

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.) Both of these sacraments lead to a deeper relationship with God.

Lesson 12: We Meet Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God's forgiving love reaches out to us through the ministry of the Church. God pardons us whenever we confess our sins and express our desire to be more faithful to the teachings and example of Jesus.

Scripture: Matthew 5: 23 – 24 If you are about to offer your gift at the altar and realize that your brother has anything against you, go and be reconciled with your brother and then offer your gift at the altar.

Mark 1: 15 Gospel living demands a reform of life

Colossians 1: 19 -20 Reconciliation is a union with Christ and the Father.

John 8: 31 – 34 Those who are true sons and daughters of God live according to Christ's teachings.

Class Discussion

- review common ways we hurt family and friends
- ways we can make up for hurting someone
- what we do to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- how to express our sorrow for our sins

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."

Ways to extend the lesson at home

- Gently ask your child how he/she has hurt others and offended God.
- Do pages 10 – 14 of the Reconciliation booklet.
- Encourage your child to apologize to others. Be sure to set a good example of saying that you are sorry when you do something wrong that affects your child.
- Discuss page 15 of the Reconciliation booklet. Practice how to greet the priest, how to express your sorrow, and how to do your penance with your child.

Teacher's Note

The time for Reconciliation is very near. It is good to talk with your child a number of times about what will happen during the sacrament of Reconciliation. The booklet is helpful and gives the explanation in a way that a child can understand the sacrament. Your child's understanding will not be as deep as your own because he/she is a child and has not yet experienced the sacrament. The idea is to assuage any fears that he/she might have and make your child feel comfortable about receiving the sacrament.