

FIRST RECONCILIATION INFORMATION

FIRST RECONCILIATION will take place on Friday, November 21, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

Please have your child to the church by 6:45 PM. When you arrive, check in with the catechist or teacher and find the small paper sheep cutout your child decorated during class. You may then find a seat as a family in the main center section of the Church. We ask that you do not sit in the side pews.

There will be a brief prayer service, followed by individual confessions.

Children will be directed by pews to the next available confessor. Although they will not be able to choose a specific priest that morning, they may certainly do so the next time you bring them to confession.

Once your child has finished with confession, they will return to your pew to say their penance. When that is completed, they can add their paper sheep to the display. Your family is then free to leave and celebrate the first reception of this sacrament as you wish!

ON the back of this sheet is a one-page review of the sacrament. Please take some time to go over it with your child to practice between now and First Reconciliation. Familiarity with the process helps alleviate any nervousness your child may feel.

This is a special occasion so children should be dressed appropriately in nice clothing. The entire ceremony will last about an hour.

Parents and other family members are invited to take advantage of the sacrament as well.





FORM FOR CONFESSION

Before going to confession, you should do an *Examination of Conscience*. This will help you prepare properly when you speak to the priest. We can't always remember everything we have done, and an Examination of Conscience will help us think about what we should say. Remember, something is a sin if we know it is wrong and we choose to do it anyway.

Sacrament of Penance

ACT OF CONTRITION

O My God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you, and I detest all my sins because of your just punishments, but most of all because they offend you, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of your grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life.

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION

Move to the priest and either sit down face to face, or kneel down behind the screen and begin your confession.

YOU: (Pray the sign of the cross)
In the name of the Father, and of the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen
Bless me Father for I have sinned. This is my first confession.

PRIEST: The priest says,
May the Lord be in your heart and help you to confess your sins with true sorrow.

YOU: My sins are.....
(Tell the priest your sins - kind and number.) When you have told the priest all your sins, say "I am sorry for these and all the sins of my past life."

PRIEST: After you tell the priest your sins, he may give you advice. **Then he will give you a penance;** It will be either a prayer or an action or both.
The priest will then say the Prayer of Absolution:

YOU: As Father finishes the prayer with, "...I absolve you from your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit...",

MAKE THE SIGN OF THE CROSS: (Touch your forehead, heart, your left shoulder and your right shoulder)

PRIEST: The priest will then say,
"The Lord has freed you from sin, go now in peace.

YOU: Amen. Thank you, Father.

*****Return to your pew, kneel and
pray your penance in silence*****