**St. Margaret Church Office of Faith Formation**

**65-05 79th Place Middle Village, NY 11379**

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**This is a very special moment in your child’s life, below are important reminders to make this a truly Blessed event.**

**FASTING**

* Fasting (not eating or drinking anything except for some water) Catholics fast for 1 hour before Mass begins**.**

**ARRIVAL TIME**

* ½ hour before Mass begins. You probably want to make sure they use the bathroom.
* Children meet the teachers in the vestibule of the Church. Girls will be seated on the Blessed Mother side, boys on the Baptistry side.
* The parking lot will most likely be closed. The ramp for wheelchair/walker access is on 80th street, at the main entrance of the church.

**DRESS**

* Girls: Simple white dress. **No Gloves, bouquets, purses, rosaries – nothing in hands for the Mass**
* Boys: Suit or formal wear. **Nothing in the hands**
* Parents – adult formal wear often leaves shoulders uncovered – kindly make sure shoulders are covered for the Mass, and if wearing skirts or dresses, that it is knee length.
* I have some Communion dresses that were donated and are like brand new if anyone is interested.

**PICTURES**

* Please refrain from taking pictures during the ceremony. It is distracting for the children during this prayerful and special time. Harisch Studios will be available by appointment before and after Communion. This must be scheduled ahead of time. Visit: [www.stmargaretmv.com](http://www.stmargaretmv.com) under religious education for info & forms.
* Please know they also take a picture of each child as s/he receives Communion. It will be available afterward online for you to order

**CERTIFICATES & MASS BOOK WALLET SETS**

* All children will receive a certificate of First Holy Communion & a Mass Book wallet set. It includes a Mass Book, Scapular, pin and Rosary. These will be distributed in the parish center after the service.

**BANNERS**

* Banners will be placed on the family pew. (Everyone receives a kit as part of the fee)

**SEATING**

* In order to make sure immediate family members sit near to the children, banners will mark each family pew. 10 tickets will be distributed for this section. An additional 4 tickets will be given to each family to sit in the next seated area designated for additional family members.

**THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION**