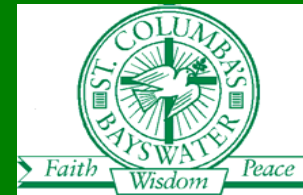


PENANCE  
SACRAMENTAL  
PROGRAM  
2011



ST COLUMBA'S PARISH  
BAYSWATER

*Loving God,*

*As our children prepare to receive the*

*sacrament of Penance,*

*Please help them to be*

*forgiving towards others.*

*Teach them to love others as your Son*

*Jesus has always loved us.*

*Inspire in them the desire to live and work*

*with all people in peace and harmony.*

*Amen*



## FIRST PENANCE 2010

### SCHOENSTATT SHRINE EXCURSION – PERMISSION SLIP

This form must be returned to class teacher by Wednesday 27th July 2011

I give my permission for my child \_\_\_\_\_, to travel to Schoenstatt Shrine, on the school bus, on the 9th September by bus.

\_\_\_\_\_ ( Signed )

I \_\_\_\_\_ will / will not be joining you at the Shrine

✂.....

**ENROLMENT MASS CARD** Please bring to the Enrolment Mass on Sat 30th July 2011 at 6.00pm.

### St Columba's Parish Bayswater



We,.....  
present our child, .....  
as a Candidate for the Sacrament of Penance.

We ask the Holy Spirit to continue to guide us in fulfilling our privilege of initiating our child into the Church.

Signed .....

## Preparing to receive the Sacrament of Penance

The following is a brief outline of the understandings the class will be covering during their sacramental preparation:

- We have the ability to make right choices.
- The choices we make affect others.
- Good choices lead us to happiness.
- We reflect upon and wonder at the God who created us capable of choosing what is right.
- God is good.
- God gave us Jesus, who by his example, teaches us and helps us to develop our ability to make right choices.
- Understanding sin – ie. times we have not lived as Jesus taught in our thoughts, words and actions.
- Through the Sacrament of Penance, Jesus makes us friends again with God.
- Learning about the elements (parts) of the Rite of Reconciliation.



### INTRODUCTION

Dear Parents

In 2011, St Columba's Parish will be receiving the Sacrament of Penance, also known as Reconciliation, for the first time.

DATE: Tuesday 16th August 2011

TIME: 7.00 pm

PLACE: St Columba's Church, BAYSWATER

DRESS: Neat, tidy casual attire

COST: \$30.00 (as per the 2010 Fee Structure and payable to your child's class teacher as soon as possible)

Enclosed in this booklet is all the relevant and necessary information regarding First Penance 2010. Please read the details carefully and do not hesitate to contact us regarding any concerns or queries you may have.

Yours faithfully

Megan Dwyer

Assistant Principal Religious Education

Julie Kelly

Catechist Coordinator

# *Preparing for the Sacrament of First Penance*

St Columba's offers an approach to sacrament preparation that is family focused, parish based and supported by the school and parish Religious Education Programs. Families, the parish and school work in partnership for the preparation and celebration of the sacraments of Penance, Eucharist and Confirmation.

This approach is based on the understanding that parents, with the support of the school and parish, have the responsibility for the passing on of Christian faith, values, traditions, beliefs and stories to their children.

Catholic schools, by the nature of their mission and mandate, have a direct responsibility to support the family and the parish in the preparation of children to receive the sacraments.

Both the school and the Parish Religious Education Program achieve this by providing knowledge and understanding through the Religious Education Program and by providing an environment which witnesses to, and teaches, gospel values.

## **Family Focused**

*The family is the domestic Church, the Church at home, the place where children receive formation for Christian living.*

*As parents come to understand how their 'domestic church' shares in the life of the whole church, so their children will come to feel 'a sense of the church' and will want to work for it.*

*(Christifideles Laici, The Vocation and Mission of the Lay Faithful in the Church, 62)*

## **FIRST PENANCE CELEBRATION**

This year the Sacrament of Penance will be held on :

