

Home Guide for First Reconciliation 2025-2026		
Complete date _____	Reconciliation Lesson # 1 For Parent: Getting ready to teach: ☐ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dfjZXrRBToA ☐ Watch this video. Whether this is a refresher or an introduction, this film creatively walks you through the Sacrament of Reconciliation in a way that will stick with you. How to go to Confession? And Helping Kids Feel Confident about Confession For Child & Parent: ☐ Know the different names of the Sacrament of Reconciliation Names: The Sacrament of Reconciliation is also called the Sacrament of Penance . When we tell or confess our sins to a priest, it is also called the Sacrament of Confession . Read Bible Story ❖ The Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32) Find it in your Children's Bible on pages 1620 -1621. 1. Read the story 2. Explain the story on page 1621 3. Talk to your child using the LIVE IT questions! 4. Challenge your child to retell the story	
	Reconciliation Lesson # 2 Read Bible Story ❖ Peter Denies Knowing Jesus (Luke 22:54-60) Find this bible story in your Children's Bible on page 1640 • Read the story • Explain the story on page 1641 • Talk to your child using the questions on page 1641 LIVE IT! • Challenge your child to retell the story	
Complete date _____	Pray and Teach Prayers: Pray together as a family daily. Be sure your child knows the following prayers and the names of the prayers	1. Act of Contrition 2. The Sign of the Cross 3. Prayers that could be given as a penance: The Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be
	Learn the Act of Contrition <i>Choose one of the 2 forms below to teach your child</i>	
	Act of Contrition (traditional form) 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 (alternate form) 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.

Complete date _____	Reconciliation Lesson # 3 Read Bible Story ❖ Love is the Greatest Commandment (Mark 12: 28-31) Find this bible story in your Children's Bible on page 1556 ☐ Read the story ☐ Explain the story on page 1557 ☐ Talk to your child using the questions on page 1557 LIVE IT! ☐ Challenge your child to retell the story Share these Models of Love and Forgiveness throughout the time you prepare your child for Reconciliation. ❖ Talk to your child about forgiving others. ☐ Talk about what went wrong. Admit wrongdoing. Say you are sorry. ☐ Say a prayer asking for forgiveness or leave a note of forgiveness. ☐ Do not go to bed angry with one another. ☐ Talk openly and honestly. Avoid blaming one another. ☐ Make your home a place of reconciliation and forgiveness day by day. ☐ Go to Mass together on Sundays. Notice the times we talk about forgiveness at Mass.
Complete date _____	Reconciliation Lesson # 4 Teaching your child the difference between Mistakes, Accidents, and Sins. ☐ When something happens and we <u>didn't mean it</u> to, that is called an accident. ☐ When we make a wrong choice or give a wrong answer because we <u>didn't know</u> the right choice or answer, that is called a mistake. ☐ When we do something that we know God told us <u>not to do</u>, that is called a sin. ☐ Watch this (7mins) Video: Mistakes vs. Sins ☐ Worksheet: Accident, Mistake, or Sin (complete and bring this worksheet to the Retreat) Read Bible Story ❖ The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37) Find this bible story in your Children's Bible on page 1606 ☐ Read the story ☐ Explain the story on page 1608 ☐ Talk to your child by using the questions on page 1608 LIVE IT! ☐ Challenge your child to retell the story
	Reconciliation Lesson # 5 You are teaching your child about the Examination of Conscience and preparing them for confession. ☐ What is an examination of conscience? It is when we ask ourselves whether we have sinned, either by doing something that we know is against God's law or by not doing what God's law calls us to do. ☐ Watch these: Joyful Reconciliation With Fr. Jim Deiters and Kids Explain First Reconciliation ☐ Learn this: How to make your first confession! ☐ Practice this & pretend to go to confession by using this worksheet: Confession Role Play
	Determine Readiness for First Reconciliation ❖ Is your child ready? ☐ Yes ☐ No ❖ Is he/she excited & prepared to celebrate this Sacrament? ☐ Yes ☐ No ❖ Prepare a Letter of Love <i>(the letter will be given to your child on First Reconciliation Retreat Day. After composing the letter, the parents will put their child's full name on the envelope, seal it, and bring it to class the week of WEDNESDAY, JAN 7.</i> - Following these suggestions to get you started. ○ How do you feel about your child's First Reconciliation ○ What you remember about your First Reconciliation ○ How Reconciliation will help your child to grow closer to Jesus ○ Prayers, affirmations of support and love
	Reconciliation/Confession Retreat: Saturday, Jan. 10 – 10 am – 12:00 pm at Parish Community Center