



CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY THE GREAT

Family Information Packet

Sacrament of Reconciliation

March 6, 2021

St. Gregory the Great First Reconciliation Family Information 2020-2021

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The children and their parents will attend. After an opening song, there will be a reading from the New Testament and from the Gospel, followed by a short homily. Father will lead us in prayer before we all pray the Our Father. The children will then be directed (a few rows at a time) to go to specific lines for individual Confession to one of the priests. When the children complete their First Confession, they will return to their pew to pray the penance given to them by the priest. After your child finishes his or her Penance, your child may join your family and quietly pick up your certificate in the gathering space and leave the Church.

DRESS CODE

Appropriate dress for the reception of a sacrament, i.e. “dress casual.” Please, no sweatpants, jeans, or sneakers.

PRAYERS

Your child needs to know how to make the Sign of the Cross and be able to say The Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be and the Act of Contrition.

PHOTOGRAPHY

Photography of any kind is **NOT** permitted during the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

RESCHEDULING

We will reschedule in the case of inclement weather or if your child is ill.

***KEEP IN MIND
SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MASK WEARING***

HOW TO MAKE RECONCILIATION/PENANCE

1. Make the sign of the cross. “In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.”
2. You say, “Bless me Father for I have sinned. This is my First Confession and these are my sins.”
3. Confess your sins to the Priest.
4. Listen to Father as he gives you a penance. He will then ask you to say the Act of Contrition prayer:

**“O 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.”**

5. Father will say the Prayer of Absolution: “I absolve you of your sins, in the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”. As Father is blessing you, saying “In the name of the Father, and the Son, and of the Holy Spirit”, you make the Sign of the Cross, and respond “Amen.”:
6. Go to a pew and kneel down to privately say your Penance prayer. Remember to thank and praise God for the great gift of His mercy you just received in this confession.
7. After you finish saying your Penance prayer, you may join your family and quietly pick up your certificate in the Gathering Area and leave the Church.
8. If your Penance is to do a good deed, do it as soon as you possibly can.



Act of Contrition

My God,

I am sorry for all 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.



An Examination Of Conscience For Kids

1. I am the Lord your God. You shall have no other gods before me

Do I pray every day?

Do I put my trust in superstitions, good luck charms, rather than God alone?

Do I worship only God?

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

Have I used the words "God" or "Jesus" to someone because I was mad?

Have I used bad words?

3. Remember to keep holy the Lord's Day.

Have I missed services on Sunday?

Do I pay attention during services?

Do I make it hard for others to hear or pay attention?

Do I avoid unnecessary work on Sunday?

Do I make Sunday a day of prayer and rest?

4. Honor your father and your mother.

Do I obey my parents?

Have I mistreated them by what I say or what I do?

Am I willing to help around the house?

Do I try to get along with my brothers and sisters? Am I a tattletale or bully?

Do I give a good example, especially to younger brothers and sisters?

Do I obey others that I should like teachers, police, old people, baby-sitters?



5. You shall not kill.

- Do I beat up others or hurt their bodies?
- Do I say mean things, or make fun of others to hurt their feelings?
- Do I say mean things about others behind their backs?
- Have I stopped speaking to anyone?
- Do I encourage others to do bad things?
- Have I wished bad things to happen to anyone?



6. You shall not commit adultery.

- Do I treat my body and other people's bodies with respect?
- Do I look at television shows, movies, or pictures that are bad?
- Do I speak nicely to others?

7. You shall not steal.

- Have I taken things that were not mine from a store or another person?
- Have I ruined another person's property for fun?
- Do I return things that I borrow? In good condition?

8. You shall not lie.

- Am I honest in my school work?
- Do I cheat or copy other people's work?
- Do I tell lies to make myself look good?
- Do I tell lies to protect myself from punishment?
- Do I tell lies that make another person look bad or get them in trouble?

9. You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.

- Do I allow my parents to spend time with one another, or do I get jealous and want them to pay attention only to me?
- Do I get mad when I have to share my friends?
- Are there kids I will not play with or be mean to because they look different?

10. You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

- Am I jealous or envious of the things my friends have?
- Am I jealous because my friends can play sports better than I can?
- Am I thankful to God and my parents for what they have given me?
- Do I share the things I have with my family, friends and poor people?



A Few Facts Your Child Should Know About Reconciliation



- Your child should know who Jesus is, what he did for us and why!
- Reconciliation is a sacrament of joy, of reconciling with our loving Father and his people.
- It is a meeting with Jesus who helps us become better!

Discuss these concepts with your child:

- God made all things and people good.
- Sometimes we knowingly do things that go against what God wants us to do.
- Sin is choosing to disobey God. It is doing what you know is wrong.
- God loves us even when we choose to do wrong.
- God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus. Through Jesus, we know of the father's love and mercy.
- When we go to confession, we show God and His people that we want to be forgiven. We repair our friendship with God.
- In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we experience the forgiveness of God the Father and the Church community through the person of the priest.
- The Priest cannot tell anyone what we say to him when we confess our sins.

Your child **must know** the following prayers:

1st Gr requirement {
Sign of the Cross
Our Father
Hail Mary
Act of Contrition

First Reconciliation Date 2020 - 2021

Group	Date	Time	Place
St. Gregory Academy & Religious Education Grade 2A	Saturday, MARCH 6, 2021	9:30AM	Church
Teachers Mrs. Regina Ratzlaff, Mrs. Maureen Satz, Mrs. Kara DeBonis, Mrs. Keri Carlton			

Group	Date	Time	Place
Religious Education Grades 2B & 2C	Saturday, MARCH 6, 2021	11:00AM	Church
Teachers Mrs. Patricia Nardo, Mrs. Stephanie Henderson			

Group	Date	Time	Place
Religious Education Grades 2D & 2E	Saturday, MARCH 6, 2021	1:00PM	Church
Teachers Mrs. Hillary McWhorter Mrs. Starr Salvatore			