



HMC

The Holy Mothers Collaborative

St. Mary of the Sacred Heart, Hanover

St. Helen Mother of the Emperor Constantine, Norwell

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Parish Office: (781) 826-4303

October 23, 2018

Dear Grade 2 Parents,

Thank you to all who were able to come out last night. While we can't cover everything in an email, we just wanted to give you the highlights of the evening. Reconciliation will take place on Friday, November 16th. We will begin promptly at 6:30. Children will sit with their class. We will get teens to sit in the Life House (lower Church) if you are unable to get a babysitter for younger siblings. If you cannot attend on the 16th, you can bring them on any Saturday (after 11/16) to the weekly confessions at St. Helen's from 3 – 3:45. Just tell the priest that it is his or her first Confession and be sure to let us know afterward, the date and the priest so we can put it in the records.

While we mentioned that we use the term "mistakes" with the children instead of "sin", we want to clarify the difference. Mistakes are unintentional and sins are intentional. We truly believe that children at this age are still learning and we would hope and pray that none of them intentionally mean to hurt someone else. We are all TRYING to be the best that we can be. Hence our theme... Progress not Perfection.

When you are talking about Reconciliation, PLEASE DON'T USE WORDS LIKE NERVOUS or SCARED – rather TALK ABOUT HOW LUCKY THEY ARE, HOW EXCITING IT IS. As far as what prayers they need to know...please practice the Our Father and Hail Mary – listen closely, as they are often not saying what you think they are.

First Communion: Dates will be live on the website tomorrow (10/24) after 12 noon. All signups will be online.

As far as First Communion, more details will be available as we get closer to the date. Remember that it is not about the dress or the party – it's about receiving JESUS.

Remember, our children are very smart, they are always learning by our example, and often we are not even aware that they are watching. At your child's baptism, you made a promise to raise them in the faith which includes a promise to bring them to Mass every week. Each week we reference what Fr. Chris said at Mass, we tell them how important it is that they go to Mass every week, and how the Eucharist is the most important meal they will receive each week. Please reinforce this by bringing them to Church; it is the best way to prepare them for their First Holy Communion.

Thank you,

Mrs. Gill, Mrs. Dowling and Mrs. McCrann