## A Special Invitation for you and your child!

Preparing to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time presents a wonderful opportunity to strengthen the faith of both you and your child. This time of preparation really is a journey in faith, a journey that is greatly influenced and shaped by how your family chooses to live out your faith each and every day.

Reconciliation is a celebration of God's always-offered forgiveness.

Forgiveness is a process. We are always practicing forgiving, and we are always at various stages with various experiences needing to be forgiven for and needing forgiveness offered.

Forgiveness is not instant; it takes time.

Forgiveness of self, others and God is a way of life that enables us to live life to the Full!

At the Reconciliation Retreat on January 11th, you and your child will be offered

precious time together to

reflect, share, pray and prepare

for one of the most beautiful Sacraments in our Catholic Church.

We would like to encourage you to take advantage of this time together with your child—learning more about each other and sharing your hearts with each other.

In addition to this time spent together, we hope to make the day even more special by having you write a short letter to your child—expressing your love and your hope that he or she will always trust in God's love,

forgiveness and mercy! You might also want to share the meaning of this Sacrament for you!

The letter is a surprise for your child—don't let them know!

Please return the letter in an envelope with your child's name on it and the words Reconciliation Retreat.

Please turn it in to your teacher or catechist before December 14th.

In God's Love,

Nancy Longo, Director of Religious Education