

**FIRST RECONCILIATION**  
**for FIRST COMMUNICANTS**  
**Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup> - 4:00 p.m.**

Please be sure to arrive in Church **NO** later than **3:45 pm**. We want to be sure that everyone is in place so we can begin on time!

The entire family should prepare themselves to receive God's forgiveness;

- as the service is in progress, the priests will be available to hear adult confessions
- the First Penance children wait to the end to go to confession
- they should be introduced to the priest-penitent by a parent, who says:

***“Father N., this is my son/daughter, N.”***

- the parent then walks away to assure confidentiality. The ‘**dress**’ is ‘**Sunday Best**’ and the service lasts about 35-40 minutes, plus time for confessions. All are free to go after celebrating Reconciliation. Please review the Act of Contrition [Prayer of Sorrow] with your child. And don't forget to use the two examinations of conscience distributed at the sign-in table at Mass; one is for the children – and the other is for all older children and adults who wish to go to confession that day.

*Please note:*

***The First Penance Service is NOT a Mass and does NOT fulfill the Sunday Obligation to attend weekly Mass.***