

St. Columba

Catholic Church

*First Reconciliation/First Communion
Prayers, Vocabulary & Questions*



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P R A Y E R S T O M E M O R I Z E

These prayers should be taught to your children at home. Students will be expected to recite all prayers to a catechist before receiving their First Communion in May.

- Sign of the Cross
- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- Glory Be
- Guardian Angel
- Grace before Meals
- Grace after Meals
- Act of Contrition
- Morning Offering
- La Señal De La Cruz
- Padre Nuestro
- Ave Maria
- Gloria
- Oración al Ángel de la Guarda
- Oración antes de comer
- Oración después de comer
- Acto de Contrición
- Ofrecimiento De La Mañana

Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

La Señal De La Cruz

En el nombre del Padre, y del Hijo y del Espíritu Santo. Amén.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Padre Nuestro

Padre nuestro, Que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre. Venga a nosotros tu reino; hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden; no nos dejes caer en la tentación y líbranos del mal. Amén.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Ave Maria

Dios te salve, María, llena eres de gracia; el Señor es contigo. Bendita tú eres entre todas las mujeres, y bendito es el fruto de tu vientre, Jesús. Santa María, Madre de Dios, ruega por nosotros pecadores, ahora y en la hora de nuestra muerte. Amén.

Glory Be

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, World without end. Amen.

Gloria

Gloria al Padre y al Hijo y al Espíritu Santo. Como era en el principio, ahora y siempre, por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

Guardian Angel

Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day be at my side to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

Oración al Ángel de la Guarda

Ángel de la guarda dulce compañía, nunca me dejas, ni de noche ni de día. Amén.

Grace Before Meals

Bless us O Lord, and these thy gifts, which we are about to receive, from thy bounty, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Oración antes de comer

Bendíganos, Señor, y estos dones que por tu bondad vamos a tomar. Te damos gracias, Dios mío, por Jesucristo Nuestro Señor. Amén.

Grace After Meals

We give You thanks, almighty God, for these benefits and all your gifts, which we have received, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Oración después de comer

Te damos gracias, Dios todopoderoso, por todos tus beneficios. Tú que vives y reinas por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

Act of Contrition (Option 1)

O my God I am heartily sorry for having offended Thee. And I detest all my sins because of thy just punishments, but most of all because they offend Thee, my God, Who art all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Thy grace, to sin no more and to avoid the near occasion of sin. Amen.

Act of Contrition (Option 2)

O my God, I am sorry for all my sins. In choosing to do wrong and in 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.

Acto de Contrición

Dios mío, con todo mi corazón me arrepiento de todo el mal que he hecho y de todo lo bueno que he dejado de hacer. Al pecar, te he ofendido, a ti que eres el supremo bien y digno de ser amado sobre todas las cosas. Propongo firmemente, con la ayuda de tu gracia, no volver a pecar y huir de las ocasiones de pecado. Amén.

Morning Offering (Option 1)

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world. I offer them for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart; the salvation of souls, Reparation for sin, the reunion of all Christians. I offer them for the intentions of our Bishops and for all Apostles of Prayer, and in particular for those recommended by our Holy Father this month. Amen.

Morning Offering (Option 2)

O Jesus, through the most pure heart of Mary, I offer my prayers, works, joys and sufferings of this day, and for all the intentions of His divine heart. Amen.

Ofrecimiento De la Mañana

O Jesús, a través del corazón más puro de María, le ofrezco todas mis oraciones, obras, alegrías y sufrimientos de este día, para todas las intenciones de su corazón divino. Amén.

