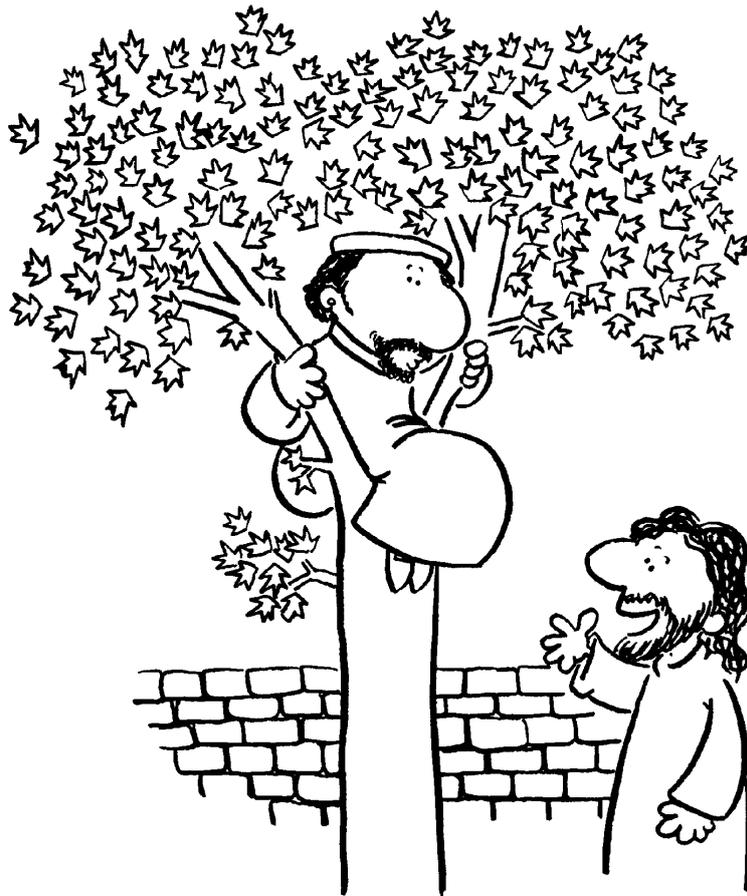


# Sacramental Journey

## Reconciliation



Lessons for Teachers  
and Parish Catechists

In accordance with Canons 823 and 827.1 approval and permission for publication is granted for the following catechetical publication:

## Sacramental Journey

*Nihil Obstat*



Philip J Kerr, S.T.L  
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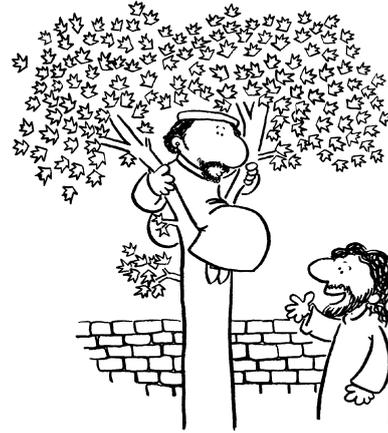
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Delegate of the Apostolic Administrator  
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15<sup>th</sup> August 2013

*Solemnity of the Assumption*

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## Introduction

This programme of preparation for the first reception of the Sacrament of Reconciliation covers the catechetical elements of preparation for this sacrament. Children may also be expected to participate in a number of parish based activities and rites related to Reconciliation which will vary from parish to parish. It is important that you consult with your Parish Priest concerning this and connect your teaching with reference to the experiences the pupils may have in church through the year.

As the Sacrament of Reconciliation takes place at various times of the year in different parishes, one suggestion would be to allow two 30/45 minute blocks over 7 weeks within which the entire catechetical preparation for this sacrament could be completed. Suggested time scales are given for each lesson

There are many good children's Bibles available but we would recommend *The Everyday Children's Bible* ISBN 978-085231-3367. Scripture references are also given so that teachers and catechists can source the readings from other Bibles. *The Lion's Children's Bible* is also an excellent choice.

After every lesson there is a Follow-up task to be completed in class and also a Home Task. These activities relate to the particular lesson taught that day. It is important that the Children's Workbook, which contains each Home Task, is always returned to school on the allocated day.

The prayers should be practised in the following order - Promise Prayer, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be, Act of Sorrow, Confiteor. Give each child a Prayer Partner so that they can listen to one another and mark off their successes on the Prayer Sheet which is included in this pack.



## Lesson 1:Joining the Family of God through Baptism

Time scale:30 minutes

### Main teaching points:

Jesus was baptised by John the Baptist

The presence of the Holy Spirit at the baptism of Jesus.

Jesus grew up in a Jewish family.

Jesus prayed in the Synagogue.

The Jewish community today worship in a building called a 'Synagogue.'

Discuss how Jesus grew up in Nazareth with Mary and Joseph. They were a Jewish family. Jesus would have prayed in the synagogue. Explain to the children that, before Jesus began his public ministry (serving God) he was baptised in the River Jordan by his cousin, John the Baptist. Many of them will have been baptised as babies or children, but Jesus was baptised as an adult.

Read the story to the children- *Matthew3:13-17* (Everyday Children's Bible Page 224)

Discuss the story and ask questions to draw out the main points.

- ❖ What was the name of the river in the story?
- ❖ Who was calling the people to be baptised?
- ❖ What relation was John the Baptist to Jesus?
- ❖ How do you think John felt when he saw Jesus?
- ❖ Why do you think that John did not want to baptise Jesus at first?
- ❖ What happened when Jesus came out of the water?
- ❖ What words were spoken by the voice from Heaven?



Children should now complete Class Task 1 and Home Session 1

This Sacramental preparation programme has been written in accordance with the Scottish Roman Catholic syllabus which was granted the decree of “Recognitio” by the Holy See in 2011.

Written by Audrey Newton & Moira Claase © 2013

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