

Be still,
silent, and
listen for
God's
guidance.

When we come to church, we come to encounter and to adore our Living God. It is natural to want to catch up on current events in the lives of friends when we see them here. However, as brothers and sisters in Christ, we also need to respect other who come to church and pray, and in this instance, to ask and receive the healing love of Forgiveness and Graces of our Almighty God.

*Knowing what great difficulty it is to find those moments of peace in our busy day, as an obligation and courtesy to each other, we should try to preserve an atmosphere of **silence** before the Lord, in His house, while we are sharing this space.*

Thank you and God Bless.



**Department of
Religious Education**

**Saints Philip and James RC Church
One Carow Place, Saint James, New York**



A Celebration of Reconciliation

Tonight, Let us come to the Lord together in **Silence** so that we may hear his **Voice**, receive his **Word** & embrace his **Loving Forgiveness**.

Greeting

Opening Prayer

Word of God

Homily

The 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 and to live as I should.

Jesus suffered and died for us.

In His name, my God, have mercy. **AMEN**



While waiting to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation, please think about the following questions to help you with your confession:

Examination of Conscience / Areas of my Life to Improve:

- Do I pray to God each day, thanking Him for all the good things He's done for me and given to me? Have I missed Mass on Sundays (or Saturday evenings)?
- Do I obey and listen to my family and other grown-ups who take care of me?
- Do I talk back to my parents or my teachers?
- Do I willingly help around my home or must I be told over and over to do things? Do I spend time with my younger

brothers and/or sisters? Do I always tell the truth, even if it means getting into trouble? Do I spread gossip about others?

- Do I make fun of, bully anyone, or help anyone else to bully someone? Has my cell phone and texting become more important to me than actually spending time together with my family & friends? Is there someone I'm mad at that I refuse to forgive?
- Do I take care of myself by eating good foods & getting enough sleep?
- Did I ever take anything that didn't belong to me? Am I jealous over something someone has that I don't, or maybe they have something better?
- Do I help others who are in need?
- Have I thought about the times I've made bad choices?
- What do I need to work on, to become a better person and to live the way Jesus wants me to be?

The Lord's Prayer

Sacrament of Reconciliation

At this time, you are invited to individual confession. Row by row, please follow the directions of the ushers to the confession stations at the front and rear of the church.



While you are waiting, please take a moment to **re-examine** your conscience to prepare yourself for the sacrament of reconciliation. After confession, please return to your seat and say the Penance Prayers the priest gave to you. After your prayer, you may leave the church.