V O C A B U L A R Y F O R R E C O N C I L I A T I O N

- Absolution
 - The forgiveness of sin that we receive from God through the Church in the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Baptism
 - The sacrament that makes the person a child of God and a member of the Church. It takes away original sin and all personal sin and makes the person a temple of the Holy Spirit.
- Confession
 - Telling our sins to a priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. What we confess to the priest is private.
- Confessor
 - A priest who acts as God's minister when he listens to our confession.
- Conscience
 - God's gift which helps us know the difference between right and wrong. It also helps us recognize whether an action we already did was right or wrong.
- Contrition
 - Sorrow for sins and a willingness to do better. Contrition is our first step toward forgiveness. As part of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we pray and Act or Prayer of Contrition.
- Conversion
 - A sincere change of mind, will, and heart away from sin and toward God. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is a sacrament of conversion.
- Examination of Conscience
 - A prayerful way of looking at our lives in light of the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, the life of Jesus, and the teachings of the Church. It helps us know whether what we have done is right or wrong.
- Grace
 - A sharing in God's own life. It is favor, the free and undeserved help that God gives us to respond to his call to become children of God, adoptive sons, partakers of the divine nature and of eternal life". (CCC 1996)
- Holy Water
 - Water blessed by the priest for a religious purpose.
- Mortal Sin
 - A serious sin that separates us from God's life.
- Original Sin
 - The name given to the first sin of humans. Because they disobeyed God and turned away from his friendship, original sin is passed to all of us.
- Paschal Candle
 - A candle that is blessed at Easter Vigil and is burned during the Masses of the Easter season. It is also burned at Baptisms and funerals through the year.

- Penance
 - A prayer or good action that we do to show we are sorry for our sins and want to do better. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, the priest gives us a penance.
- Penitent
 - The person who confesses his or her sins to the priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Precepts of the Church
 - Laws of the Church that help us know what we should do to grow in love of God and neighbor. (The precepts can be found in the Catechism beginning with number 2041.)
- Priest
 - A man who is ordained to serve God and the Church by celebrating the sacraments, preaching, and presiding at Mass. The priest is the confessor, or minister of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The stole is a sign of the priest's obedience to God and of his priestly authority.
- Reconciliation
 - A coming back together.
- Reconciliation Room
 - A room or chapel in which the confessor, or priest, hears the penitent's confession of sins. The room is usually furnished with chairs, a kneeler, a table for the Bible, and a candle. A movable screen can also be used as a divider between the priest and the penitent.
- Sacrament
 - A holy sign that comes from Jesus and gives us grace, a share in God's life.
- Sacrament of Reconciliation
 - A sacrament of forgiveness through which the sinner is reconciled with God and the Church.
- Scripture
 - The word of God contained in the Bible. The word *Scripture* means "holy writing." Scripture is used for reflecting on God's love and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Scripture is proclaimed by a lector, or reader, at Mass, at a communal celebration, or in other liturgical celebrations.
- Sin
 - The choice to disobey God. Sin is a deliberate choice, not a mistake or accident. We accept God's loving forgiveness for our sins when we show our sorrow that we are willing to do better.
- Stole
 - A vestment the priest wears around his neck when celebrating the sacraments.
- Trinity
 - The three Persons in one God: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
- Venial Sin
 - A less serious sin that weakens our friendship with God.

FIRST RECONCILIATION QUESTIONS

Why do we do these interviews? The purpose of the pastor interviewing the child is to ascertain whether the child understands the basics about the sacrament which they are preparing to receive.

1. What sacrament are you preparing to receive? (reconciliation)
2. Who did this sacrament come from? (Jesus Christ, John 20:23)
3. Why did Jesus give us this sacrament? (To reconcile us to God)
4. What does reconciliation mean? (It means to be forgiven and to be back in a right relationship with God)
5. What happens in the sacrament of reconciliation? (My sins are forgiven by the priest which brings me God's forgiveness for any sin I have committed after my baptism)
6. Who gave the priest the power to take away sins? (Jesus Christ)
7. What is sin? (It is when we do not follow God's law)
8. How do you know if you sinned? (I can examine my conscience by looking at the God's laws)
9. What must I do to receive the sacrament of reconciliation? (I must go to a priest to receive forgiveness after I realize what I have done wrong and after I have asked God to forgive me)
10. When we sin, does God stop loving us? (No, God always loves us)
11. What is the difference between a mortal sin and a venial sin? (Mortal sin is a very serious sin; venial sin is a less serious sin but is still something I did wrong)
12. What do you do if you commit a mortal or serious sin? (I must go to reconciliation as soon as I am able)
13. Can the priest ever tell another person what you confessed? (No, a priest cannot tell anybody what you have confessed or else he will be in trouble)
14. How often should you receive the sacrament of reconciliation? (Whenever I need to, especially if I commit a serious (mortal) sin)

