**Conversion and Reconciliation**

**Goal:**

To recall that Jesus tells a story of conversion and repentance in the parable of the prodigal son. Those who show forgiveness are like our forgiving God.

**Church Teaching:**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, paragraphs 1439, 1465

**What You Will Learn:**

Ways that God loves us at all times; The priest offers us the sign of God’s merciful love in the sacrament of reconciliation

**Supplies for the Activity:**

Cross Necklace, Bible, 2 copies of “The Boy Who Ran Away” script (based on Luke 15:11-32)

**Directions for the Activity:**

* Decide who will take the following parts: Narrator, Younger Son, Father, Servant, and Older Son. Now read the play “The Boy Who Ran Away” together. Talk about how you would feel if you were the father or one of the sons.
* Then complete this family forgiveness promise:
  + **Parent:** Say, “I promise to love and forgive you. God your Father in heaven will always forgive you too. I give you this necklace as a sign of my love.” [put the necklace around the child’s neck; the child may keep the necklace]
  + **Child:** Say, “I accept this necklace and I love you.” [child and parent then hug each other]

***\* Parent: You may want to find a nicer chain and/or have the necklace blessed to have additional impact when you make the promise.***