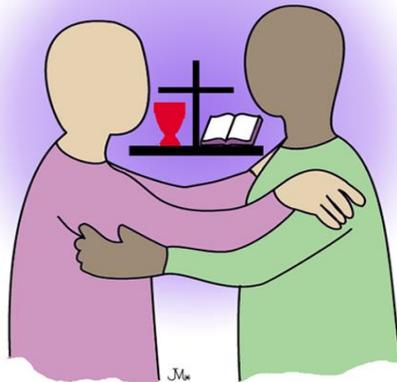


RECONCILIATION 2017



What does my child need to know?

- The difference between right and wrong
- That accidents or mistakes are not sins
- That when we deliberately choose to do what is wrong and turn away from God, we sin
- That God is loving and merciful and will always forgive us if we ask
- That Jesus has given us the sacrament of Reconciliation through which our sins are forgiven and we receive the grace to live as God's children

Celebrating Reconciliation

There are three Rites of Reconciliation. The first two are most common.

- The Individual Rite for Reconciliation
- The Communal Rite for Reconciliation with individual Absolution **This is the Rite we will be using for First Reconciliation*
- Communal Rite for Reconciliation with General Absolution

Individual Rite for Reconciliation

- Preparation – examination of conscience
- Greeting – Sign of the Cross
- Confession of sins to priest
- Accept penance
- Express Contrition – Prayer of Sorrow
- Absolution
- Pray the penance given

Communal Rite of Reconciliation with individual confession

Gathering: hymn and opening prayer

Liturgy of the Word

Reading from Old Testament/New Testament

Gospel

Homily

Examination of Conscience (based on Our Father)

Individual Confessions

Individual celebration of the sacrament of Reconciliation

Children will have a slip of colored paper. They will go to the confessor paired with that color. **Parent(s) walk with child to the confessor; introduce their child, then step away** as directed. After the child completes their confession, they walk to the sanctuary, light a candle and then return to their seats.

I am greeted by the priest. We pray the Sign of the Cross.

We read the Word of God.

I tell my sins to the priest. He offers words to assist me to live as Jesus wants me to live. He gives me a penance.

I ask for God's pardon. I express my sorrow for my sins.

I receive absolution from the priest. The priest absolves me from my sins.

I give thanks to God. The priest says "Go in peace."

I pray my penance.

When all children have finished making their first confession then the communal service will conclude.

Ending prayer.

Dismissal

Hymn

*We celebrate this sacrament in the Church which is sacred space. We bring our children to encounter the Risen Lord. All are asked to maintain silence so that all may have the opportunity- first child to the last child- to be surrounded by respectful silence. We should all be mindful, that **we, by our example are witnesses to our children of respectful silence.***