**FIRST RECONCILIATION PROTOCOL**

* Limit: Only the child that will be doing Confession and one parent are allowed.
* If your child or anyone in the household is sick or has symptoms related to Covid 19 please call to reschedule your child’s confession and do not come to confession at this time.
* Gates will open at 5:30 and will close by 6:15 pm to allow for everyone to go through our safety protocol*. Once the gate is closed it will not be opened as we must get into place to begin with Confessions*. We ask that you stay in your car when you arrive. Everyone will get in line at 6:30pm at your designated area. If you should have any questions prior to getting in line we ask that you stand outside in front of your car and one of our volunteers will go and assist you.
* When forming a line to enter the parking lot we kindly ask that you do not block the entrances.
* **Keep in mind we will have people arriving for regular daily Mass as well**
* Please remember, we want to be ready for when the priests arrive. It is more courteous of us to wait for a priest than to have a priest wait for us.

**Station A: Cry Room**

\*This section for anyone who requires handicap parking.

Students will form a line on the sidewalk closest to the parking lot and will stand on the spots marked with an X to keep social distancing of 6 ft.

The person who is next to go into the confessional will stand by the pillar right before the entrance of the door on the right hand side

When the child goes into confession the accompanying parent is to slide over to the left side of the pillar and wait for his/her child to exit.

(This same process will be repeated till all children have gone to confession).

We ask that you follow the Teachers/volunteers guidance. When exiting please go straight to your vehicle. Photos and socializing afterwards are not allowed to avoid any overcrowding.

**Station B: Sacristy Room where Father get’s dressed before Mass**

Will form a line on the sidewalk in front of the Schoenstatt shrine and will stand on the spots marked with an X to keep social distancing of 6 ft.

The person who is next to go into the confessional will stand by the pillar on the left hand side facing the church that is closest to the door entrance

When the child goes into confession the accompanying parent is to slide over to the right side of the pillar and wait for his/her child to exit.

(This same process will be repeated till all children have gone to confession).

We ask that you follow the Teachers/volunteers guidance. When exiting please go straight to your vehicle. Photos and socializing afterwards are not allowed to avoid any overcrowding.

**Station C: Confessional**

Will form a line on the sidewalk next to the Grotto and will stand on the spots marked with an X to keep social distancing of 6 ft.

The person who is next to go into the confessional will stand on the side walk that intersects with the main side walk prior to getting to the door.

When the child goes into confession the accompanying parent will stand outside the door and wait for his/her child to exit.

When the child exits the parent standing by the door will walk with their child to their car.

The child/parent standing on the side walk that intersects should make sure to wait that both child and parent have passed by them before proceeding to stand next to the door.

(This same process will be repeated till all children have gone to confession).

We ask that you follow the Teachers/volunteers guidance. When exiting please go straight to your vehicle. Photos and socializing afterwards are not allowed to avoid any overcrowding.

**Station D: Father Franco’s Conference Room in Office Building**

Will form a line outside the door to the conference room against the wall

(right hand side facing the office building) and will stand on the spots marked with an X to keep social distancing of 6 ft.

The person who is next will stand in the waiting area on the area marked by an X (close to the northern wall/wall closest to secretary’s office)

When the child goes into confession the accompanying parent will wait for the volunteer to open the door so that he/she may exit and wait for their child on the sidewalk outside of the building on the area marked with an X.

(This same process will be repeated till all children have gone to confession).

We ask that you follow the Teachers/volunteers guidance. When exiting please go straight to your vehicle. Photos and socializing afterwards are not allowed to avoid any overcrowding.

**Station E: Conference Room where we have meetings**

Will form a line outside the door to the conference room against the wall

(left hand side facing the office building) and will stand on the spots marked with an X to keep social distancing of 6 ft.

Once your child is next, the teacher/leader will ask your child to enter the area where he/she will do his/her confession.

When the child goes into confession the accompanying parent will move to the area on the side walk marked with an X and will wait for their child to exit.

(This same process will be repeated till all children have gone to confession).

We ask when exiting to go straight to your vehicle. Photos and socializing afterwards are not allowed to avoid any congestion.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

How is my child supposed to dress for Reconciliation (Confession)? Children should come dressed to Reconciliation (Confession) in their Sunday’s best as if they are going to church. NO shorts, NO flip flops, NO sports uniforms, NO strapless/spaghetti strap tops, NO tight or short dresses. Dress should be modest.

Will they have a paper that they can read with the prayer on it? Children are asked to have the Act of Contrition memorized. If for whatever reason your child has difficulty remembering it, he/she may tell the priest he/she needs help and the priest will be more than happy to help him/her.

Do I go inside with them to the Confessional? Parents are to wait for their child in a designated area and allow their child to go into confession by themselves as Confession is sacrament celebrated in private.

Can I take pictures of my child on the Church grounds? Photos are not allowed in order to limit movement on the Church grounds and to avoid overcrowding/ maintain social distancing.

Can the family come with our child? Only 1 parent is allowed to accompany the child to help maintain social distancing.

What does my child need to know? Children need to know their Act of Contrition, how to do an Examination of Conscience and complete an examination of Conscience prior to coming to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession).

What if my child or immediate family member shows symptoms of Covid 19? Please do not come to Confession, call the office to schedule an appointment for your child’s confession once you know your child/ family members are negative of Covid 19.

How long will this process take? There is no set amount of time. It will vary depending on the children ahead of your child, your child and the priest doing the Confession. Be prepared to wait and remember that Confession is the sacrament in which your child will receive and abundance of “grace”.

Where will my child do his/her penance? The penance given to the child should be done at home.