



## SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

### GRADE 2 ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST

## Reconciliation

*Encounter with Christ helps children reflect on practical ways to live as disciples, drawing upon the grace received in the Sacraments. Take one chapter a month, creating conversation around the ideas below. Use the online resources to find activities that you and your children can do together.*

***Encounter with Christ (Reconciliation) (OSV) resources: go to <https://osv.com/FaithAtHome>, scroll down to the gray area with the *Encounter with Christ* section and click on the appropriate resource. Take one chapter per month beginning in September with Session 1, “We Are Made in God’s Image.”***

### **September: Session 1 We Are Made in God’s Image**

#### **Session Outcomes**

##### **Informing the Mind**

- Learn that God created human beings, male and female, in his image and likeness
- Understand that God has a plan and purpose for each person
- Know that God reveals himself as the three Divine Persons of the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a relationship of perfect love
- Recognize that God loves us and calls us to be in relationship with him and with one another

##### **Forming the Heart**

- Realize that because we are made in God’s image and likeness, we are called to care for each other and the world God created
- Embrace that we are created as good and that our words and actions should reflect the love God has for us
- Grow in awareness of the mystery that God is beyond us and near us

##### **Scripture**

The All-knowing and Ever-present God Psalm 139:1–2, 13–14; The Creation of Man and Woman Genesis 2:7–8, 18, 21–23

##### **Focus**

Jesus as Second Person of the Trinity

##### **Catholic Signs & Symbols**

The Church

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## **October: Session 2 We Live in Covenant with God**

### **Session Outcomes**

#### **Informing the Mind**

- Know that God always loves us, remains faithful to his promises, and welcomes us with forgiveness when we sin
- Understand that original sin is the first sin committed by Adam and Eve and passed down to all human beings
- Recognize that Jesus came to save us from our sins and death
- Realize that in baptism, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we receive new life in Christ

#### **Forming the Heart**

- Appreciate God's covenant (agreement) with Israel as a sign of God's mercy and love that also requires us to show mercy and love to others
- Discover that Jesus is the sign of the New Covenant
- Consider the relationship formed at baptism between the baptized, Christ and the Church
- Understand that grace received at baptism restores the covenant broken by sin and helps us conform our life to Christ

#### **Scripture**

The call of Matthew, Matthew 9:10-13, Gracious and merciful Joel 2:13

#### **Focus**

Jesus as Savior

#### **Catholic Signs & Symbols**

Baptismal Water

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## **November: Session 3 We Are Called to Forgiveness**

### **Session Outcomes**

#### **Informing the Mind**

- Recognize our need for a change of heart
- Realize that Jesus offers us redemption and forgiveness
- Know that our well-formed conscience helps us choose what is right and good
- Learn that the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes guide our choices

## **Forming the Heart**

- Discover God's mercy and forgiving love
- Understand that we must take time to examine our conscience
- Recognize that our choices have consequences in all our relationships, especially our relationship with God

## **Scripture**

Prayer in Time of Distress, Psalm 86:4-6; The Parable of the Lost Son Luke 15:11-24

## **Focus**

Our Conscience helps guide us

## **Catholic Signs & Symbols**

Confession

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## **December: Session 4 We Come to Reconciliation**

### **Session Outcomes**

#### **Informing the Mind**

- Realize that we come to Penance due to the prompting of the Holy Spirit
- Review that when we sin, we choose to turn away from God and his love, hurting our relationship with him
- Identify the four main parts of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation: contrition, confession, penance, and absolution
- Connect the Act of Contrition to true sorrow and conversion

#### **Forming the Heart**

- Recognize that Jesus is the Good Shepherd who searches us out, takes care of us, and guides us to his Father
- Understand that true sorrow for our sins is essential
- Develop the courage to admit and confess our sins

#### **Scripture**

The Vine and the Branches, John 15:9-14, The Good Shepherd John 10:3-5, 11-15

#### **Focus**

Jesus as The Good Shepherd and The Rite of Penance

#### **Catholic Signs & Symbols**

Stole (priest wears this in his role as sign of God's forgiveness and reconciliation with the Church)

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## **December: Session 5 We Confess and Do Penance**

### **Session Outcomes**

#### **Informing the Mind**

- Discover that as members of the Church, God calls each of us to spread the Good News of his Kingdom by our words and actions
- Recognize that confessing our sins and taking responsibility for them opens our heart to God's mercy and forgiveness
- Learn that conversion is turning away from sin and responding to God's love and forgiveness
- Realize that performing acts of penance helps us to reconcile with God and with others

#### **Forming the Heart**

- Understand that when we confess our sins, we are following the promptings of the Holy Spirit
- Appreciate that we are drawn further into the mystery of salvation when we do acts of penance
- Accept that Christ is King of our hearts, lives, and the whole world
- Recognize that God continually calls us back to him and a life of conversion

#### **Scripture**

The Advocate, John 14:23-26, The Tax Collector Luke 19:2-10

#### **Focus**

Jesus as Christ the King

#### **Catholic Signs & Symbols**

Hands as a sign of healing

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## **January: Session 6 We Are Forgiven and We Forgive**

### **Session Outcomes**

#### **Informing the Mind**

- Understand that, in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, we are offered absolution—forgiveness of our sins
- Learn that when we forgive others, we are following Jesus' example
- Recognize that, as members of the Body of Christ, we are called to show mercy, compassion, and kindness to others

## **Forming the Heart**

- Deepen our awareness of God's willingness to forgive all of our offenses
- Appreciate that Jesus grants us pardon and peace and sends us to be peacemakers in his Kingdom
- Discover the importance of the words and gestures in the Prayer of Absolution

## **Scripture**

Appearance to the Disciples John 20:20-23, How Often Must We Forgive? Matthew 18:20-22

## **Focus**

Jesus and his Body, the Church

## **Catholic Signs & Symbols**

The Sign of the Cross

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