

September 21, 2021

Dear Parents of First Reconciliation Children,

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is an important part of our lives as Catholics living together as a community. It is the sacrament of forgiveness and peace. Through reconciliation we are filled with the strength and grace to become the people we are called to be, the People of God. **Reconciliation** (also known as **Confession** or **Penance**) is a sacrament instituted by Jesus Christ in His love and mercy to offer sinners forgiveness for offenses committed against God. In Reconciliation, we acknowledge our sins before God and His Church. We express our sorrow in a meaningful way, receive the forgiveness of Christ and His Church, make reparation for what we have done, and resolve to do better in the future.

Preparing children for the Sacrament of Reconciliation is an important element in their spiritual formation. As parents, you have the awesome responsibility of helping your child form a good conscience; distinguish between right and wrong, good and evil. It is through your efforts that your child establishes a system of values and a code of morality. It is through your lives that he/she comes to understand forgiveness. It is by witnessing your faith in Christ that your child comes to know Jesus.

There will be an informational meeting for all parents of children preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This meeting will give you the opportunity to renew your own understanding of the sacrament before you begin to prepare your child to celebrate God's forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Both parents are invited and encouraged to attend one of the two scheduled meetings. However, at least one parent is required to be in attendance.

***Date of Meetings: **Tuesday, October 5, 2021 - 6:30 pm**
 Saturday, October 9, 2021 - 9:00 am***

Place: St. Theodore Room - Upper Level of Parish Center – enter off of the parking lot

Please enter through the Breezeway Entrance connecting the School and the church. The door to the St. Theodore Room is to your right at the top of the stairs before you would go into Church.

There is a \$60.00 per child fee that should have been included in the registration fees. This helps to cover the cost of the materials for both First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

If your son or daughter was not baptized at St. Kilian, Hartford, St. Patrick, Thompson, or St. John, Rubicon, we will need a copy of their Baptismal Certificate. *Please bring this with you to the meeting.* We will be filling out the Information Form for the Reception of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist at the meeting.

Special Note: This meeting is for parents only. Children do not attend.

Your questions should please be directed to the RE Office at 673-4831 ext. 7406 or e-mail dre@stkiliancong.org.

Peace,

Dennis Vlasak

Dennis Vlasak, DCF