



INFORMATION LETTER

Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish Sacramental Program

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION 2025

Who is eligible to receive this Sacrament?

Children who are baptised Catholic and in grade three or above can enrol to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. If you are considering baptism in the Catholic Church, please contact the Parish Office on (07) 4972 1025 and we will gladly support you on this journey.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, God grants us forgiveness for our sins through his infinite mercy. This Sacrament is also called Penance or Confession. Because of God's abundant love for us and his desire for a fruitful relationship with us, we are given a lifetime of second chances and can receive this Sacrament many times. Please note that reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is required before your child can begin preparation for the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

Sacramental Preparation

Preparation of your child for the Sacrament of Reconciliation occurs in both a family and parish context. The primary purpose of this program is to ensure a foundational understanding of the Sacrament, prepare them to receive God's mercy and love through the Sacrament, and contribute to their formation as faithful Catholics.



As parents, it is your role to explore the Sacrament of Reconciliation with your child, to teach and model to them the meaning and fruit of receiving this Sacrament. You will be provided with prayer and learning resources to undertake at home with your child to help prepare them for reception of the Sacrament. Attending Sunday Mass (including Saturday's Vigil Mass) as a family is also part of this program of preparation for the Sacrament. This formation within the home is a crucial and expected part of your child's preparation for the Sacrament.

Preparation by the parish community takes place in two Formation Sessions and with a presentation of the candidates at Mass where they will receive a copy of the Act of Contrition or "Sorry Prayer". The parish is also involved in the formation of your child/ren through their attendance at Sunday Mass or the Saturday Vigil Mass (Mass times are available in the parish bulletin which can be requested from the parish office if needed). If your child/ren is ready, they will then receive the Sacrament for the first time at a Reconciliation Liturgy. There are options for each Formation Session and the Reconciliation Liturgies which can be found overleaf. Please mark your chosen dates in your calendar as attendance at Formation Sessions by your child/ren and a parent/guardian is compulsory before receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

What's next?

When you have completed the Reconciliation Enrolment Form 2025, please return the form to the parish office and make payment by **Friday, 19th September 2025**.

Calendar for Sacrament of Reconciliation 2025

Presentation of Candidates during Mass

Please attend one:		
Saturday 18 th October 5pm Mass St Peter Chanel Church, Tannum Sands	Sunday 19 th October 8am Mass Star of the Sea Church, Gladstone	Sunday 19 th October 6pm Mass Star of the Sea Church, Gladstone

Formation Session 1 (1hr)

Please attend one:	
Wednesday 22 nd October 3.30pm Formation Session St Peter Chanel Church, Tannum Sands	Thursday 23 rd October 3.30pm Formation Session Star of the Sea Parish Hall, Gladstone
Friday 24 th October 3.30pm Formation Session Star of the Sea Parish Hall, Gladstone	Friday 24 th October 5.00pm Formation Session Star of the Sea Parish Hall, Gladstone

Formation Session 2 (1hr)

Please attend one:	
Wednesday 5 th November 3.30pm Formation Session St Peter Chanel Church, Tannum Sands	Thursday 6 th November 3.30pm Formation Session Star of the Sea Church, Gladstone

Reconciliation Liturgy

Please attend one:	
Wednesday 12 th November 5.30pm Second Rite of Reconciliation Star of the Sea Church, Gladstone	Friday 14 th November 5.30pm Second Rite of Reconciliation St Peter Chanel Church, Tannum Sands

Parish Faith Coordinator

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