

St. Aloysius Religious Education 2018-2019
2nd Grade

4:00pm Welcome (Penance coloring page and *to ensure accuracy, class attendance must be accurately recorded by a catechist and not another student - class attendance is an official document retained by the parish and the diocese*)

4:05pm We Gather - in Prayer at the prayer table
(*use colored table covering for appropriate liturgical season*)
Use the Gospel Reading "Hearing the Word" from the previous Sunday in Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families book in the prayer box

4:10pm Review previous lesson using one of the pages from the Activity Book.

4:15pm **Chapter #19 The Sacrament of Penance**

In order to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, you must first know your sins. For an action to be a sin it must be three things: it must be something wrong (against God's law); you know it is wrong; and you choose to do it anyway! **Because of Original Sin we are weakened and always tempted to sin. Sin affects God, others and you!** We can still choose or decide to do good and not sin again. The Sacrament of Reconciliation forgives our sin and restores grace in us, which helps us to overcome sin.

Chapter #20 Making up for Our Offenses

Jesus died on the cross to make up for our sins! Jesus was true God and true man. He was perfect. He was like us in all things but sin. He made the perfect sacrifice, paying for our sins by making up for them – dying on the cross. Sin affects God, others and us. When we offend someone, we can say we are sorry and they can forgive us – restoring our relationship. We do penance to make up for our wrongdoing. Vice = habit of doing bad, virtue = habit of doing good. **With God's grace, the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and penance, we overcome our vices and replace them with virtues!** We must pray that God will help us.

• *We Believe –*

Sacrament of Penance = in which all sins committed after Baptism are forgiven.

It is also a prayer we say or something we do to make up for our sins.

Penance = a prayer we say or something we do to make up for our sins.

- *We Respond – “Packing for Reconciliation Suitcase” demonstration (page 226 in Catechist Manual) RE will bring a “suitcase” full of material to show the 5 steps to Reconciliation – see below.*

In 1917, three children named Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta experienced a great miracle. While herding a flock of sheep outside the tiny village of Fatima, Portugal, the Blessed Mother visited them, not once, but many times, telling the children great and wondrous secrets that would affect all of creation. When the children tried to share the joyous news of Our Lady of Fatima, no one believed them, until the day the sun seemed to dance in the sky. It soon became clear that they had been chosen by the Blessed Mother to share her message. "The Day the Sun Danced" is the inspiring true story of Lucia, Francisco and Jacinta, whose great faith and courage brought the message of Our Lady of Fatima to the entire world.

4:45pm Examination of Conscience review and **Reconciliation role play** - when we confess our sins to the priest and are granted absolution, it is not the priest, himself, who grants the absolution. It comes from God. The catechist should go over exactly how to go to confession. Attached is a check list we will use with the children over the next few weeks.

4:55pm Closing Prayer – **Prayer of Reparation**

“My God, I believe, I adore, I trust and I love you.
I beg pardon for those who do not adore, do not trust and do not love you. Amen.”

Closing Prayer – the **Our Father**

“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.”

Ask the children to say a petition aloud for someone or something they would like to pray for.

*“What good can I do to make up for my wrongs?
“Have I told someone I was sorry for offending them?”*

Catechist background:

http://www.ceoballarat.catholic.edu.au/media/uploads/rec_godlyplay_scripts/Zacchaeus.pdf
<http://www.christenacleland.com/2012/08/a-reconciliation-litmus-test/>

5 STEPS TO A GOOD CONFESSION

- 1) Examination of Conscience** – think of and know what my sins are.
- 2) Contrition** – be sorry for my sins and having offended God.
- 3) Resolve not to sin again** – make up my mind not to sin again.
- 4) Confess sins to a Priest** – tell my sins to the Priest in Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- 5) Penance** – do the penance the Priest gives me.

HOW TO GO TO CONFESSION

1. Enter the confessional and sit down across from the priest (if going face-to-face) or kneel down in front of the screen (if going anonymous)
2. Make the Sign of The Cross (“***in the name of The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit***”) and say “**Bless me Father for I have sinned. This is my first confession. These are my sins.**”
3. Confess (tell) your sins to the priest.
4. Listen to the priest ... *he will give you some advice on how you can be a better Catholic and open your heart to God and be the person He wants you to be.*
5. The priest will give you a penance -- *it may be a prayer or some kind of action that will help you to be more thoughtful about areas of sinfulness or failing.*
6. The priest will invite you to tell God you are sorry for your sins by saying the Act of Contrition (“**My God I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and 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.**”)
7. The priest will give you absolution and offer you Gods forgiveness (“ I absolve you of your sins in the name of The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit.”) as you bless yourself with the Sign of The Cross (“in the name of The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit. **Amen.**”). Say “**Thank You**” to the priest.
8. Leave the confessional, if necessary go to the Altar and say your penance... feeling uplifted and energized by God’s mercy and love!

“Packing for Reconciliation Suitcase”

For your Reconciliation trip you have packed your suitcase. You have brought some items that will lead you to a good confession and you have also brought along some needless anxiety or baggage that is not necessary for Reconciliation.

So let's see what you packed for your First Reconciliation trip, empty your suitcase and see what is really needed:

Poinsettia –it looks good at Christmas, bright red leaves but usually it decorates the church altar for Christmas and you don't need to pack one on your trip to Reconciliation!

Apple – is a reminder of Adam and Eve and Original Sin. Because of their first sin we are tempted to sin.

Magnifying Glass – well isn't that interesting? One of the first steps to a good Reconciliation is an Examination of Conscience – we look carefully at what we might have done to hurt God or our neighbor.

Hair Brush – we comb through all we have done so we are prepared in the confessional.

Cross Trophy – prompts us that the 2nd step in Reconciliation is to enter the confessional and make the Sign of the Cross as you bless yourself.

Spoon – totally random distraction ... don't need to bring along.

Toothbrush – we brush up in the 4th step of Reconciliation – confessing our sins to the priest!

Heart – sometimes when we are sorry we offer something to show our sorrow. In confession, we must be truly sorry for our sins with all our heart!

Socks – always good to be prepared for anything.

Hand Weight – burdened with the weight of worry and sin? Ask the Lord to forgive your sins and release you from your worries.

Rock – when we confess our sins, we leave the weight of that burden with Jesus.

Baby Wipes – when the Priest absolves us of our sins our sins are forgiven and our souls are wiped clean!

Lamb – as followers of the Good Shepherd Jesus – we continue to follow him by doing our penance and rejoining his flock!

Prayer Card – remember to say your prayers, keep talking to God and listen to His voice.

