

Jesus Leads Us to His Peace

FOCUS: In this chapter, you will be helping your child to understand that after we have sinned, Jesus gives us peace through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

On the evening of his Resurrection, Jesus greeted the Apostles who had deserted him in his hours of agony with the words “Peace be with you.” (John 20:19) God, in his merciful kindness, always forgives us when we express sorrow for our offenses. As soon as we utter our prayerful desire to affirm and strengthen our relationship with God, divine love forgives us our sins. This is the peace that Jesus gives. This is the reconciliation we celebrate when the Church continues the healing ministry of the Lord and calls for a deeper community and more faithful love.

Jesus leads us to God’s peace; his Spirit enables us to be a reconciling community, which restores peace through mutual forgiveness. Every baptized person should repeatedly experience conversion toward God to allow the divine life received in Baptism to unfold and develop.

Scripture in This Chapter

Luke 7:36–50 Pardon of the Sinful Woman

John 20:19–23 Authority to Forgive Sin

1 John 1:9 He Will Forgive.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

1423–1424, 1443, 1468, 1486

In this chapter, help your child to

- + define sin as saying no to God.
- + understand that accidents, mistakes, and temptations are not sins.
- + understand that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is Jesus’ gift for peace and spiritual growth.
- + realize that Jesus forgives us through a priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- + understand that by expressing sorrow for sins he or she shows his or her love for Jesus.

Words Your Child Should Know

- + sin
- + temptation
- + reconciliation
- + Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation

Key Terms for Your Information

- + sinner—a person who has offended God by failing to love
- + sorrow—sadness