

Second Grade: Lesson 13

Reconciliation

Lesson Objective:

With a firm foundation on sin, mercy, and conscience in place, this lesson helps to prepare the child to understand the sacrament of Reconciliation and prepares the child to receive this sacrament. Catechists should connect this lesson to lesson 3 to remind the children that the power and grace that flows from this sacrament comes from Jesus' death on the cross and His resurrection from the dead. In addition, children should be reminded of the benefits of receiving this sacrament regularly.

Learning Outcomes: Students will ...

- Discuss some of the names for the sacrament of Reconciliation (CCC 1423, 1424).
- Demonstrate the procedure for celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation, including an examination of conscience, the dialogue with the priest, reciting an Act of Contrition, and performing the Penance given by the priest.
- Explain that through the priest Jesus forgives our sins in the sacrament of Reconciliation (CCC 1441-1442, 1461-1467).
- Recite the Act of Contrition and the Morning Offering.

Materials Needed:

- Prayer space items, Bible, pencils, crayons
- Copies: Morning Offering Prayer, Vocabulary Words, Word Search, Examination of Conscience and Ten Commandments resources, as needed.

As Students Enter Class:

- If you would like, have copies of a coloring page that has the Morning Offering Prayer, such as the one linked here: [Morning Offering Prayer Coloring Sheet](#)

Morning Offering

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, for the salvation of souls, the reparation of sins, the reunion of all Christians, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father this month. Amen



Morning Offering - © TheCatholicKid.com

Beginning of Class:

- Invite students to gather around your prayer space and pray the Our Father.

Lesson Order	Implementation Ideas
<p>Lesson 13 Video</p> <p>Fun Activity:</p> <p>As students enter class, hand them a sticky note or index card that has a R, C, or P printed on it. Don't tell them what it's for just yet.</p> <p>After watching the video, and randomly throughout class, you can say: Would all the R's stand up. On the count of 3, whisper what R stands for.</p> <p>Do the same for C and P.</p>	<p>Class Discussion: Ask students what it means to be sorry for something? What does reconciliation mean? Confession? Encourage students to share their thoughts, leading them to beginning to understand that Jesus forgives us our sins. When we sin, we make a mistake, and we need to feel very sorry for our sins and tell Jesus that we are truly sorry.</p> <p>This video is 3:48 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: Last session, we learned about developing our conscience to help us learn right from wrong. Like a smoke detector, our conscience warns us about dangerous or wrongful situations. We form/develop our conscience by living good lives of holiness. How do we live good lives of holiness? By Following the 10 Commandments, the Two Great Commandments, and the Beatitudes.</p> <p>God is excited for you to become clean on the inside and to forgive us our sins. This sacrament is known by a few names:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconciliation • Confession • Penance <p>Reconciliation: We become reconciled with God after sin. We grow back into a right relationship with God.</p> <p>Confession: Reminds us of what we are doing – confessing our sins to the priest and to God. Priest is working In Persona Christi, which means, in the very person of Christ. When we confess, Jesus is speaking to you through the priest!</p>

	<p>Penance: The act we do after confession to show God how sorry we are.</p> <p>The removing of sins comes from the power and grace of Jesus that flows to us by his death and resurrection. When we go to reconciliation, we say yes to uniting our lives with Jesus.</p> <p>Once you perform an Examination of Conscience, Reconciliation has a few steps that we have to follow. You need to learn these steps because you will make your First Confession before you receive your First Holy Communion.</p>
Morning Prayer Song	<p>This video is .34 in length. This is a Christine in Action Video.</p> <p>You can connect the words in this song to the coloring sheet from the start of class.</p> <p>After hearing the song, which is one that is not easily followed, you may want to recite the Morning Offering Prayer with students.</p>
Steps of Reconciliation Song	<p>This Christine in Action Video is .56.</p> <p>It is easy to follow and the words appear on the screen.</p> <p>See printable God's Business Card for the steps to penance.</p>
Guided Meditation	<p>This video is 1:30 in length. It is a calm prayer of the Act of Contrition. However, it is the older version of the Act of Contrition, and not the ones recently sent to us by our Bishop.</p> <p>You could read the new Act of Contrition and then provide the quiet time from the video – which begins at .43 into the video.</p>

	<p>Prompts also appear on the screen to help facilitate the guided meditation.</p> <p>Consider turning the lights down during this activity.</p>
Steps to Reconciliation	<p>This is a link to Loyola Press and reviews the steps. You can use God's Business Card, located at the end of this lesson plan also. However, Examination of Conscience is not listed on this one.</p>
Watch Someone go to Reconciliation	<p>This video is 4:09 in length.</p> <p>Highlights: The video nicely and calmly explains the seven main points or steps in Reconciliation. This video is well done. It explains the steps and then shows an actual confession of a young girl with a priest.</p>
Vocabulary Words	<p>This is a list of vocabulary words and their meanings. It is up to you whether or not to hand this out to students, or use it in your classroom as a teaching tool.</p>
Reconciliation Word Search	<p>This can be done during this class or other classes in the future.</p>
Revisit the Examination of Conscience and the Ten Commandments	<p>These handouts were used previously. If you still have them, you can review with students.</p> <p>See below for other options.</p>

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE FOR CHILDREN

To prepare for the Sacrament of Confession, we must think about the 10 Commandments. As we think of the Commandments, we ask ourselves if we have faithfully kept each one.

1. *We ask the Holy Spirit to help us remember our sins.*
2. *We are truly sorry for our sins.*
3. *We firmly decide not to commit these sins again.*
4. *We confess our sins to a Catholic priest.*
5. *We do the penance the priest tells us to do.*

1. **GOD COMES FIRST:** Did I pray each day? Did I act with respect in Church? Did I participate at Mass?

2. **GOD'S NAME IS HOLY:** Did I always use God's Name in the right way? Did I treat and talk about holy things properly?

3. **GOD'S DAY IS HOLY:** Did I go to Mass on Sundays and Holy Days? Did I miss Mass through my own fault?

4. **HONOR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER:** Did I obey my parents? Did I treat them with respect? Was I obedient and respectful to my teachers, priests and others in authority?

5. **DO NOT KILL:** Have I been kind to my brothers and sisters, friends and people in my classroom by not hitting or hurting their bodies? Did I harm anyone's reputation by hurtful, cruel words?

6. **BE PURE:** Were my thoughts, words and actions good and pure? Have I been careful to watch only good movies, shows and things on the computer? Have I been careful in what I have listened to and what I have said? Have I dressed and acted modestly?

7. **DO NOT STEAL:** Have I always been honest? Did I take what didn't belong to me? Did I return what I borrowed or found? If I broke something, did I fix or replace it? Did I cheat on my homework or tests?

8. **DO NOT LIE:** Have I always told the truth? Have I said or repeated anything hurtful about anyone that was not necessary to say? Was I quiet about something when I should have spoken up? (sin of omission)

9&10. **DO NOT WANT YOUR NEIGHBOR'S WIFE OR THINGS:** Have I been satisfied with what I have? Have I been jealous of another's things, toys or belongings? Have I begged from my family and friends for what they have and what I want? Am I thankful for what I have?

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

[Handout for Steps to Reconciliation](#)

Please note the above handout has the “old” version of the Act of Contrition.

There is also a Ten Commandments Toolkit provided by Sadlier Education.

[Ten Commandments Handout](#)