

Archdiocese of St Andrews & Edinburgh



Children should bring their baptismal candle to this Mass; alternatively another candle will be supplied by the parish. After the homily, the priest invites the children, with their parents, to the front of the church and addresses them in these or similar words:

Priest: Parents, at your child's baptism you accepted the Light of Christ was entrusted to you to be kept burning brightly; do you desire to continue with the promise you made at your child's baptism to keep the flame of faith alive in the heart of your child?

Parents: We do.

The priest now lights each child's candle and hand it back to them.

Priest: Dear children, when you were baptised, your parents received a lighted candle and promised to keep the flame of the Christian faith burning brightly in your hearts; as you begin to prepare to meet Jesus in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, are you ready to walk as a child of light and follow in the footsteps of Jesus?

Children: We are.

Priest: Are you ready to work hard, to listen to God and speak to him in prayer and to follow the good example of your parents, family and friends so that you will be as best prepared as you can for the Sacrament of Reconciliation?

Children: We are.

The priest now addresses the congregation:

Priest: My dear people, are you willing to help these young people and their parents to prepare for the Sacrament of Reconciliation as best they can by your prayers, your practical support and your example of Christian life?

People: We are.

Priest: Lord God, bless these children as they begin their journey of preparation to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation; help them to be honest and humble in asking for your forgiveness, and open to your grace to follow more closely Jesus, your Son, the Light of the World. We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

The children and their parents now return to their places.