

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH NAMBOUR

Embracing Kenilworth, Palmwoods, Yandina and Bli Bli

“MY SACRAMENTAL JOURNEY 2023”

FROM EUCHARIST TO PENANCE

LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE – WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Parent Information for the Sacrament of Penance

We are offering families a time of preparation for the celebration of the Sacrament of Penance according to the **First Rite of Reconciliation**. That is, individual prayer, confession and absolution with a priest. It is intended for children who have already celebrated Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist. **Usually, they would be in Year 6 or above to celebrate the First Rite of Reconciliation.**

At their First Eucharist preparation they would have celebrated the Sacrament of Penance according to the **Second Rite of Reconciliation** in a simple way.

Your children will already have been fully initiated through the Sacraments of **Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist**. As fully initiated Christians the Sacrament of Penance calls us to a constant renewal of life as Christians. In this Sacrament we thank God for his great mercy as we humbly place ourselves before God and the whole Body of Christ, the Church.

Conscience – making good choices

We hope that what we do during this time of preparation will also help equip parents to develop their children's conscience according to the Gospel. To do this we will be using the “See, Judge, Act” process. That is, help the children to:

know the difference between right and wrong so they:

“see” more clearly;

are able then to decide what to do (“judge” – conscience);

then “act” upon that judgement.

When we do choose to do the wrong thing we can come to realise our sin by the grace of God working in us. This is where repentance begins. Then we go and seek forgiveness and, importantly, make restitution to those we have harmed.

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24 Hour Answering Service for all emergencies: 07 3836 3221

We Will Be Doing This During Lent.

Lent is a time when the whole Church is called to a renewal of heart in light of our vocation as children of God by Baptism as we prepare for Easter. This is not a one off Sacrament like Baptism and Confirmation. It is a way we respond to the call by the Gospel to examine our conscience, seek forgiveness and healing. As a Church we are only too aware of our constant need to ask for forgiveness for our own sins and to forgive others who hurt us. The sin of one of us diminishes the whole Body of Christ.

What Will We Be Doing?

At the **Parents Information Nights (option I: Thursday, Feb 2nd @7pm, option II: Thursday Feb 9th @7pm)**, we will present some material to share with your child at home. This is an opportunity for parents and carers to guide the children in making a good choice.

Enrolments Close: 11th and 12th February, 2023.

Then:

- Each Sunday during Lent Children's Liturgy during Mass will focus on this Sacrament.
- The children will receive a workbook for use in each of the four weeks.
- And at each Mass on those Sundays the Homily will reflect what the children are doing.

Celebration of the First Rite of Reconciliation

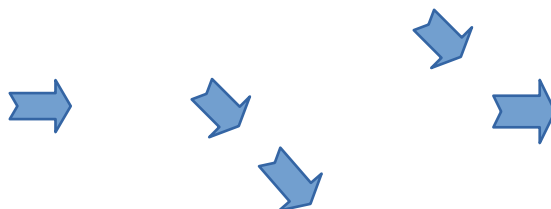
There will be a celebration of the **First Rite of Reconciliation** on **Saturday March 18th @ 4pm.**

Children may also celebrate the First Rite Reconciliation for the first time on any Saturday afternoon at 4.30pm from March 25th.

The Parish Will be Praying For and With You.

We hope this is an opportunity for both children and parents to renew their commitment as Disciples of Christ as we acknowledge our need for healing and forgiveness since our Baptism.

Fr Odinaka Nwadike



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