that they have received the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Can children Baptised in Eastern Catholic Churches join in the program?

If your child was Baptised in the Maronite, Ukrainian, Chaldean, Melkite, or Syro-Malabar Eastern Catholic Church, they would have been Confirmed at Baptism. Because of this, your child does not need to participate in Confirmation and can start the Sacramental program at the time of First Reconciliation and then receive First Communion after that. Having said that, they are welcome to join in with their friends for the preparation for Confirmation and receive a blessing from The Bishop on the day of Confirmation but they cannot be Confirmed a second time. Registration would still be needed.

My child has been Baptised in another Christian Church but would like to complete the Sacraments in the Catholic Church. Is this possible?

If your child was baptised into the Anglican Church of Australia, Antiochian Orthodox Church, The Armenian Apostolic Church, The Congregational Federation of Australia, The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia, The Lutheran Church of Australia, The Presbyterian Church of Australia, The Romanian Orthodox Church or The Uniting Church in Australia they may be received into the Catholic Church through a Rite of Welcome before the Confirmation takes place.

I can't attend all the meetings listed in the Program. Is that okay?

Please spend some time discerning whether you are able to support your child throughout their Sacramental journey. We ask that you make a commitment to attend all sessions or if you cannot, that a Godparent or support can— please keep in mind that the Sacramental Program is a family program.

Can I enrol my child if I do not belong to this parish?

Yes, we have children coming from different parishes for a number of different reasons.

At North Harbour Parish, we offer the following for families:

- **5pm Sunday Youth Mass at St Kieran's:** every 2nd Sunday of the month in school terms with great music and free supper after mass!
- **5pm St Kieran's School Family Mass:** most 3rd Sundays in school terms– all are welcome!
- **5pm Sunday Family Mass:** every 4th Sunday of the month in school terms with Children's Liturgy and free supper afterwards.
- **9am St Cecilia's Family Mass:** every 4th Sunday of the month in school terms with Children's Liturgy and morning tea in the playground afterwards.
- **9:30am Sunday Masses at St Kieran's:** Children's Liturgy every week.
- **Playgroup at St Kieran's School** Flyers available in Church foyers or check school website.

For more information:

Visit our parish website (below) OR
contact our Sacramental Coordinator: Ursula Halloway:
Mob: 0450 101 767 OR Email: families@nhcatholic.org.au



THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY
OF NORTH HARBOUR

Under the care of the Augustinians

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