

LENTEN PENANCE SERVICE

2010

*Be transformed by the renewal
of your mind.*

Rite of Reconciliation of Several Penitents
With Individual Confession and Absolution

Introductory Rites

Opening Hymn
Greeting
Introduction
Opening Prayer

Celebration of the Word of God

First Reading
Responsorial Psalm
[Second Reading]
Gospel Acclamation
Gospel
Homily
Examination of Conscience

Rite of Reconciliation

Litany of Repentance
Lord's Prayer
Concluding Prayer
Individual Confessions of Sin and Absolution
Proclamation of Praise for God's Mercy
Concluding Prayer of Thanksgiving

Concluding Rite

Blessing
Dismissal
Closing Hymn

PREPARATION

- ❖ Hospitality Ministers should be recruited to welcome the assembly as they arrive and to distribute worship aids.
- ❖ At least two readers should be appointed to proclaim the reading(s) and to read the Examination of Conscience. A reader or deacon may lead the Litany of Repentance.
- ❖ A musician and cantor(s) should lead the assembly in song. Instrumental music may be played during individual confession.
- ❖ A Lectionary should be readied with the appropriate readings.
- ❖ Lighting may be subdued. Candle(s) in the sanctuary should be lit.
- ❖ Stations for confessors should be prepared. Priests might stand or sit in isolated areas around the main body of the church to receive penitents. In this way, the communal nature of the rite is maintained.
- ❖ For the sake of simplicity, the presider alone could be in the procession. Other priests could be seated in a reserved section of pews before the liturgy begins.

INTRODUCTORY RITES

OPENING HYMN

GREETING

Presider: Grace and peace be with you
from God our Father and from the
Lord Jesus Christ who laid down his
life for our sins.

All: Glory to him for ever. Amen.

INTRODUCTION

Presider: *In these or similar words...*

During the season of Lent we call upon
God to change us, to transform our
hearts and minds so that we might be
more loving and kind, more patient and
merciful, more humble and
compassionate.

We know that we are sinners, yet Jesus
brings us forgiveness. Let us seek God's
mercy and pray for conversion of mind
and heart that we may follow in Christ's
ways.

OPENING PRAYER

Presider: Let us pray.

Silent prayer.

Almighty and merciful God,
You have brought us together in the
name of your Son
to receive your mercy and grace in
our time of need.

Open our eyes to see the evil we
have done.

Touch our hearts and convert us to
yourself.

Where sin has divided and scattered,
may your love make one again;

where sin has brought weakness,
may your power heal and
strengthen;

where sin has brought death,
may your spirit raise to new life.

Give us a new heart to love you,
so that our lives may reflect the
image of your Son.

May the world see the glory of Christ
revealed in your Church,
and come to know
that he is the one who you have
sent,
Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.
Amen.

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD OF GOD

*The following are suggested readings. Alternative readings may be selected.
The homilist may wish to use one, two, or three readings. If only one is
chosen, it is preferable that it be the gospel.*

First Reading Romans 12:1–2, 9–18 (Vol. IV, no. 802.2)

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 51 (Be Merciful, O Lord, for
we have sinned.)

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Luke 18:9–14 (Vol. IV, 795.16)

Homily

Examination of Conscience

The assembly is now invited to make an examination of conscience. This can be done in silence or by using the examination of conscience below. One reader alone may read the examination or two readers might alternate between questions. Allow a brief period of silence between each one.

Presider: Sisters and brothers,

Let us call to mind our sin so that we may be reconciled to God and one another.

Reader 1:

Have I loved as Christ in my relationship with God, the Father?

- Do I take time to pray daily?
- Do I keep sacred Sundays and holy days?
- Do I fulfill my commitments as a member of my faith community?
- Have I tried to grow in a life of love through reading and reflecting on the Word of God?
- Do I trust God's goodness and providence, even in times of crisis and doubt?

Reader 2:

Have I loved as Christ in my daily living?

- Do I respect my own body as a gift from God?
- Do I control my vices, including abuses of food and drink?
- Have I used the gifts God has given me for the benefit of others?
- Do I work too hard and too long? Do I neglect my family and health?
- Have I been lazy and given too much time to leisure or entertainment?

Reader 1:

Have I loved as Christ in my relationships with others?

