

***FIRST RECONCILIATION***  
***Saturday, March 2, 2019***  
***10:00 AM-12:00 PM***



**Defining Reconciliation:**

The Sacrament of Reconciliation stresses God's power to heal and mend. It is called the Sacrament of Conversion, Penance, Confession, Forgiveness and Reconciliation.

Forgiveness shown in the family is the first key to the sacrament. Families need to address good and evil actions. They need to talk about and learn the Ten Commandments as the basis for our actions.

**Parental Responsibilities**

1. To talk with your child and acquaint them with terms that are essential to the faith. (The Catholic Church teaches that you as parents are the primary teachers of the faith. It is our (teacher) responsibility to assist you in this task.)
2. To learn the Act of Contrition, and the Ten Commandments, and discuss them in terms the children understand.
3. To become knowledgeable of the textbook and other resources the Students use.

**Weekly "At Home Worksheets"**

To help you as a parent to prepare your child for the Sacrament of Reconciliation:  
A worksheet will be sent home each week. Return the sheet to class on the assigned day.  
(Don't forget to sign the sheet!)

The tasks that they are assigned to do each week are designed to help them grow closer in their relationship with Jesus. The tasks will reinforce some of the lessons on forgiveness they will be studying in class. Also, the children will be expected to learn the Act of Contrition and the Ten Commandments in preparation for this important Sacrament.

**Project:**

**A candle holder will be made by the children with the help of their family at home.**

**Candle Holder Directions**

- Use an aerosol can lid. You may use the one being sent home with your child.
- Decorate the lid with stickers, beads, foam cut outs, lace, ribbon, medals, crosses, etc. (Make sure that everything will stay clear from the flame as a candle will be placed inside.)
- Name should be somewhere on the candle holder.
- The candle will be provided. **DO NOT** bring a candle!

**Bring the Candle Holder on Saturday (the day of First Reconciliation).**

**Do not bring to school or CCD.**



**SAMPLES**

**The Ten Commandments**

1. I am the Lord your God: you shall not have strange gods before me.
2. You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.
3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.
4. Honor your father and your mother.
5. You shall not kill.
6. You shall not commit adultery.
7. You shall not steal.
8. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.
10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

## **An Examination of Conscience**

Dear Holy Spirit,

Help me answer these questions honestly.

1. When I make choices, do I sometimes forget to think first about what God wants me to do?
2. Do I thank God for who I am?
3. Have I used God's name in a bad way?
4. Do I talk to God everyday?
5. Did I participate in Sunday Mass or other Holy Days?
6. Have I disobeyed those who care for me?
7. Do I do my chores without being told?
8. Do I try my best in school?
9. Do I take care of the body God has given me by eating good food and getting enough sleep?
10. Have I hurt someone by what I have said or done?
11. Do I say "Please" and "Thank You" and "I am sorry" and "I forgive you"?
12. Have I always told the truth or do I let people believe something that isn't true?
13. Have I taken money or anything that is not mine?
14. Have I been unfair to others especially those who are different?

Holy Spirit,

Help me as I try to be more like Jesus.

Thank you, Holy Spirit.

Amen.

## **Rite of Reconciliation for First Confession**

- Penitent enters the confessional and exchanges greetings with the priest.
- Penitent makes the Sign of the Cross.
- Penitent continues; “Bless me Father for I have sinned. This is my first confession.” Confessing mortal sins first and then venial sins. When the confession is complete, penitent tells the priest “for these and all my sins I am truly sorry”.
- Priest responds to the penitent with some appropriate words and then gives the penance. Priest asks penitent to pray an Act of Contrition aloud.
- Penitent then prays an Act of Contrition:

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.  
In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good,  
I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things.  
I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance,  
to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.  
Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us.  
In His Name, my God, have Mercy.  
Amen

- The Priest then gives the absolution, while the penitent makes the Sign of the Cross.
- The Priest dismisses the penitent with some words of closing: “Go in the Peace of the Lord”, etc.

**If you have any questions please call Anna McMahan, D.R.E.  
at the parish office at 309-347-6108 or by emailing [amcmahan@stjosephpekin.org](mailto:amcmahan@stjosephpekin.org)**