



Greetings First Communion Family, I hope this finds you well!

As we prepare for our Rite of Confirmation with First Communion services, I wanted to share with you final thoughts in our preparation.

First of all, **thank you**, for making the reservation process a smooth one. I was thankful that we did not have to limit any requests because you, as a family, were willing to ask the question of who was necessary to attend and who would be able to attend virtually. It all worked out very well for us to have a very safe, socially-distanced service.

With that, this document is intended to help you in your preparation for your child's First Communion service. Included in it are:

- ***Seating charts for both services.*** At this point, if you have any adjustments to your reservations, please email me at hopfl@trinityklein.org. At this point, I would love to devote my time moving forward to the sermon and spiritual elements of the service so please only adjust those reservations if a) you will be moving to a virtual participation in the service or b) there is a drastic adjustment that needs to be made to your reservation.
- ***Questions and answers for First Communion.*** Please have your student ***practice*** saying these answers—and saying them ***loudly!*** During the service our students will be spaced out throughout the sanctuary and asked to respond in unison with a cadence. Practicing saying these things will help the group to stay together.
- ***First communion chalice ideas.*** With First Communion comes a great opportunity to celebrate your student. We have created a document with a few links for you to consider if you would like to purchase a commemorative, wooden communion cup in celebration of your student's first communion. In the past, we have been able to provide mini-silver chalices to each student. Unfortunately, our supplier is no longer making those. Every family will be receiving a refund for the ones that were initially included in the First Communion fees.
- ***Instructions for Virtual Confirmation*** for those families participating virtually with us. Please let me know if you have any questions on the process once you've read those instructions.
- ***FAQs and reminders*** to close out the document.

Other notes to look forward to with the service:

- ***For families who will be livestreaming the service***, please share with them the link trinityklein.live. Let them know that the pre-service slides will begin at 10:15am and the service will begin promptly at 10:30am. Logging on early is always helpful to make sure you are there on time!

- For all participants joining us physically on campus, ***please continue to exercise safe distancing and practices***. A reminder of things that you can expect when arriving at Trinity Klein:
 - We will all be in **masks** while we are on campus.
 - Please enter into the sanctuary and **make your way to your seat!** Make yourself at home when you arrive and let us take care of our neighbor as we remain at six feet or greater with masks on as we interact throughout the morning.
 - **If for any reason you are exhibiting any symptoms** (fever of 100 degrees or greater, headaches, loss of taste, cough, diarrhea), please refrain from joining us physically and enjoy the joy of joining us virtually.

Thank you for reading through the entirety of this letter! We will all be blessed with all of us being as informed as possible for these services.

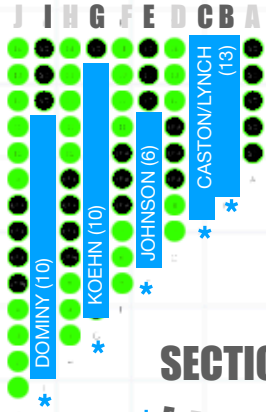
Once you have read through this letter and explored confirmation.trinityklein.org, please feel free to share any questions you may have with us as we prepare to celebrate.

