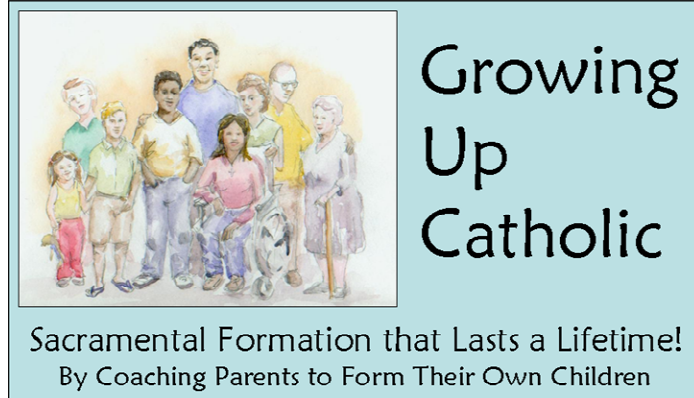


Parent Invitation Letter



Letter inviting Parents and Guardians
to take part in the Formation Process
for either Reconciliation or Eucharist

Please Note these things:

- In this letter, various elements require you to add information about your own parish. Everything that needs your input is in a **blue font**. (Change it to a black font when you add your information.)
- Put this on your parish or department letterhead.
- We recommend that this invitation be signed by both the leader of your sacramental prep process and the pastor, (but one or the other would also be sufficient).
- Use a personal name on the “Dear _____” line if at all possible. Also use an inside address if you can.
- We have prepared a parent/child registration form for your convenience which is available at GrowingUpCatholic.com and come with the complete product CD. It also requires personalization by you, with items marked in **blue** once again.
- For product support, write to info@GrowingUpCatholic.com or call 612-384-5456. Thank you!

[your parish letterhead]

Dear **(Parents or Guardians)**

We are writing to you today because you have a child who is about eight or nine years old. This is the traditional age at which a Catholic child goes to Confession & Holy Communion for the first time. We invite you and your child to prepare with us during the coming months for these sacraments.

In our parish, as in many others, we use a process for preparing your child called **Growing Up Catholic**. In this process, YOU become the actual teacher of your child, but we guide you through every step. This is a memorable time of your child's life – and the memories you make during this preparation period will be cherished for a long time.

We know that households and families take many shapes today. Therefore,

- If you are a single parent, we invite you and your child to attend together.
- If you're a married couple, we invite both of you and your child to attend together.
- If one of you is not Catholic, we invite you both nonetheless, and we provide a lovely welcome and orientation for the one who is not Catholic.
- If you are Catholic but have not been active in parish life yourself lately, we welcome you! We have resources to help you get up to speed and help your child learn certain Catholic prayers and customs.
- If you are living in a separate or divorced situation, we invite you to decide whether both parents can be involved. One of the ways you might consider doing this is to connect the absent parent by way of the web site which supports Growing Up Catholic: www.GrowingUpCatholic.com.
- If there is another significant person involved in the raising of your child whom you feel would benefit your child to be involved, he or she is also welcome!

We hope we've covered all the bases here. The important thing for us is that you know we welcome you, regardless your situation in life, and we will give you all the resources needed to really prepare your child well for this turning point in his or her life.

At our parish, the **Growing Up Catholic** sessions will be held **[here insert the location on the parish campus]** at the times listed below. There are a total of six preparation sessions which both you and your child will attend, plus the celebration of the Sacrament itself. These will be wonderful times! You'll receive a helpful Guide and your child will receive a beautiful Text. With our leader assisting, you and your child will work through this Text. You'll be amazed at how much you'll enjoy this process! The six sessions at our parish will be held on

1. **Session one**
2. **Session two**
3. **Session three**
4. **Session four**
5. **Session five**
6. **Session six**
7. **Your child's first celebration of Reconciliation**

There is no cost to you whatsoever for this process, but the materials you receive and the sharing you do with your child will be priceless! They'll be keepsakes forever.

We do ask you to register for this program at the parish. Please return the enclosed registration form to us as soon as possible.

And please start using the **Growing Up Catholic** website immediately. The work you do with your child is so vital to his or her faith! And you'll find that your own faith is enriched by this process as well. You'll find this at www.growingupcatholic.com.

Thank you for being part of our community at whatever level you can. With blessings and all good wishes,

[your name and title]



**Growing
Up
Catholic**

Sacramental Formation that Lasts a Lifetime!
By Coaching Parents to Form Their Own Children