

## PRAYER FOR GOING HOME

Listen to these words from the Gospel of Luke:

There is more joy in heaven over one sinner who returns home, than over ninety nine good living people who think they don't need to come home.

### Imagine this is God's message for your family.

When you say sorry I rejoice

When you forgive I rejoice

When you tell the truth I rejoice

When you reach out to others in kindness I rejoice

When you love one another I rejoice



## HOW YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD:

- Never speak of God as punishing
- Encourage your child to say sorry often
- Teach you child not hold grudges
- Model this by saying sorry when you get it wrong
- Build up habits of simple prayer
- At Mass focus on the Lord have mercy, the Sign of Peace and the OUR FATHER
- Continue to positively build up your child in love

## OPENING PRAYER:

Loving God, help us to teach our children that you love us totally and unconditionally. Help us to encourage our children to grow in love and to learn to say sorry knowing that you always forgive.

Give us the courage to pray with our children and to share our faith with them as we journey together.

We ask this through Christ our Lord. AMEN.



## SHARE WITH THE PERSON BESIDE YOU:

- What does this prayer say to you about your role as a parent?
- What does it teach us about God?

**Parish Parent Helps 1: preparing for Reconciliation**

## YOUR OWN MEMORIES

- *Can you remember when you made your first confession?*
- *What kind of preparation took place?*
- *What was good and helpful about the experience?*
- *What was difficult for you?*
- *How do you feel about this sacrament now as an adult?*



*This time of preparation is an opportunity for you to have a positive experience of this sacrament.*

*It's a sacrament of coming back together.*

*It's a celebration of friendship restored.*

*It's brings God's healing into our lives and our relationships.*

*In this sacrament Jesus is saying 'Give me another chance to love you.'*

## TEACH YOUR CHILD IN THIS YEAR

- 1. That God never stops loving us*
- 2. God's love has no conditions no matter what*
- 3. God is our personal friend*
- 4. God always forgives when we say sorry*
- 5. God does not remember our sins or keep a record of them*
- 6. To thank God everyday in prayer for all that he does for us*
- 7. To speak to God in their own words*
- 8. To listen to God in moments of silence*
- 9. To say sorry and then move on*
- 10. To remember that God rejoices when we say sorry*



- *Why do you think these messages are so important for your child to hear in this year?*