



ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF HEXHAM AND NEWCASTLE



THE PARISHES OF ST AIDAN, ASHINGTON AND ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY, LONGHORSLEY

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***Celebrating  
the Sacrament  
of Reconciliation  
and  
First Holy Communion***

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Parish Office: St Aidan's Catholic Church, Station Road, Ashington, Northumberland NE63 8AD

Telephone: 01670 812 200 | Parish Priest: Fr Vincent Waiga, CSSp.

Emails: **St Aidan's** – [staidan.ashington@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:staidan.ashington@diocesehn.org.uk) **St Thomas'**: [stthomas.longhorsley@diocesehn.org.uk](mailto:stthomas.longhorsley@diocesehn.org.uk)

## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION 2026

### **PLEASE READ BEFORE FILLING IN THE FORM**

Thank you for wanting to find out more about presenting your child for the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. This is a graced-filled time for your family and an invitation from Jesus to share in the special gift that is given to the Church.

The Sacraments are not something to be entered into lightly, but demand of each of us a commitment of service to the Lord who shares these gifts with us. It is not something we just get “done”, the phrase that is often used, but rather it is a way we are called to be of service to one another.

Before filling in this form, please take time to sit with your child and ask them if they would like to receive Jesus in Holy Communion - you cannot force them to do it if they don't want to, as this isn't helping anyone.

Children are becoming increasingly busy with activities - but you have to be aware that Holy Communion is not an activity but a sacrament and that preparation for it is important. It means you will have to have a discussion with your child about possibly having to sacrifice football, dancing, etc. from time-to-time as sessions take place once a month on a Saturday with special liturgies some months on a Sunday at St Aidan's. You are welcome the other times to attend Mass in a Church that has a suitable Mass time for you, all you will need to do is get the priest at the Church to sign the card you will be given.

You have to consider the following things before filling in the form.

- Do I attend Mass regularly and am I a committed practising Catholic?
- Do I have every intention of bringing my child to Mass every Sunday?
- Do I have every intention of bringing my child to every preparation session?
- Will I continue to practise my faith and be involved in the parish community afterwards?

If the answer is “YES”, then that is great! If it is “NO”, then maybe you need to assess your level of commitment. It may help you to think about your faith more and how important it is, or you might think it's not the right time for you - whatever your decision, the Church will always support you in whatever way it can.

We also need to stop the myth that your child cannot attend High School or have free transport to the High School if they have not received First Holy Communion. This is completely untrue. Baptism in the Catholic Church is the only requirement for acceptance in a Catholic High School..

If you want to put your child forward, please complete the form.

**FORMS MUST BE HANDED DIRECTLY TO FR VINCENT AFTER SUNDAY MASS BY THE PERSON ACCOMPANYING THE CHILD DURING THE PREPARATION.**

**THE PARISHES OF ST AIDAN, ASHINGTON  
AND  
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**FIRST RECONCILIATION AND HOLY COMMUNION CANDIDATES 2026**

We look forward to supporting you and your child through this very special time in their journey of faith.

**PARENT / CARER DETAILS**

Full Name:	<div style="text-align: right;">                 Baptised Catholic <input type="checkbox"/>                  Baptised Other: <input type="checkbox"/>                  Not Baptised: <input type="checkbox"/> </div>
Contact Number:	
Email: <i>please print clearly</i>	
Address:	Post Code:
Full Name:	<div style="text-align: right;">                 Baptised Catholic <input type="checkbox"/>                  Baptised Other: <input type="checkbox"/>                  Not Baptised: <input type="checkbox"/> </div>
Contact Number:	
Email: <i>please print clearly</i>	
Address:	Post Code:

**Details of Child**

Name:	
Date of Birth:	
Date of Baptism:	
Place of Baptism:	
School Attended and Year group	

*If your child was baptized in St Aidan's or St Thomas', we will check the register.*

*If your child was baptized in a different Church, please provide a copy of their baptism certificate with your application.*

