

Celebrate Forgiveness

How You Receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

You can choose one of two ways to confess your sins. You can kneel before a screen that separates you from the priest or you can sit in a chair and talk to the priest face-to-face. It is entirely up to you.

Steps For Reconciliation/Penance:

1. Father will greet you and you will make the **Sign of the Cross** together. The child will say, *"Bless me Father, for I have sinned, this is my First Confession and these are my sins"*.
2. Tell the priest your sins. This is called **Confession**. You may talk with the Father about anything that is troubling you or anything that you don't understand. After this, the child says, *"For these and all the sins I cannot remember, I am sorry."*
3. The priest will ask you to do something special to show Jesus how much you love Him. This is called your **Penance**. This may be a prayer or a good deed.
4. The priest invites you to say a prayer telling Jesus you are sorry for your sins. This is called The Act of Contrition. (Any form is acceptable. We are teaching the form in this folder)
5. Father will pray for you and say the words of forgiveness. This is called **Absolution**.
6. You and Father **Thank** Jesus together for His wonderful **Gift of Forgiveness**.