

## Just some reminders prior to First Reconciliation – December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016

**Parents: as your child's role model please go to Confession as promised at their baptism!**

This is not only for them! 16 Priests will be available to hear all individual confessions!

- Please arrive at GATHERING SPACE NO LATER THAN 2:15PM to pick up certificates, etc. THEN PROCEED QUIETLY INTO THE CHURCH.
- Although we will say an examination of conscience in church, please help your child make an examination of conscience so he or she will have a few things to say. Adults should also make an examen prior to confession.
- We will conduct a thorough review of the Sacrament prior to their going that day however prior to that, please practice including the Act of Contrition that is in the Program.
- Each row will go one at a time and you will be ushered to the next available priest. Parents please introduce your child to the priest and back away or preferably go to confession while your child is celebrating the sacrament for the first time.
- NO PICTURES/VIDEOS ARE TO BE TAKEN!
- Your child should make a sign of the cross and say "Bless me father for I have sinned, this is my first confession and these are my sins, and then mention two or three things for which he or she is sorry. When the child is finished, he or she should tell Father that "I am sorry for these sins, Amen."
- During the absolution, which is when Father says, "I absolve you for your sins..." Your child should make a sign of the cross AS THE PRIEST IS MAKING THE SIGN OF THE CROSS OVER THEM!
- When Father says "Go in Peace" the response is "Amen" or "Thank You Father."
- Then, all should return to the pew if a prayer for penance is indicated.
- After penance has been prayed, please leave through the side aisles of the church
- All of the above procedures would apply to any adult or sibling who wishes to celebrate the sacrament except for the introduction where you would tell the priest 'Bless me Father for I have sinned, it's been x since my last confession (how many months, years?) And these are my sins.'

Thank you.

Deacon Vin Rinaldi