

It is important to remember  
that the reception of these sacraments  
is just the beginning of a journey  
of sharing in the sacraments  
which continues right through life.

Further education in faith  
through the home, school and parish,  
will help the children to grow in their appreciation  
of these sacraments.



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## Sacramental Program 2021

First Reconciliation  
First Communion  
Confirmation

**Catholic Parish  
of Mareeba**

## What is Sacramental Program?

The Sacraments are a key part of church life and are celebrated within our Parish church community.

Each year the Catholic Parish of Mareeba offers a special program to help candidates and families prepare for the celebration of the Sacraments of First Reconciliation (Confession), Confirmation and First Eucharist (Communion) for all children in the Parish of eligible age regardless of which school they attend.

In the Cairns Diocese, children who are in Year 4 and above are eligible to prepare for and celebrate the Sacraments mentioned above.

Our Sacramental Preparation Program places a strong emphasis on family involvement, as we recognize that parents/guardians are the main educators in faith of their children.

Our Sacramental Preparation Program is undertaken over two school terms.

This preparation is designed not only to prepare the candidates receiving the Sacrament, but also to involve and inform the parents and other family members, so that the experience can be shared as part of the family's faith journey.

For each of the Sacraments there is a series of compulsory online lessons which will help prepare children to receive the sacrament, and one compulsory group gathering where they will be welcomed to the program and will receive a special blessing.

### Sacramental Registration

To ensure your child's place in the Program for 2021, you are required to:

- attend the Sacramental Information Session
- submit a completed Registration Form
- submit a copy of the candidates' Baptism Certificate
- pay \$50.00 to the Parish Office

Advertised dates may be subject to change.

## PROGRAM DATES

### SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION SESSION

St Thomas Church, Mareeba  
Wednesday 28 April, 6.00pm

### FIRST RECONCILIATION (CONFESSION)

#### Compulsory Group Gathering (Presentation of the Cross)

St Thomas Church, Mareeba  
Wednesday 12 May, 6.00pm

#### First Reconciliation

St Thomas Church, Mareeba  
Wednesday 19 May, 6.00pm

### FIRST EUCHARIST (COMMUNION)

#### Compulsory Group Gathering (Presentation of the Lord's Prayer)

St Thomas Church, Mareeba  
Wednesday 18 August, 6.00pm

#### First Eucharist

(choose only one date)  
St Thomas Church, Mareeba  
Saturday 21 August, 6.00pm  
Sunday 22 August, 10.00am  
Saturday 28 August, 6.00pm  
Sunday 29 August, 10.00am

### CONFIRMATION

#### Compulsory Group Gathering (Presentation of the Creed)

St Thomas Church, Mareeba  
Wednesday 9 June, 6.00pm

#### Confirmation

St Thomas Church, Mareeba  
Wednesday 16 June, 6.00pm

### PREPARATION FOR EACH SACRAMENT INCLUDES:

#### Compulsory Online Preparation Lessons:

Before each sacrament, families will complete a series of lessons and activities in order to prepare for the sacrament. This is an opportunity for parents to spend time with their child as they continue to deepen their relationship with God.

#### Compulsory Group Gatherings:

Leading up to each sacrament, as part of their preparation, children will be involved in a special blessing or ritual.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Depending on current COVID-19 restrictions, numbers at each Sacramental celebration may need to be limited.