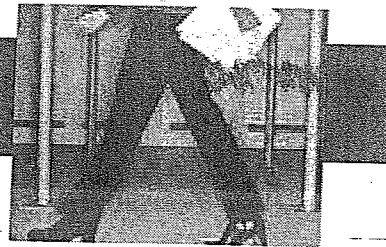


Behavior and Dress Code



St. Agnes Catholic Church Faith Formation and Sacrament Preparation

No chewing gum, candy, food, or drinks are allowed in the church or chapel. Please leave all electronic devices (radios/tape players, hand-held computer toys, I-Pods, MP-3 players, etc.) at home. As a courtesy to those around you and the sacredness of the event, please silence your cell phones until dismissal. It is critical to take good care of church property. Any damage to church property must be repaired or replaced at the expense of the offender. Parent cooperation to teach respect for property, materials, furnishings, equipment and the building itself is vital. This applies to inside all church buildings as well as the outside campus. There are specific areas of the church campus that are sacred places of prayer and meditation that deserve the utmost reverence. Those places include the Eucharistic Reservation Room, Columbarium and Memorial Garden, Stations of the Cross, Mary Grotto, and water features. Please refrain from horseplay and climbing especially in these areas so as to allow veneration at all times. These areas provide parents (and grandparents) with teachable moments to their children about holiness and respect for God.

Members and guests of all ages are asked to observe modest dress and its effect upon the sacred environment. Good taste is knowing where and when to wear the appropriate clothing and accessories. Since the parents provide the funds, guidance, and upkeep of the children's clothing worn at church, it is the responsibility of the parents to see that grooming reflects the modesty and good taste expected at all church functions. Safe footwear shall be worn at all times. No rubber flip-flops or bedroom slippers.

No bare skin should be exposed at the waist, abdomen, back, cleavage or shoulders. Shoulder straps must be at least two inches in width. Halter tops, strapless tops, muscle shirts are not appropriate. Clothing must cover the chest area to ensure that cleavage is not exposed.

The length of skirts/dresses and shorts should pass the "fingertip test." If your fingertips touch the skin when the arms are held straight at the sides, then the clothing item is too short and should not be worn. Costumes, sleepwear or other clothing/adornment that creates a distraction from the sacredness of the

event is not permitted. Shorts and pants must be fitted or cinched so as to not slip or reveal undergarments. Intentionally altered clothing or unbuttoned and ill-fitted garments are not acceptable. Ill-fitted garments include, but are not limited to, garments that are too small so as to reflect immodest or too large so as to appear to be falling off the body. Transparent, mesh or see-through clothing may not be worn without other appropriate clothing underneath. Clothing shall be free of inflammatory, suggestive or other inappropriate writing, advertisement, or artwork.

Hats or other head coverings shall not be worn in the church buildings, except for those that are worn for religious purposes. Hair shall be clean and neatly groomed. Hair color and style shall not create a distraction from the sacredness of the event.

Body piercing in any visible body part other than the ears should not be displayed if it presents a health/safety issue, reflects poor taste, or creates a distraction from the sacredness of the event.

First Communion Dress Code. We suggest that in preparing for this special day you keep in mind the real meaning of the celebration of this beautiful sacrament and try to keep the wardrobe in its proper perspective. Your son/daughter should wear whatever you consider to be "dressed up" best attire. Athletic footwear is inappropriate/unacceptable.

For boys, a white button down dress shirt (short or long sleeved), dress pants and a neck/bow tie of any color are appropriate. A sport coat is optional.

For girls, a white dress is not required. Any modest dress suitable for a special occasion is appropriate. Ankle-length dresses are inappropriate as children might trip and injure themselves. Slacks are unacceptable. Veils are optional; we recommend that it be simple, short, and securely fastened. Above all, the headpiece should not be a distraction to her or to anyone around her during the ceremony. Gloves should not be worn.

Confirmation Dress Code is the same as the First Communion dress code above for boys and girls (except no veil is to be worn). The most important consideration is to have your child wear something tasteful and modest, that is not a distraction to them or to others during the ceremony.