

FIRST COMMUNION

Every Parish has its own customs and culture. Here at Good Shepherd we always celebrate Individual First Communions and only at the one of the Weekend Masses. For the following reasons below, there are no exceptions. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

| | INDIVIDUAL | GROUP |
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| 1. | Personal-celebrate as a family; family sits together | Children sit together; families sit apart |
| 2. | Recognition by priest and parishioners-name read at the beginning of Mass and called up at end of Mass by priest for a special blessing | Separate Mass for First Communicants and families; not celebrated with rest of parish. No individual names mentioned. |
| 3. | Participation-First Communicant walks in entrance procession and gets to take up gifts with family | Only a few children would get to take up gifts |
| 4. | Family receives communion together | Children receive communion separate from family. |
| 5. | Extended Family Members such as Grandparents and Godparents have opportunity to travel great distances and to be present as a part of the family celebration with the child receiving First Holy Communion | Due to individual family schedules it is not possible for all Extended Family Members of each child in a group communion to travel on the same weekend to be present as a part of the family celebration with the child receiving First Holy Communion |