

# ST. John Vianney Church

## First Reconciliation PARENT HANDBOOK

2016



This year we journey together in faith as we help prepare our children to celebrate the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist. It is important to realize that this time of preparation presents all of us – parents, parish catechists and staff, and other members of our faith community – with wonderful opportunities to deepen our own faith and our understanding of the sacraments. Through the sacraments we grow in our awareness of God’s loving presence in our lives.

## CALENDAR FOR FIRST RECONCILIATION AND FIRST EUCHARIST

**2016-2017**

October 25, 2016	First Reconciliation Workshop for Parents ~ 7:00 pm
November 9, 2016	Final date to turn in Baptismal Informational Form
December 3, 2016	First Reconciliation Service ~ 10:00 am
March 7, 2017	First Holy Communion Parent/Child Meeting ~ 7:00 pm
April 26, 2017	First Holy Communion Practice ~ Both class times *Parents Attend*
April 30, 2017	First Holy Communion at 9:30 am and 11:30 am Masses
May 3, 2016	First Holy Communion at 6:15 pm Mass for those in Catch-Up Class

### Act of Contrition

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.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at  
[jgencarelli@sjvomaha.org](mailto:jgencarelli@sjvomaha.org) or 402-895-0896  
John Gencarelli, Director of Religious Education/Formation

SAINT JOHN VIANNEY FIRST RECONCILIATION  
December 3, 2016

## DRESS

- ✠ Children are to dress as they would for a special occasion. Dresses or slacks for the girls, slacks for the boys. Ties are not required.

## GATHERING

- ✠ Come to the church. All family members who attend may sit together.
- ✠ Act of Contrition is said together in community before Individual Reconciliation.
- ✠ Penitents approach the priest individually.
- ✠ The entire family is encouraged to attend and to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation if they choose to do so.
- ✠ If you do not wish to receive absolution, please approach a priest and ask for a blessing.

## INDIVIDUAL FORMAT IN THE COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION RITE

- ✠ Proceed to the priest, greet him, and then say: **“I am thankful for God’s forgiveness even when I ... (mention sins)”**
- ✠ The priest will talk to you for a few minutes.
- ✠ The priest will say the prayer of absolution, closing with “...in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
- ✠ You respond: **“Amen.”**
- ✠ The priest will say, “Peace be with you.”
- ✠ You respond: **“And with your spirit.”**

## RECONCILIATION CELEBRATION

- ✠ We would like each family to bring a dozen cookies, other snack, or fruit for our celebration. Please drop them off in the Narthex **before** going to the church.
- ✠ Following the Sacrament of Reconciliation, all are invited to continue to celebrate God’s love for us in the Narthex.
- ✠ Each child celebrating 1<sup>st</sup> Reconciliation will receive a special gift in the Narthex after the Closing Blessing in the Church.

**Great Resources on this Website:** <http://sacraments.osv.com/reconciliation>