

FAITH AT HOME

A Parent Companion



SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION AND RECONCILIATION



Lesson Overview:

Receiving Confirmation and First Communion will complete your child's initiation into the Church. Baptism is our birth into the faith. Confirmation grows and strengthens the life of God that we receive at Baptism. The Eucharist is the continual nourishment we need to continue in the Christian life and to reach our true homeland in Heaven.

The Eucharist also has an important connection to the sacrament of Reconciliation. Confession is the best way to keep our souls clean so that we can receive Jesus with a pure heart. The Church requires us to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation once a year. If we commit a mortal sin, we must confess before receiving Communion. Regular confession, however, keeps our soul ready to receive Jesus well and to break out of any habits of sin.



Seven Sacraments Altarpiece
by Rogier van der Weyden
Source: Wikimedia Commons

Review with your child:

1. What are the three Sacraments of Initiation? **Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.**
2. What is the final Sacrament of Initiation? **Eucharist.**
3. If you are not in a state of grace, meaning with mortal sin on your soul, what must you do before receiving the Eucharist? **Go to Confession.**

SAINTS AMONG US

Eucharist



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FAITH IN ACTION

Most parishes have Confession times on Saturday afternoon. This is a good time to schedule for going to Confession regularly. Pope St. John Paul II said “Confession is an act of honesty and courage – an act of entrusting ourselves, beyond sin, to the mercy of a loving and forgiving God.”

AT HOME

1. Practice praying the Prayer before Communion.
2. Talk with your child about finding a regular time to go to Confession as a family.

PRAYERS

Prayer Before Communion

Lord Jesus, come to me.

Lord, Jesus, give me your love.

Lord Jesus, come to me and give me yourself.

Lord Jesus, friend of children, come to me.

Lord Jesus, you are my Lord and my God.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.



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