- In my household, have I contributed to the well-being and happiness of the rest of my family? Am I patient? Am I loving?
- Do I treat my parents with respect?
- Am I angry with those I love? Am I resentful?
- Have I been faithful in my relationships?
- Have I imposed my will on others without respecting their freedom and rights?
- Am I intolerant of other's ideas or needs?
- Have I perpetuated racism, prejudices, and stereotypes?
- Do I treat people with disabilities with respect?

Reader 2:

Have I loved as Christ in my dealings with the world?

- Do I share my time and my treasure with others in need?
- Do I fail to speak out on behalf of the poor or the oppressed?
- Have I accepted suffering as a share in the suffering of Christ?
- Have I indulged in reading, conversation, or entertainments that are contrary to Christian decency and respect for human life?
- Do I use the earth's resources wisely?
- Do I purchase a lot of material goods that I don't really need?

Reader 1:

Have I loved as Christ and followed his will for my life?

- Am I afraid to act in a Christian manner, afraid of what others might think?
- Is the hope of eternal life my inspiration for all I do?
- Do I sincerely want to be set free from sin, turn again to God, and resolve to begin again?

Rite of Reconciliation

General Confession of Sins

Presider: Brothers and sisters,
let us call to mind the goodness of God,
and acknowledge our sinfulness,
so that we may receive his merciful
forgiveness.

All kneel.

All: I confess to almighty God,
and to you my brothers and sisters,
that I have sinned through my own fault
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done
and in what I have failed to do;
And I ask blessed Mary, ever virgin,
all the angels and saints,
and you my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Litany of Repentance

All stand.

- Presider: God gave us his Son for our sins and raised him up to make us holy. Let us humbly pray to the Father.
- Deacon/Minister: Your mercy is our hope: welcome us to the sacrament of reconciliation.
- All: Lord, have mercy on your people.
- Deacon/Minister: Give us the will to change our lives, and the lives of others, by charity, good example and prayer.
- All: Lord, have mercy on your people.
- Deacon/Minister: Make us a living sign of your love for all to see: people reconciled with you and with each other.
- All: Lord, have mercy on your people.
- Deacon/Minister: Through the sacrament of reconciliation may we grow in your peace and seek to spread it throughout the world.
- All: Lord, have mercy on your people.

Deacon/Minister: **In this sign of your love you forgive us our sins: may it teach us to love others and to forgive their sins against.**

All: **Lord, have mercy on your people.**

Deacon/Minister **Look on our weakness: do not be angry and condemn, but in your love cleanse, guide and save us.**

All: **Lord, have mercy on your people.**

Deacon/Minister **By your redeeming love overcome our sinfulness and the harm it has brought us.**

All: **Lord, have mercy on your people.**

Lord's Prayer

Presider: **In obedience to Christ himself, let us join in prayer to the Father, asking him to forgive us as we forgive others.**

Our Father...

Concluding Prayer

Father, our source of life,
you know our weakness.
May we reach out with joy to grasp your hand
and walk more readily in your ways.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Individual Confession and Absolution

The presider or other minister might tell the assembly where the confessors will be located. Some brief words regarding the manner of confessions should be given. The assembly may be advised to remain in church if there is to be a common ending. Quiet instrumental music might be played during this time.

Proclamation of Praise for God's Mercy

After all have had the opportunity for confession and absolution, the assembly is invited to join in singing/praying a psalm, litany, or hymn of praise. A musical setting of any of the following scripture passages could be used or any other appropriate song.

Psalm 28:6-7

Psalm 32:1-7, 10-11

Psalm 54

Psalm 66

Psalm 95

Psalm 98:1-9

Psalm 100:1-5

Psalm 103:1-4, 8-18

Psalm 119

Psalm 136:1-9, 13-14, 16, 25-29

Psalm 145:1-21

Isaiah 61:10-11

Jeremiah 31:10-14

Daniel 3: 52-57

Luke 1:46-55 (Magnificat)

Concluding Prayer of Thanksgiving

Presider: Lord Jesus Christ,
your loving forgiveness knows no limits.
You took our human nature
to give us an example of humility
and to make us faithful in every trial.
May we never lose the gifts you have given us,
but if we fall into sin
lift us up by your gift of repentance,
for you live and reign for ever and ever.

Amen.

CONCLUDING RITE

Blessing

Presider: May the Lord guide your hearts in the way of
his love and fill you with Christ-like patience.

All: Amen.

Presider: May he give you strength to walk in newness
of life and to please him in all things.

All: Amen.

Presider: May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Dismissal

Deacon/Presider: **The Lord has freed you from your
sins. Go in peace.**

All: **Thanks be to God.**