

## The Sacrament of Reconciliation

### INTRODUCTORY RITE

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**Penitent: Amen.**

Priest: May God, who has shown his light in our hearts,  
grant that you may truly know your sins  
and his mercy.

**Penitent: Amen.**

### LITURGY OF THE WORD (optional)

Priest: *The priest may proclaim a brief Scripture  
passage, giving evidence of God's mercy.*

### CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

Priest: How long since your last confession?

**Penitent: (*Mention the amount of time*)**

Priest: What are your sins?

**Penitent: (*Confess your sins.*)**

Priest: For your penance, please...  
Now, please say the Act of Contrition.

**Penitent: Have mercy on me, O God, according to  
your merciful love. Turn your face from my  
sins and blot out all my guilt. Create a pure  
heart in me, O God, renew an upright spirit  
deep within me.**

Priest: (*Prays the prayer of absolution, ending with the Sign of  
Cross.*)

**Penitent: Amen.**

### CONCLUDING RITE

Priest: Give thanks to the Lord for he is good.

**Penitent: For his mercy endures forever.**

Priest: The Lord has freed you from your sins.  
Go in peace.

**Penitent: Thanks be to God.**