**DATE:** Tuesday 16th August 2011

**TIME:** 7.00pm start (please arrive approximately 15 mins early)

**PLACE:** St Columba's Church, Bayswater

**DRESS:** Neat, tidy casual attire

**WHO :** Children receiving the Sacrament and their families.

### **PROCEDURE FOR THE CELEBRATION**

- Students will assemble in the hall prior to the commencement of the service in readiness for the Entrance Procession.
- Students will sit together in the front pews during the short Liturgy of the Word.
- Father Minh-Thuy will lead an Examination of Conscience and students will then come to one of the priests located at the front of the Church to make their First Reconciliation.
- They will then light a candle on the altar before going to sit with their families to spend some time in quiet prayer.
- After all the children have made their First Reconciliation, family and friends who wish to go to Reconciliation, are invited to do so.
- Following Reconciliation family and friends are invited to light a candle on the altar.



## Sacrament of Penance Retreat Day

As part of their preparation for First Penance students will be participating in a 'Sacrament of Penance Retreat Day'.

The students will spend the day at the Schoenstatt Shrine and will have morning tea and lunch there.

### Please take careful note of the following details:

- WHO:** ALL Year 3 students & catechist class students
- DATE:** Thursday 11th August 2011
- DEPART :** 8.45 am
- RETURN :** 3.00pm
- TRANSPORT:** BUS (please complete permission slip at back of booklet)
- DRESS:** sports uniform
- FOOD:** Morning tea, lunch and a drink in disposable bag marked with child's name.

### PLEASE NOTE

*Parents are most welcome to join us on the day (there is no extra cost for parents, except for a coin donation for tea and coffee), however they will need to make their own way to the shrine, which is located at 9 Talus Drive, Armadale.*

Children's Religious Education begins at home and parents are educating their children in all sorts of ways long before they come to school. The Faith experience children have from the time they are born forms the foundation and content of their Religious Education program.

Parents educate and form their children's faith by:

- their daily example of Christian living
- sharing of the faith through stories
- praying together as a family e.g. prayer before meals, bedtime prayer
- giving their children the opportunity to experience belonging to a faith community, especially through Sunday mass

### What is expected of parents to assist their child with the preparation for the sacrament of Penance?

- Attend the Enrolment Mass
- Attend sacrament workshops
- Return all relevant paper work by due dates



## IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE

Please take careful note of the following dates:

### SATURDAY 30th July at 6.00pm

Enrolment Mass for all children receiving the Sacraments of Penance and Confirmation in 2011 will be held in the St Columba's Parish Church

### TUESDAY 9th August at 6.30 - 8.00 pm

Interactive Family Workshop for children receiving the Sacrament of Penance and their parents in the St Columba's Parish Hall

### THURSDAY 11th August at 9.00am - 3.00pm

Visit to Schoenstatt Shrine for the 2011 Sacrament of Penance Retreat Day

### TUESDAY 16th August at 7.00pm

First Penance celebration at the St Columba's Parish Church

***Important details regarding each of these events are included in this booklet***

Please take time to read everything carefully and don't hesitate to contact us regarding any queries or concerns you may have. We look forward to celebrating this special sacrament with your child and family and hope to make the occasion a memorable one.

## ENROLMENT MASS

Participation in the Enrolment Mass is to indicate a willingness on behalf of the candidate, and their parents, to participate, to the best of their ability, in the preparation activities. It is essential that all students making their First Penance and their families attend this mass.

<u>Date:</u>	Saturday 30th July
<u>Time:</u>	6.00pm (Youth Mass)
<u>Venue:</u>	St Columba's Church
<u>Who should attend?</u>	Students making their First penance, parents and siblings

***Please bring the signed Sacrament Commitment Enrolment card, found at the back of this booklet, to the Mass.***



## INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

This year, as part of the preparation for First Penance, we are hosting an activity-based interactive Penance Workshop for the students receiving the sacrament and their parents. It is essential that all families attend.

Please note that this workshop is for the students receiving the sacrament and their parents **only** and we do not have crèche facilities.

The workshop details are as follows:

<u>Date:</u>	Tuesday 9th August 2011
<u>Time:</u>	6.30—8.00 pm
<u>Venue:</u>	St Columba's Church Hall
<u>Who should attend?</u>	At least one parent <b>and their</b> student receiving First Penance