Prayers to know by heart:

The Sign of the Cross

Act of Contrition

V O C A B U L A R Y F O R C O M M U N I O N

- - Altar
 - The table of the Eucharist. The Liturgy of the Eucharist is celebrated at the altar.
- Altar Server
 - A person who helps the priest and deacon at Mass
- Ambo
 - The reading stand from which the Scriptures are proclaimed. It is sometimes called the lectern.
- Assembly
 - The baptized community gathered to celebrate the Eucharist, the sacraments or other liturgy.
- Baptism
 - One of the three Sacraments of Initiation. Baptism gives us new life in God and makes us members of the Church.
- Baptismal Font
 - A bowl-shaped container or pool of water used for Baptism. The word *font* means “fountain.”
- Bible
 - God’s word written in human words. The Bible is the holy book of the Church
- Blessed Sacrament
 - Another name for the Body and Blood of Jesus
- Blessing
 - An action using words and gestures which asks God to show his kindness to us.
- Body of Christ
 - A name for the Church. It tells us that Christ is the head and the baptized are the members of the body.
- Book of the Gospels
 - A decorated book containing the readings from the four Gospels used during the Liturgy of the Word
- Cantor
 - The leader of song during the Mass and other Church celebrations
- Chalice
 - The special silver or gold cup used at Mass to hold the wine that becomes the Blood of Christ.
- Chrism
 - The oil blessed by the bishop used in the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Orders
- Christian
 - The name given to people who are baptized and follow Jesus.

- Church
 - The community of all baptized people who believe in God and follow Jesus
- Ciborium
 - The special silver or gold container used at Mass to hold the smaller consecrated Hosts for communion. A covered ciborium also holds the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle.
- Collection
 - The gifts of money collected from members of the assembly and presented during the time of the Preparation of the Altar
- Confirmation
 - One of the three Sacraments of Initiation. It is the sacrament that strengthens the life of God we received at Baptism and seals us with the gift of the Holy Spirit
- Confiteor
 - A pray of sorrow for sin. In it each person tells God and the Church family, "I am sorry." We ask for forgiveness
- Consecration
 - The part of the Eucharistic Prayer when, through the prayers and actions of the priest and the power of the Holy Spirit, the gifts of bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus
- Cruets
 - Small pitchers or containers that hold the water and wine used at Mass
- Deacon
 - A man who is ordained to serve the Church. Deacons may baptize, proclaim the Gospel, preach, assist the priest at Mass, witness marriages, and do works of charity.
- Eucharist
 - One of the three Sacraments of Initiation. It is the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ. Jesus is truly and really present in the Eucharist. The word *Eucharist* means "thanksgiving."
- Grace
 - A sharing in God's own life.
- Holy Communion
 - The Body and Blood of Christ that we receive in the Eucharist
- Holy Trinity
 - The three Persons in one God: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- Host
 - A round piece of unleavened bread used at Mass. When the host is consecrated at Mass, it becomes the Body and Blood of Christ.
- Incense
 - Oils and spices that are burned in liturgical celebrations to show honor for holy things. It is also used as a sign of our prayers rising to God.