God be with you always,

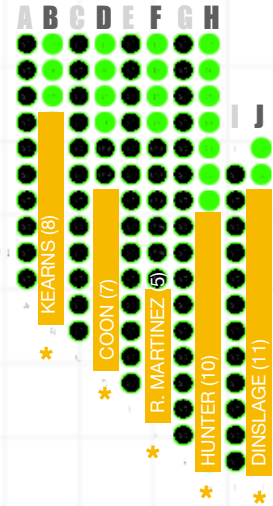
Pastor Lee and Jayanne

RITE OF CONFIRMATION WITH FIRST COMMUNION SERVICE SATURDAY, JUNE 20TH

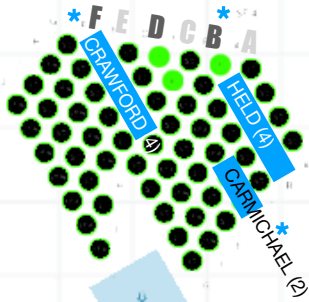
SECTION 2



SECTION 1



SECTION 4

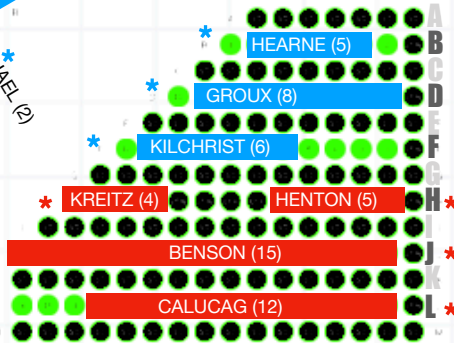


PASTOR LEE

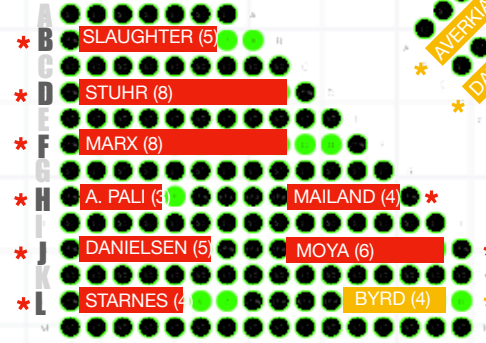
PASTOR CHRIS

PASTOR JOHN

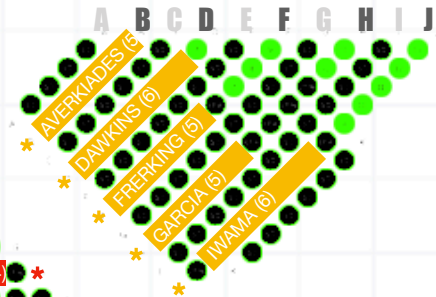
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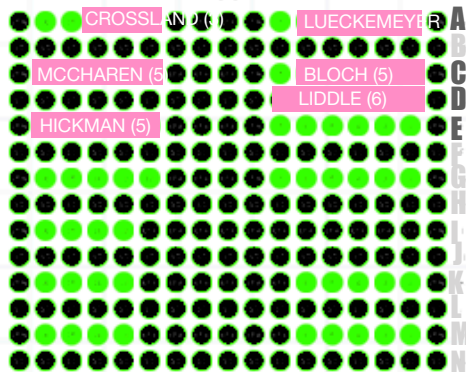
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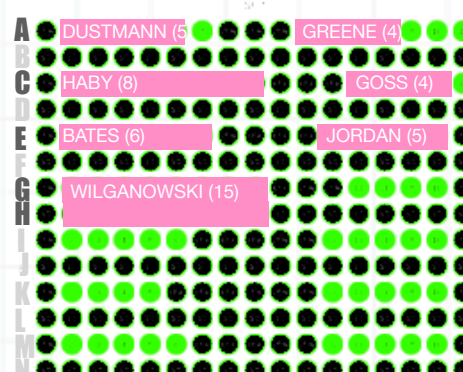
SECTION 3



SECTION 8



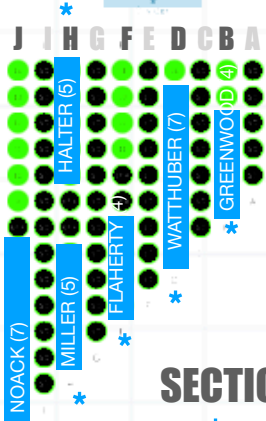
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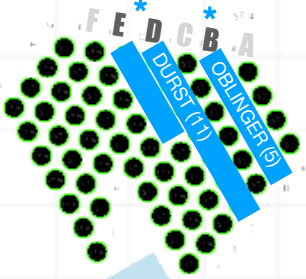
*** Indicate which side Confirmation students and parent/guardians who are coming forward for the blessing should sit. Please have immediate access to the isle.

