

## Sample Reconciliation Interview Questions

This list is a sample of some of the questions that the interviewer might ask a student.

The interview is not meant to be a “test”; it is a conversation designed to see that the student understands the sacrament he or she is about to receive. Each interview will last approximately ten minutes.

1. You are about to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. What does the word “reconciliation” mean?  
Example: one person says “I’m sorry” and another person forgives you
2. What is the difference between a mistake and a sin?  
Example: mistake means I didn’t know it was wrong, a sin means that I knew it was wrong and did it anyway
3. What is The Act of Contrition? What does it mean?  
Example: a prayer of sorrow and a promise to do better
4. Give an example of a Bible story that tells about forgiveness  
Examples: prodigal son (Luke 15:11-21), Jesus and Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10), forgiveness of the woman (Luke 7:36-50), healing of the paralytic (Mark 2:1-12), parable of the unforgiving servant (Matthew 18:23-35)
5. Name some actions of forgiveness  
Example: saying “I’m sorry”, hugging, handshake, writing a note, doing something nice for the person.
6. What does an Examination of Conscience mean?  
Example: thinking about what we have done wrong and why we did it, the Hand method – the thumb stands for “what I did”, index finger for “why I did it”, middle finger for “how often I do it”, ring finger for “how I can do better”, pinky for “I’m sorry”)
7. What happens in the Sacrament of Reconciliation? How do I begin?  
Example: greet Father with “Bless me, Father..”, confess sins, listen for penance, say Act of Contrition, receive absolution, “Amen”
8. After you have been forgiven, what changes could take place in you or in your life?  
Example: try not to do the same wrong things as before, work at doing good for others, always forgive others as God forgives.
9. Recite The Act of Contrition (also found on page 74 of your purple book).
  - My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against you whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with your help, to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin. Our savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy. Amen.

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**I scheduled my child’s interview at \_\_\_\_\_ on Tuesday, November 7th.**

### Important Dates

- Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017: Reconciliation Interviews will be held on in the Church Social Space (your child’s designated time is listed above)
- Tuesday, December 5, 2017, at 6:30 PM: First Reconciliation Service will be held in the church. The Reconciliation service is open to all 2<sup>nd</sup> grade students and their parents.