

***At least 1 parent/guardian must attend all sessions with their child.***

**Reconciliation**

**Sessions:** 4 x Saturday sessions starting 28 October at 4pm followed by Mass at 6-7pm  
**Ceremony:** Saturday 25 November 2023 at 4pm

**First Holy Communion:**

**Sessions:** 5 x Saturday sessions starting 6 May at 4pm followed by Mass at 6-7pm  
**Ceremony:** Weekend Masses on 10/11 June  
**Retreat Day:** Friday 9 June: 9am-3pm

**Confirmation:**

**Sessions:** 5 x Saturday sessions starting 12 August at 4pm followed by Mass at 6-7pm  
**Ceremony:** Sunday 17 September at 9.30am  
**Retreat Day:** Friday 15 September: 9am—3pm

**Sacramental Coordinators:**

**Reconciliation:** Sarah Locke  
**First Holy Communion:** Loretta Binny  
**Confirmation:** Bianca Heuvel  
**R.C.I.Adults/Children:** Diane Redmayne

**Parish Office Contact Details**

**Parish Priest:** **193 St Andrews Rd, Varroville**  
**Fr. Shane Kelleher OCD** **Office Hours:**  
**Assistant Priest:** **Tues-Friday 9.30am-12.30pm**  
**Fr Ransom Rapirap, OCD** **Phone: 9603 7373/0434 705 176**  
**Parish Associate:** **Email: varroville@dow.org.au**  
**Sr Jill Sudario, CM** **Website: varroville.dow.org.au**

<b>Sunday Mass times</b>	<b>Weekday Mass times</b>
Saturday Vigil: 6pm	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Sunday: 9.30 am & 5pm	Friday & Saturday Mass at 9am
	Thursday - Mass at 7.30pm



**SACRAMENT PREPARATION INVITATION 2023**

Let us walk with you and your child into the Sacraments of:

- Reconciliation
- First Holy Communion
- Confirmation

The Catholic Parish of Our Lady of Mt Carmel wishes to accompany your family on their Catholic Faith Journey.



## Sacramental Journey

### The Role of Families:

We believe that Parents & Guardians are the first teachers of their children in the ways of faith, particularly by the witness of their lives. Parents are also the best teachers of their children and they are the ones who shape the attitudes and values of their children and their involvement in sacramental preparation can never be replaced.

At Our Lady of Mt Carmel Parish, we are here to assist you as you do your best as Christian parents. The keyword is “assist”, we are not taking over your responsibility as parents. ***As such, it is essential that at least one parent/ guardian accompany their child to each of the sessions of the sacramental preparation process.***

### The Role of the Parish:

A Christian family lives within a wider parish community, which also has the responsibility to share and nurture the faith within this family. The parish is responsible for coordinating sacramental preparation and providing faith education for both adults and children.

### Who is eligible to receive the Sacraments?

As first teachers in faith you as parents are in the best place to judge when your child is ready to participate in the sacramental life of the parish community. The following however may be a useful guide to assist you in this respect:

First Reconciliation:	Year 3 & above
First Holy Communion:	Year 4 & above
Confirmation:	Year 6 & above

*If you or your children are not currently Catholic, but wishes to be involved in the sacramental life of the church, there is a separate process explained below:*

### RCIA: Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults

Have you thought about becoming a Catholic, would you like to explore this question more fully within our community? Then this process may be for you. It is designed for adults wishing to join the Catholic Faith and for adults who have not completed the sacraments of initiation (Confirmation and/or Eucharist).

### RCIC: Rite of Christian Initiation for Children

Would you like your school aged child to be baptized and become part of our Catholic community? This process is for children of sacramental age who are not baptized.

### Alpha Parents are invited to join Alpha

Alpha is a chance to explore life and the Christian faith, to ask questions, & to share your point of view. Come along with a friend. Register via the parish office or email: [donna.ransom@dow.org.au](mailto:donna.ransom@dow.org.au)

### First Step—Registration Process

Please complete a registration form if you wish your child to prepare for the sacraments in 2023. This form needs to be handed into the parish office together with copies of your child’s Baptism certificate (for all sacraments) and First Holy Communion Certificate (for Confirmation). The forms need to be handed into the office or emailed to [varroville@dow.org.au](mailto:varroville@dow.org.au) by 28 April 2023 for your child to be eligible to participate in the 2023 Sacramental Preparation process.

**The fee for each sacrament is \$25 and additional \$25 for each retreat day.** The fee, which will assist in covering the cost of materials and the retreat day, is payable on registration (speak to the coordinators if you require alternative arrangements).

### Second Step—Preparation Process

<u>Registration Due Date:</u>	Friday 28 April 2023
<u>Parent Formation Session:</u>	Saturday 29 April at 4.30pm
<u>Parent Formation Session:</u>	Saturday 14 October at 4.30pm