RITE OF CONFIRMATION WITH FIRST COMMUNION SERVICE SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH

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SECTION 4

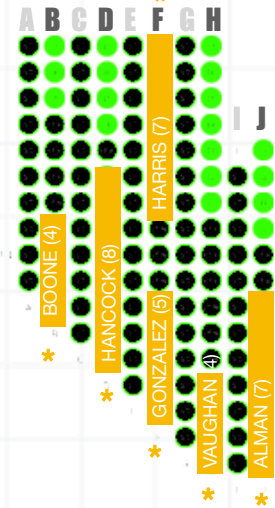


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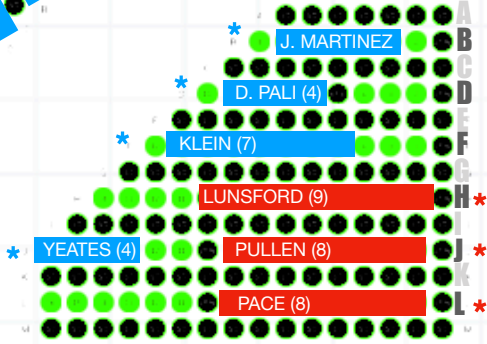
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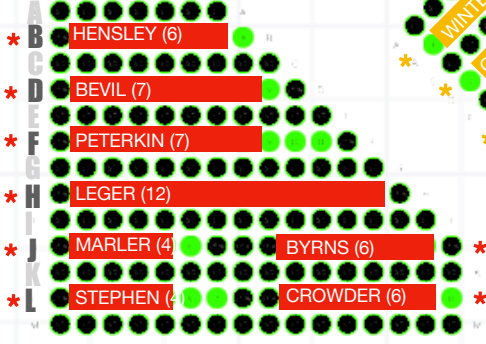
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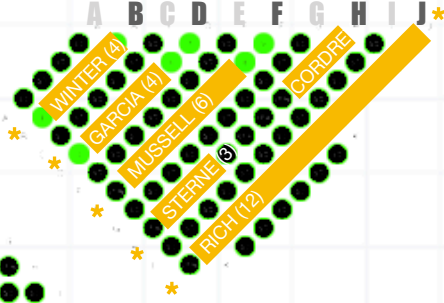
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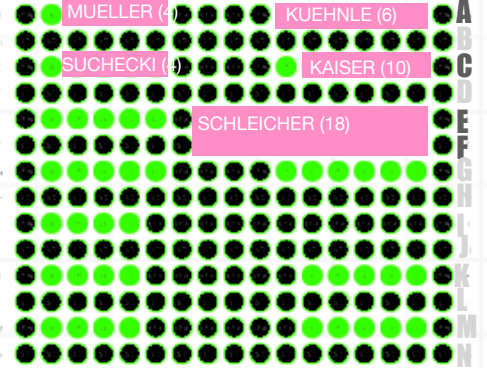
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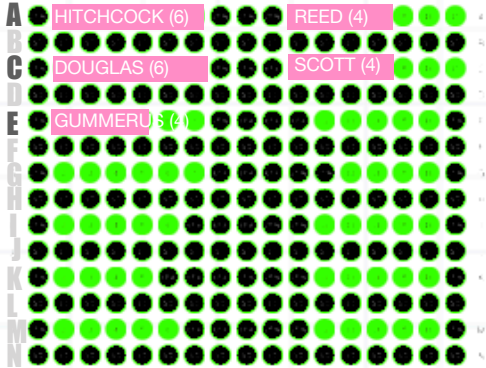
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SECTION 7



*** Indicate which side Confirmation students and parent/guardians who are coming forward for the blessing should sit. Please have immediate access to the isle.

FIRST COMMUNION QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

P: What is the Sacrament of the Altar?

C: It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink.

P: Who instituted the Sacrament of the Altar?

C: Jesus Christ, who is true God and true man, instituted this sacrament.

1 Corinthians 11:23-24 (NIV)

23 For I received from the Lord what I also passed on to you: The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, 24 and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me." 25 In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P: What does Christ give us in this sacrament?

C: In this sacrament, Christ gives us His own true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins.

P: Do all communicants receive the body and blood in the sacrament, whether or not they believe?

C: Yes, because the Sacrament depends on Christ's word, not on our faith.

P: What does Christ command when He says, "This do in remembrance of me"?

C: Christ commands in these words that His Sacrament be celebrated in the church till the end of time as a living proclamation and distribution of His saving death and all its blessings.

1 Corinthians 11:26

26 For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

P: What is the benefit of this eating and drinking?

C: These words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins," show us that in the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given us through these words. For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation.

P: Does everyone who eats and drinks the Sacrament also receive forgiveness, life, and salvation?

FIRST COMMUNION QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

C: Forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are truly offered to all who eat the Lord's body and blood in the Sacrament, but only through faith can we receive the blessings offered there.

P: When do we receive the Sacrament worthily?

C: We receive it worthily when we have faith in Christ and His words, "Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins."

1 Corinthians 11:27-28

27 So then, whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. 28

Everyone ought to examine themselves before they eat of the bread and drink from the cup.

P: How are we to examine ourselves before receiving the Sacrament?

C: We are to examine ourselves to see whether we are sorry for our sins; we believe in our Savior Jesus Christ and in His words in the Sacrament; we plan, with help of the Holy Spirit, to change our sinful lives.

FIRST COMMUNION CHALICE IDEAS

Here are a few places where you could order a wooden chalice

- This one ships from Jerusalem and needs ten days for delivery

<https://zaksjerusalemgifts.com/lords-supper-olive-wood-communion-cup-holy-land.html#>



- Here is another option from Amazon

<https://www.amazon.com/Holy-Land-Market-Chalice-Communion/dp/B07TS3Y7F8/?tag=aquaequipment-20&th=1>



VIRTUAL FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

First, please know that these instructions are specifically for the Rite of Confirmation with First Communion services on June 20, 2020, and June 27, 2020. These instructions do not sanction participation outside of those two services.

With that, please take a look at online communion resources that we have shared as a community at Trinity Klein during the last few months:

- Communion in Homes During Times of Crisis <https://www.trinityklein.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Communion-in-Homes-During-Times-of-Crisis.pdf>
- Communion Wafer Recipe <https://www.trinityklein.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Communion-Wafer-Recipe.pdf>
- Home Altar Instructions <https://vimeo.com/405234783>

Instructions on how to prepare the elements for your family at home are included in the links above.

As to what to expect from the service, following the Rite of Confirmation and the Confirmation blessing, the song *Never Once* will be played. Following that song, we will ask all participants receiving their First Communion to please rise and answer the First Communion questions (see confirmation.trinityklein.org for copy so that students may practice saying them so that they can be in unison with other participants).

Following the questions and answers, the pastor will invite all those to stand and address those at home who are not prepared to take communion (that's not you—you will be prepared having read through this document).

Immediately after the pastor addresses those at home, he will then speak the Words of Institution and we ask that the spiritual heads of each household joining us at home join with the pastor in saying these words:

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take and eat. This is My body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also, He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them saying, "Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

These words will be on the screen as well to assist you. The pastor will then continue with our communion liturgy ending with the sharing of the peace.

For distribution, the pastor will address the congregation by holding up the bread and saying, "Take and eat, the Body of Christ given for you."

- If everyone in your house has individual servings ready in front of them, this is an appropriate time for them to consume the bread.
- As spiritual heads of the household, you may also choose to receive at this time and then distribute the bread to each of your family members saying, "Take and eat, the Body of Christ given for you."

The pastor will also address the congregation by holding up the cup and saying, "Take and drink the Blood of Christ given for you."

- If everyone in your house has individual servings ready in front of them, this is an appropriate time for them to consume the wine.
- As spiritual heads of the household, you may also choose to receive at this time and then distribute the wine to each of your family members saying, "Take and drink the Blood of Christ given for you."

As we move into the distribution of the Lord's Supper follow along with the pastor as we commune together. We are asking the spiritual heads of each household to lead their family in the celebration of the Lord's Supper.