- Lamb of God
 - A title for Jesus that reminds us that he offered his life through suffering and death to take away our sins.
- Lectionary
 - The book of scripture readings used at Mass
- Lector
 - A person who proclaims God's word at Mass or other liturgical celebrations. The word *lector* means "reader."
- Liturgy of the Eucharist
 - The second main part of the Mass. It is the time when we call on the Holy Spirit and the priest consecrates the bread and wine. We remember and give thanks for all of God's gifts, especially Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection.
- Liturgy of the Word
 - The first main part of the Mass. It is the time when we listen to God's word in the Scriptures.
- Mass
 - Another name for the Eucharist.
- Memorial
 - Another word for remembering. In the Mass, it means to remember and proclaim God's works.
- Mission
 - A job or duty someone is sent to do and takes responsibility for. The Church's mission is to announce the good news of God's kingdom.
- Mystery
 - Something we believe about God and his actions, but we do not understand how it happens.
- Original Sin
 - The first sin committed by the first humans.
- Paschal Candle
 - Another name for the Easter Candle that is lit at the Easter Vigil
- Paten
 - The silver or gold plate or dish used at Mass to hold the large host
- Pentecost
 - The feast that celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles and disciples fifty days after Easter. We celebrate this day as the beginning of the Church
- People of God
 - A name for the Church which tells us that we are sent by Christ to preach God's love to all people
- Prayer
 - Talking and listening to God. It is raising our minds and hearts to God.

- Preparation of the Altar and Gifts
 - The part of the Mass when the altar is prepared and members of the assembly bring the bread and wine, which will become the Body and Blood of Jesus, to the priest at the altar
- Priest
 - A man who is ordained to serve God and lead the Church by celebrating the sacraments, preaching and presiding at Mass, and performing other spiritual works.
- Procession
 - A group of people moving forward as part of a celebration
- Sacrament
 - An outward sign that comes from Jesus, which gives us a share in God's life.
- Sacramentary
 - The book containing the Order of the Mass, special celebrations during the year, and various prayers used by the priest at Mass
- Sacraments of Initiation
 - The three Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation, and Holy Eucharist that together make us full members of the Church. They are signs that we belong to God and to the Catholic Church
- Sanctuary
 - The part of the church where the altar and ambo are located. The word *sanctuary* means "holy place."
- Sign of Peace
 - The sign of peace is an action prayer that we exchange before Communion as a sign to wish God's peace on those who receive it. It shows that we are one in Christ's love.
- Tabernacle
 - The container in which the Blessed Sacrament is kept. It may be located in the sanctuary or a special chapel in the church. A lamp or candle is kept burning near the tabernacle as a sign that Jesus is present. The word *tabernacle* means "meeting place."
- Unity
 - A word that means to be one with others
- Usher
 - A person of hospitality who welcomes members of the assembly to Mass and helps directs processions and collections
- Vestments
 - The special clothing worn by the priest and some others for Mass and other liturgical celebrations

FIRST COMMUNION INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

Why do we do these interviews? The purpose of the pastor interviewing the child is to ascertain whether the child understands the basics about the sacrament which they are preparing to receive.

1. How many sacraments have you received in your life so far and which ones are they? (Baptism and Reconciliation)
2. Which sacrament are you getting ready to receive now? (Eucharist)
3. What's another name for this sacrament? (Communion)
4. What happens when the host is consecrated during Mass? (The host becomes Jesus' body)
5. What happens when the wine is consecrated during Mass? (The wine becomes Jesus' blood)
6. Will the consecrated bread still look and taste like bread? (Yes) What is different about the consecrated bread? (It is the Body of Christ)
7. Will the consecrated wine still look and taste like wine? (Yes) What is different about the consecrated wine? (It is the Blood of Christ)
8. When is the only time the bread and wine can be consecrated? (During Mass)
9. Who are the only ones who can consecrate the bread and wine during Mass? (The bishops or priests)
10. Is Jesus really present in the Eucharist? (Yes, we call this the Real Presence)
11. When was the first Mass celebrated? (Last Supper on Holy Thursday)
12. What are the two main parts of the Mass? (the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist)
13. Who was with Jesus at that first Mass? (The apostles) How many? (12)
14. When going to communion, what are the ways you may receive The Body of Christ? (On the tongue or in the hand)
15. Who can distribute communion? (Bishop, Priest, Deacon or Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister)

