

Queen of Angels School of Religion
Sunday Morning Classes
Grade 2 – Preparation for First Communion

Student Text: Christ Our Life *God Cares For Us* Level 2 (Loyola Press)

Unit 3: Jesus Gives Us The Gift of Peace

The Gospel stories show us God's great love for sinners. Jesus extends this same forgiveness to us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The children will be preparing for this sacrament as well as the reception of the Sacrament of the Eucharist this year. They will receive Reconciliation in January and Eucharist (Holy Communion in April). These sacraments lead to a deeper relationship with God.

Lesson 10: "Jesus Leads Us to His Peace"

Jesus continually calls us who have sinned to reconciliation. In the Sacrament of Penance He gives us a sign of the Divine forgiveness and leads us to a greater peace.

Scripture: John 20: 19 – 23 (Jesus visits the disciples on Easter)
Luke 7: 36 – 50 (Jesus forgives the sinful woman at the house of Simon)

Class Discussion:

- Students recall times they have followed the Commandments (been kind to others, gone to Mass, told the truth) and how good it felt to do the right thing.
- Students recall times they have not followed the Commandments (been unkind to others, told a lie, skipped going to Mass on Sunday) and how badly those actions made them feel.
- Teacher will refer to actions that do not show love for God and neighbor as sin.
- Teacher will emphasize the difference between temptation and the actual commission of sin.
- Students will recall how teachers and parents help us to do better on our schoolwork by talking to us, showing us how/where to find answers, and by showing us how to solve problem by their good example.
- The priest does this same thing for us in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. He talks to us about our sins and shows us ways to be kind and loving in the future. He gives us an assignment: a prayer or action to do to help us to become more like Jesus in our words and deeds in the future.

Group prayer: We will take some of the sinful actions that were mentioned during class discussion and pray "Lord, have mercy." Then we will read the "I am sorry" prayer on page 53 of our book.

Ways to extend the lesson at home

- Help your child to memorize this prayer:
"O my God, I am very sorry for all of my sins because they displease you, who are all good and deserving of all my love. With your love I will sin no more. Amen."
- Talk with your child about times that you felt the need for forgiveness and how much better you felt when you said that you were sorry and were forgiven.
- Point out the reconciliation room/confessional in the back of church the next time you are there.