The pastor will then address anyone who is not partaking of communion and would like to receive a blessing. The invitation is for you, as the head of the household, to turn to those individuals and offer them the following blessing as you place your hand over their head or upon their should and sharing with them this promise from God: "May you know how wide, how long, how high, and how deep the love of Jesus is for you" (Ephesians 3:18).

The pastor will then conclude the communion liturgy and the service will continue.

RITE OF CONFIRMATION WITH FIRST COMMUNION SERVICE FAQs

How will communion work?

When you enter the sanctuary, each person who is communing in the service will receive pre-packaged communion elements. At a certain point in the service we will celebrate communion from our pews.

Students receiving their First Communion for the first time will also receive a nice mini-communion cup to take home as a remembrance of the event.

How will the Rite of Confirmation work?

Students will stand as a collective to be asked the questions we ask of all Confirmands and they will collectively answer (we will provide in advance—no memorization necessary, just good to practice). Once students have answered all questions, we will invite them to come forward and kneel at the rail for the blessing:

- We will have multiple pastor stations pre-identified for each student. As they go forward, they will kneel in front of their designated pastor along with other students who will be at the rail.
- Parents/Guardians (please limit this to two people) will be behind each student at the rail.
- One at a time the student's name will be read, a bell will ring, and the confirmation verse will be read as a blessing over the student.
- During this blessing the pastor will place his hand on the confirmand's head and the parents will be invited to place their hands on the student as well as parents/guardians are invited to read the confirmation verse together with the pastor.
- Once the verse is completed, the student will return to their seat and another student and their parents/guardians will come forward while other students are receiving their confirmation blessing from other pastors at difference stations.
- Prior to the service and again prior to the Rite of Confirmation all pastors will wash hands with soap and water. In between the blessing of individual students, pastors will apply hand sanitizer.
- Per the guidelines of the State of Texas, masks will be worn throughout the service and especially during this portion at the rail.

What about Confirmation Pictures?

As a church we like to get both individual pictures and pictures with the pastors. Families are also welcomed to order professional family pictures. Please see confirmation.trinityklein.org to reserve your time for these pictures.

There will be no group picture this year, but I am hopeful with all of those individual pictures and modern technology that we will be able to be very creative and create something special.

Because these pictures are all taking place on the day of the event, no pictures will be displayed on the screen during this service.

What do I wear?

Look nice! Sunday best. Think Easter (Pastor Lee will be in a bowtie when he's not in his alb).

- *For boys:* A long-sleeve shirt, tie, slacks, and good shoes work very well. The biggest thing is to just put your best forward.
- *For the young ladies:* A nice dress works well. If one of our confirmands, the robes are made of thin material. Any patterns will show through and lighter dresses typically work well.

Some things to avoid: jeans, flip flops

What safety precautions are being made for these services?

I hope that many of those precautions have been made plan at this point. Social distancing (6ft separation) and masks are the primary guidelines put forth by the State of Texas, so we will be honoring their recommendations. From what we've set forth, we believe our services will be very safe in relation to opportunities for the virus to spread.

PLEASE be safe leading into this service.

As you can see, we are taking things very cautiously for the purpose of doing our best to slow the spread of this virus and not overwhelm our health care system.

In the coming weeks, please exercise caution. If you are showing any of the symptoms (cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, soar throat, loss of taste or smell, diarrhea, feeling feverish, measuring a temperature of 100 degrees or greater) or if you have known close contact with a person who is lab confirmed to have COVID-19, please refrain from participation.

We all need to look out for one another and that is a great way to do it. Pastor John can empathize! He was sick for his oldest son's confirmation and had to stay home. It seems like something that cannot be missed but I promise you God has many more opportunities and plans ahead to celebrate with you and your student.

With that, if for some reason a known case of COVID-19 were to step foot on our campus at any point, we would follow the guidelines set forth by government and health officials by closing down the campus for two weeks. Please be safe as we approach these services. So many things are opening up and that is wonderful, isn't it? Let's be safe as we enjoy this time together so that we can have both of these services without any issues.