16. When the Bishop, Priest, Deacon or Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister holds up the host and says, "The Body of Christ" what do you say? (Amen)
17. What does Amen mean? (I believe)
18. When the Bishop, Priest, Deacon or Extraordinary Eucharistic Minister offers you the chalice and says, "The Blood of Christ" what do you say? (Amen)
19. Demonstrate how we receive Communion.
20. How many sacraments of initiation are there? (Three)
21. What are the sacraments of initiation? (Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist)
22. May you receive the Body and Blood of Christ if you are in a state of serious sin? (No)
23. What sacrament do you turn to before going to communion if you are in a state of sin? (Reconciliation)
24. If you go to communion and they run out of the Blood of Christ and you have only received the Body of Christ, do you still receive all of Christ? (Yes)
25. If you only receive a tiny piece of the consecrated host will you still receive Jesus in his completeness? (Yes)
26. If they run out of consecrated bread and you only receive a drop of the consecrated wine, will you still receive Jesus in his completeness? (Yes)
27. If there are leftover consecrated hosts, is Jesus still present or does it change back into ordinary bread? (Jesus is still present – it is still the Body of Christ)
28. If there consecrated wine left over, is Jesus still present or does it change back into ordinary wine? (Jesus is still present – it is still the Blood of Christ)
29. What does the priest do with the leftover consecrated hosts? (Places them in the Tabernacle)
30. What is done with the consecrated hosts in the Tabernacle? (They are used in the next Mass. Ministers to the sick also take it to people in the hospital or to people who are sick at home, as well as to those who are unable to come to Mass because they are very old or cannot walk well)

31. What is done with the consecrated wine that is left over after communion? (The priest or deacon drinks it)
32. How do you know Jesus is present in the Tabernacle? (The sanctuary light is burning)
33. Where is the sanctuary light in St. Columba church? (Behind the ambo)
34. When we come into the Church and see the sanctuary light burning, what is the first thing we do before we go into the pew? (Genuflect)
35. Who are you genuflecting to? (Jesus)
36. Why do you genuflect or bow deeply? (To show respect for Jesus in the Tabernacle)
37. When is the sanctuary light not burning, showing the Tabernacle is empty? (After the mass of the Last Supper on Holy Thursday until the Easter Vigil Mass)
38. Why is the Tabernacle empty from Holy Thursday evening until Holy Saturday evening? (Because this is the time we remember the suffering and death of Jesus)
39. When you come into the Church, why do you dip your finger in the water by the door and make the sign of the cross on yourself? (To remind yourself of your baptism and the promises you made to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit)
40. Is the water at the door of the Church plain water? (No, it has been blessed so we use it in a respectful way)
41. What is another names for the Sacrament of Reconciliation? (The Sacrament of Penance)
42. What is another name that some people have for this sacrament? (Confession)
43. What do you do in the Sacrament of Reconciliation? (Tell your sins to the priest)
44. Can the priest tell anyone what you said? (No)
45. Why can the priest not tell anyone what you said? (Because it is just between you and God)
46. God gave us ten guidelines to tell us if we've done right or wrong. What are those ten guidelines called? (The Ten Commandments)
47. Who did God give these Commandments to so that we would have them? (Moses)

48. Name the Ten Commandments (*Catholic version, not Protestant version – and they do not have to be in these exact words*)

1. I am the Lord, your God. You shall have no other gods besides Me.

2. You shall not take the name of the Lord, your God, in vain.

3. Remember to keep holy the Sabbath 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 anything that belongs to your neighbor.

49. When we break one of these Commandments, we commit a... (Sin)

50. After you make the sign of the Cross in the Reconciliation Room, what do you say?

(Bless me Father for I have sinned, my last confession was...)

51. Then what do you do? (Tell your sins)

52. After the priest gives you a penance, he'll ask you to say a prayer telling God that you are sorry. What is this prayer? (Act of Contrition)

53. Do you go to Mass on Sundays?

Prayers to know by heart:

The Sign of the Cross

The Lord's Prayer

Hail Mary

Morning Offering

Glory Be

Act of Contrition

Grace Before Meals

Grace After Meals