



PRINCIPAL CORNER for December 14th **Reconciliation and Gratitude**

Last month, several SCCS and PREP students made their First Reconciliation at Saint Cecilia Church. During Father Mark's homily, he reminded us that God's mercy and forgiveness are always here for us, always welcoming us back.

Parents, grandparents, siblings, aunts and uncles sat alongside our students to support and celebrate this momentous day. Students participated in mass, made their confessions, said their prayers of penance and using the flame of the Easter candle lit a smaller candle signifying the light within each of them.

Every parent said thank you to me after their child lit the candle, prior to leaving the church. Children learn how to be grateful as they consistently observe their parents daily practice of gratitude.

A component of the students' preparation for First Reconciliation is writing a gratitude list. It is clear to me that our students who made their First Reconciliation know their lives are filled with grace and abundance because their parents' model this in all that they do.

Students gratitude lists include the following:

Grandparents
Life
Mom and dad
To have a great school
My friends
Food and Water
Ms. Cornell
Baby cousin
Doctors
Forests
My cats
My dog
And God and Jesus
And Mary

Our young students know well that God has blessed them in countless ways.

With gratitude,
Susan Kilbane