

Lord's Prayer

Our Father,
Who art in heaven,
Hallowed by Thy name;
Thy kingdom come;
Thy will be done
On earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass
against us;
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
Amen.

What does my child need to know?

- the difference between right and wrong.
- 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.

How can I tell if my child is ready for First Reconciliation?

- listen carefully to what your child says about wrongdoing and misbehavior.
- encourage your child to take responsibility for his or her behavior rather than blaming others.
- watch to see if your child is capable of being sorry and asking for forgiveness of others without your prompting.

How will we prepare for First Reconciliation?

- Ritual experience and expression – particularly those rituals and symbols that evoke the ritual language for the sacraments.
- Prayer – both communal and individual, including prayer within the family and within the parish assembly.
- Sacred Scripture – particularly those passages that enlighten understanding of the sacraments.
- Reflection – particularly on God's love and merciful presence in our lives, on the power of the Holy Spirit that enables us to respond to God in love and prayer, on our own need for forgiveness, and on Jesus' example of forgiveness of others.