

## St. Mary's Basilica FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAM REQUIRMENTS 2020-2021

Our sacramental preparation program for First Reconciliation designed for second grade and above, is called *Together in Jesus*. The program consists of five integrated component that you and your child will need to complete before receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation:



- Online Classroom Component with Parent / Caregiver
- Family Component
- Prayer Component
- Service and Retreat Components

In addition, the Diocese of Phoenix also requires that children in First Reconciliation preparation be involved in the parish's on-going catechetical formation program (Children's Ministry). You child will need to complete, at home, the *Pflaum Gospel Weeklies*. In addition, they will take **four online unit tests** based on the *Pflaumn Gospel Weeklies* and need to receive a 70% or higher on each test. Test can be taken more than once.

Our sacramental preparation program for First Reconciliation is called *Together in Jesus*. **Your child and you together will explore six lessons throughout the year in their classroom:**

- |                                      |                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. I Belong to a Loving Community.   | <b>September 13, 2020</b> |
| 2. We Keeps God's Commandments.      | <b>October 11, 2020</b>   |
| 3. We Can Act Like Jesus.            | <b>November 8, 2020</b>   |
| 4. Jesus Teaches us to Forgive.      | <b>December 6, 2020</b>   |
| 5. Jesus Gives us the Holy Spirit.   | <b>January 10, 2021</b>   |
| 6. I Prepare for 1st Reconciliation. | <b>February 14, 2021</b>  |

**Parent Home Guide for Each Lesson Visit:**

[http://www.pflaum.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/TIJ-Home-Guide-Reconciliation\\_Final.pdf](http://www.pflaum.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/TIJ-Home-Guide-Reconciliation_Final.pdf)

### Family Component

These six lessons will also be explored within your family setting too. We recognize that what goes on in your home is the most important part of the preparation for First Reconciliation. We also recognize that parents and caregivers are tremendously busy these days, so our goal is to assist you in making First Reconciliation preparation an enjoyable part of your family activities.

*Together in Jesus* provides three sources of support and involvement for parents and caregivers at home. These resources are:

- **Questions Parents Ask about First Reconciliation**

This special handout answers questions parents and caregivers frequently ask and seeks to update them on the theology of Reconciliation.

- **Family Focus Poster**

*Together in Jesus* provides a special poster to display at home on your refrigerator or elsewhere and to be used as a focal point for family involvement in your child's First Reconciliation preparation. **This poster features a parent / child activity for each of the programs six lessons that you will complete with your child after each online session.** Your catechist will review your family project at the next schedule session.

Lesson 1: **Due October 11<sup>th</sup>**  
Lesson 3: **Due December 6<sup>th</sup>**  
Lesson 5: **Due February 14<sup>th</sup>**

Lesson 2: **Due November 8<sup>th</sup>**  
Lesson 4: **Due January 10, 2021**  
Lesson 6: **Due March 14<sup>th</sup>**

- **Prayer Celebrations**

*Teaching Guide* contains short prayer celebrations on the reconciliation themes of each lesson in the *Together in Jesus* program. Parents can use these short prayer services at home during the weeks their children are preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.



*As often as you did it for one  
of my least brothers, you did  
it for me.*

## Prayer Component

Please work with your child to help them memorize the following prayers that correspond to the six lesson in *Together in Jesus* First Reconciliation program. **Your child will be required to recite the memorized prayer to their catechist during their online class.**

### Memorized by October 11<sup>th</sup> Class.

#### Sing of the Cross

In the name of the Father,  
and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

### Memorized by November 8<sup>th</sup> Class.

#### Glory Be

Glory be to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end.  
Amen.

### Memorized by December 6<sup>th</sup> Class.

#### The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be 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.

### Memorized by January 10<sup>th</sup> Class.

#### The Hail Mary

Hail, Mary, full of grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed art thou among women  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.  
Holy Mary, Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death.  
Amen.

### Memorized by February 14<sup>th</sup> Class.

#### Act of Contrition

My God,  
I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.  
In choosing to do wrong  
and in 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.  
Amen.



## Service Component

**Your child and his or her family will engage in 8 hours of parish service.** This serves as a reminder that when we practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy we make satisfaction for the temporal punishment due to our sins. St. Mary's Basilica will make available, throughout the year, opportunities for service for you and your child to complete.

## Retreat Component

A retreat/rehearsal for children and their parents preparing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation is planned during a Sunday morning class. This is to be a time to reflect upon the Church's teachings on the Sacrament of Reconciliation and rehearse the liturgy.

**Date:** Sunday, March 14, 2021

**Time:** 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM

**Location:** To be Determined

## Child's Readiness

The Diocese of Phoenix states, "Parents and the parish catechetical leader, together with the pastor are responsible for determining when children are ready to receive First Reconciliation." The Diocese of Phoenix has provided the following criteria for readiness:

- An awareness that God loves them.
- Regular participation in Sunday Mass. **(Determined by participation in CLOW.)**
- Prayer as a part of the child's life and also experienced within their family. **(Determined by reciting memorized prayers to parents / caregivers and catechist.)**
- A growing ability to distinguish between accidents and the right and wrong choices they make.
- A capacity for sincere sorrow and ability to change their actions.
- The ability to express sorrow for sin.
- A knowledge that relationships with God and others can be broken through sin.
- An understanding that the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation is a special sign of God's forgiveness.

*Together in Jesus* First Reconciliation program at St. Mary's Basilica has been designed to fulfill the requirements put forth in the *Diocese of Phoenix Sacrament of First Confession Policy and Guidelines 2006*. By completing the components of preparation your child will meet the above criteria for readiness to receive First Reconciliation.

**In addition, the Diocese of Phoenix also requires that children in First Reconciliation preparation be involved in the parish's on-going catechetical formation program (Children's Ministry). You child will need to complete, at home, the *Pflaum Gospel Weeklies*. In addition, they will take **four online unit tests** based on the *Pflaum Gospel Weeklies* and need to receive a 70% or higher on the test. Test can be taken more than once.**