

1 May 2008

To: Parents of children in Catholic SRE ('scripture class') in Year 3 or older  
From: Our Lady of Dolours Catholic Parish, Chatswood  
Re: Children's Sacramental Program 2008/2009

Dear Parents,

Has your child made his/her sacraments of Confirmation, Reconciliation and First Communion?

In our parish, which is part of the Diocese of Broken Bay, children usually receive all three sacraments over a twelve month period, beginning in Year 2 and concluding in Year 3. It is not unusual, however, for families to approach us with older children who have missed out on one or more sacraments for all kinds of reasons: moving house, overseas travel, family pressures, etc. If your child is in this situation, we invite you to enrol him/her in our 2008/2009 Children's Sacramental Program which commences soon.

**Information brochures** and **enrolment form** are enclosed.

The program begins at the end of June 2008 and concludes May 2009. It is a three stage process through which your child is prepared for and receives three sacraments in the following order: Confirmation, First Reconciliation and First Communion. The program is family-based, not school based, so it requires parent/family involvement. The program is organized by Tanya Ceravolo and Mary Tobin and a team of parishioners/parish personnel.

Enrolments take place at the parish hall after all the Masses (except 7.30am) on the weekend of 21-22 June. You need to bring with you the completed enrolment form plus the other items mentioned in the brochure to this enrolment time. You will notice that the enrolment form asks you to nominate a Sponsor and a Confirmation name for your child. Please give this some thought and discuss it with your child before enrolment day. A helpful website for saints' names is <http://wordbytes.org/saints/names.htm>

These sacraments are a continuation of a journey which began for your child when he/she was baptized a Catholic. Therefore your child must be a baptized Catholic in order to enter the Sacramental Program. If your child has not yet been baptized, please feel welcome to contact the parish to discuss your situation.

PTO

Finally, we would like to thank you for caring about your child's faith education and enrolling him/her in Catholic scripture. If you have any questions, please contact:

- Tanya Ceravolo (H: xxxxxx) or Mary Tobin (H: xxxxxx), Coordinators of the Children's Sacramental Program; or
- Teresa Pirola, Pastoral Associate (sacraments) (W: xxxxxx); or
- Sonia Pleines, CCD Coordinator (W: xxxxxx)

Each family has their unique story as they travel through life. We get all sorts of questions from parents, so don't ever think your question is trivial or unimportant. Your child's faith journey is always important to us.

Yours faithfully,

Teresa Pirola  
*Pastoral associate: sacraments*