

*St. Mary of the Assumption Parish
First Reconciliation—Final Family Preparation Sheet
January 13 – January 29, 2021*

Help your child pray the Act of Contrition aloud – meaningfully and prayerfully. If it is memorized, great! If they cannot memorize, do not worry. They will be given a copy.

- 1. Father will likely listen to the confessions of the children behind the altar. That allows for some privacy, as well as a flow of air. Parents will introduce their child to Father and then wait at the foot of the altar for their child.*
- 2. We will likely refer to the story of the Lost Sheep during the Reconciliation Service. Take time to re-read the story so that your child is familiar with it! (Luke 15:3-7)*
- 3. Review the five steps for making a good confession. These do not have to be memorized.*
- 4. Review the Form for Individual Confession, which is found on the prayer sheet.*
- 5. Help your child to be able to articulate things he/she is sorry for. These are some things that might help you:*
 - Do I pray? Do I go to Mass?*
 - Do I tell lies sometimes?*
 - Do I disobey my parents or teachers or bus drivers or other adults?*
 - Do I pay attention and do my work at school?*
 - Do I do what I am asked to do by adults?*
 - Do I take what does not belong to me?*
 - Do I fight with my brothers and sisters and friends?*
 - Am I mean to others in word or action?*
 - Do I hurt others on purpose?*
 - Do I do my homework and any chores I am asked to do?*
 - Do I damage property?*
- 6. During the Service, the children will be reading this prayer together. Please familiarize them with it:*

<i>1. Keep us in Your care, O Lord. Watch over us each day. Help us learn when we're at school, be with us when we play.</i>	<i>2. Help us always to be kind to family and to friends. Help us share the good we have and forgive us when we're bad.</i>
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3. We want to follow in your way. We want to be saints one day.
- 7. Please take time to “practice” reconciliation with your child. You will be the priest! I will review a little of this during the final session!*
- 8. We will be sending you a list of dates from which to choose for your child’s First Reconciliation.*