

SACRAMENTAL PROTOCOL

The Sacramental protocol for all liturgies at Good Shepherd Church observes and fully complies with the General Instructions of the Roman Missal and rubrics, and all The Rites of the Roman Catholic Church. Orthodoxy and tradition is the Church's premise when celebrating Holy Mass and all Sacraments of the Church.

Holy Mass and all liturgies are celebrated with reverence and solemnity. As instructed from the Roman Missal we celebrate Holy Mass and liturgies offering praise and thanksgiving to God the Father through Jesus Christ our Lord with the sanctification of the Holy Spirit.

SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION

Sign - In

1. Please be sure your child is signed in. Your child will receive a name tag (in the shape of a sheep). We ask that each parent/guardian hold onto the child's name tag.
2. One pew has been reserved for each child's family. Each pew is tagged with your child's name. All names are in alphabetical order. Both child and parent/guardian will sit together.
3. You will find in each pew your child's First Reconciliation - Penance Certificate. Please take the certificate home.

Individual Confessions

1. Our catechists will guide each child to an available priest.
2. The parent/guardian will be guided to a Penance Pew. As your child is at confession we ask each parent to support his/her child by reciting these prayers for your child(ren):

O loving and merciful God! Help my child to make a good Confession. Help him/her to examine his/her conscience, that he/she shall be able to tell the priest what sins he/she has committed and how often. Let him/her feel a deep sorrow for all his/her sins and give him/her the grace to firmly resolve not to sin again.

O Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, my child's dear Guardian Angel, and all the blessed Angels and Saints in Heaven, pray for me and my child, that he/she shall make a good Confession, and from now on lead a good life, so that we shall join you in Heaven to praise our dear Lord, forever and ever.

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be.

3. When your child is finished at confession he/she will join you in the Penance Pew (which will be tagged) so that your child may recite his/her penitential prayer(s). When your child is finished with his/her prayer(s), please proceed to the rear of the Church (where the Good Shepherd banners are posted). At this time you will submit your child's name tag and receive a pin-prayer card. You may leave the Church at this time.

Church Protocol

We appreciate your cooperation as to assure reverence throughout our liturgy in support of our children who are about to receive the Sacrament of First Reconciliation - Penance. Your attention to please observe the following:

- Turn off all cellular phones and communication devices.
- *Please refrain from unnecessary talking. **This is extremely important as we need absolute quietness and do not want to disturb our liturgy and children during their confessions.***
- Please remain in your seats. Our catechists will guide your child to an available priest and point out to the parent/guardian (only) a Penance Pew (tagged in RED).
- Flash photography is not permitted during Sacred Liturgies.
- We encourage all to participate in responding.
- Kindly follow the instructions of the Church Ushers.