

Reconciliation

Sunday Connection

Bulletin Inserts, General Intercessions, and Parish Blessings

Use these as a way to involve the parish assembly in the preparation for sacraments.

Session 1 We Are Called

Bulletin Insert During the week, our young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time will be reflecting on being called to live in friendship with God through participation in the sacraments. Join them by taking time to think about the ways participation in the sacraments has brought you into a closer relationship with God's love.

Intercession For young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time, that they may be encouraged by the active participation and faith of this assembly.

Parish Blessing God, our loving Father, these young people come before you as your children. They belong to you. Send the Holy Spirit upon them as they begin this time of preparation that they may come to know your presence in all they do. We ask this blessing through Christ our Lord.

Session 2 We Are Welcomed

Bulletin Insert During the week, our young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time will be reflecting on how Jesus welcomes sinners. Join them by reading and reflecting on the story of Zacchaeus (*Luke 19:1–10*).

Intercession For young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time, that they may always be open to the forgiving and transforming love of Jesus.

Parish Blessing God, our loving Father, these young people gather with us, your people, to give you glory. Send the Holy Spirit upon them to help them recognize you in all the ways you show yourself to them and to continually give you thanks and praise. We ask this blessing through Christ our Lord.

Session 3 We Reflect

Bulletin Insert During the week, our young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time will be reflecting on the importance of the Scriptures as a guide for our lives. Join them by reading and reflecting on The Great Commandment (*Luke 10: 25–28*) and the Beatitudes (*Matthew 5:3–12*).

Intercession For young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time, that they will continue to love God's word and be guided by it in their actions.

Parish Blessing God, our loving Father, these young people come before you to listen and be fed by your word. Send the Holy Spirit upon them that may hear your word and be empowered to live by it. We ask this blessing through Christ our Lord.

Session 4 We Are Sorry

Bulletin Insert During the week, our young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time will be reflecting on sorrow for sin and confession. Join them by reflecting on the actions and patterns in your life that distance you from a deeper relationship with Jesus and the Church. Pray to the Holy Spirit to awaken sorrow and contrition in you.

Intercession For young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time, that they may be blessed with the ability to say "I am sorry."

Parish Blessing God, our loving Father, these young people come before you seeking to do your will, but knowing that sometimes they turn away from you. Send the Holy Spirit upon them to help them know you as always kind and merciful. We ask this blessing through Christ our Lord.

Session 5 We Are Forgiven

Bulletin Insert During the week, our young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time will be reflecting on the gift of forgiveness. Join them by reflecting on how you have given and received the gift of forgiveness in your life.

Intercession For young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time, that they may come to know the gift of God's gracious forgiveness in the sacrament and in daily life.

Parish Blessing God, our loving Father, these young people come before you knowing you are a forgiving God. Send the Holy Spirit upon them that they will be both enlightened and strengthened to ask for and be strengthened by your forgiving love. We ask this blessing through Christ our Lord.

Session 6 We Go Forth

Bulletin Insert During the week, our young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time will be reflecting with their families and catechists about how the sacrament empowers us to live out our mission of being forgivers and reconcilers. Join them by reflecting on your experience of being a forgiver and reconciler.

Intercession For young people who are preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time that they may be strengthened to go forth and live as forgiving and reconciling disciples.

Parish Blessing God, our loving Father, these young people come before you ready to do your will. Send the Holy Spirit upon them that they may be witnesses of peace and reconciliation as they live their lives as your disciples. We ask this blessing through Christ our Lord.

