

First Communion

Date: July 23, 2026

Timeline

09:00 – 09:30 Arrival and Preparation

Communicants and their families arrive at the parish hall to check in, don their white attire, and line up for the procession.

Location: St. Mary Parish Hall

09:30 – 09:45 Processional and Introductory Rites

The children enter in solemn procession carrying candles, followed by the opening hymn and opening prayer by the priest.

Location: St. Mary Catholic Church

09:45 – 10:15 Liturgy of the Word

Selected family members deliver scripture readings, followed by a child-focused homily about the sacrament of the Eucharist.

Location: St. Mary Catholic Church

10:15 – 10:50 Sacrament of Holy Communion

The children approach the altar to receive the Eucharist for the first time, accompanied by their catechists and godparents.

Location: St. Mary Catholic Church

10:50 – 11:00 Concluding Rites and Certificates

The priest hands out Communion certificates to each child and delivers the final blessing before the recessional.

Location: St. Mary Catholic Church

11:00 – 11:45 Group and Family Photos

Formal group photographs are taken on the church steps with the clergy, followed by individual family photo opportunities.

Location: St. Mary Church Courtyard

11:45 – 12:15 Travel to Reception

Guests and family members drive from the church to the luncheon venue.

Location: En Route to Grand Willow Restaurant

12:15 – 12:45 Welcome Drinks

Guests gather in the atrium for celebratory mocktails, fruit punch, and light appetizers upon arrival.

Location: Grand Willow Restaurant Foyer

12:45 – 14:00 Celebratory Luncheon

A plated three-course lunch is served for family and friends to celebrate this major milestone.

Location: Grand Willow Restaurant Banquet Room

14:00 – 14:30 Toast and Cake Cutting

Godparents offer brief words of praise and blessing, followed by the ceremonial cutting of the First Communion cake.

Location: Grand Willow Restaurant Banquet Room

14:30 – 15:00 Gift Exchange and Favors

Communicants open religious keepsake gifts and hand out communion favors to guests before departure.

Location: Grand Willow Restaurant Banquet Room