

FIRST RECONCILIATION COACHING:

PLACE: Assumption Church

DATE: Thursday, December 1, 2016

OR

Saturday, December 3, 2016

TIME: 6:30 P.M.

10:00am

When entering the nave, please sit in the pews on either side of the center aisle-- the entire family sits together. In order to maintain a quiet atmosphere prior to and during the celebration, we ask that you quietly spend these moments examining your conscience and/or praying for all who will receive this grace-filled sacrament. In addition, to help children and parents preserve the beauty of the evening, when it's time, families will be invited to move to certain places around the church to wait their turn to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Below is a guide for how this will look:

1. When you enter the narthex, you might be given an index card. The color of the index card identifies which area of the church, when invited, to move into those pews. At the same time the priests are also moving to their spots to hear confessions.
2. If you did not receive a card upon entering, please remain in the center pews. Ushers will be present to assist you to move to an area of the church to wait for a priest to hear your confession.

CHOICE OF PRIEST: We want to honor the child's decision regarding which priest s/he chooses for hearing their confession. And, all of our priests are wonderful, so please invite him or her to take a look at the lines and divide up somewhat evenly so that one priest does not have few penitents while another has many. We also encourage families to remain together, to offer support and inspire one another.

ATMOSPHERE: The atmosphere in the church throughout the entire ceremony should be one of reverence. This is an important sacrament, and even though both children and parents are excited about the event, a tone of quiet should remain. Background music is played during the individual confessions.

CLOTHING: Good "dress up" clothing is appropriate for this exciting occasion.

FAMILY PARTICIPATION: Members of the family are encouraged to participate in the sacrament as well. If a parent is not Catholic and wishes to approach one of the priests for a blessing, this is perfectly acceptable.

CELEBRATIONS: Families are encouraged to celebrate this event as you do for any other special occasion in your family.