

Resources for First Reconciliation Preparation/Celebration

Between now and December

- Go through your materials with your child
- Do the poster activity
- Read those Scripture stories
- Work at learning prayers by heart
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-7FMAq2Vqfo> Act of Contrition for children
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kxOB63hFTqc> Our Father for children (to learn by heart) without audio
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1fANA0zT_10 Hail Mary (with audio)
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SF-Qh3ddDww> Glory be (with audio)
- Begin using the Examen of Consciousness with your child

- Assure your child knows the following:
 - The difference between right and wrong.
 - Understand that accidents or mistakes are not sins.
 - That when we deliberately choose to do what is wrong and turn away from God, we sin.
 - That God is loving and merciful. God will always forgive us if we ask.
 - That Jesus has given us the sacrament of Reconciliation through which our sins are forgiven and we receive the grace to live as God's children.
 - That we must be willing to forgive others, just as God forgives us.

During Advent

- Tie activities of preparing for Reconciliation and Eucharist to preparing for Jesus' birth in new ways in your child's heart, your family's life
- Pray as a family around the Advent wreath: <http://www.churchyear.net/adventwreath.html>
- Continue to share the Scripture stories about Jesus' mercy and forgiveness
- Attend the parish Advent Reconciliation service as a family (show your children what this is like in community; participate yourself and with older siblings)

Immediately before the sacramental celebration

- Review the structure of the ritual and the Act of Contrition
- Help your child examine their conscience
- Prayers for each day the week before the sacrament, based on the Beatitudes
<https://www.smp.org/dynamicmedia/files/c17ceaf5c1793429cc7010877946ab24/TX005780-2-E-Family Prayer before First Reconciliation.pdf>