## 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: Let us listen to the Lord as he speaks to us in St. Paul's Letter to the Colossians.

Let us give thanks to the Father who has made us worthy to share the heritage of the holy ones in light. He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

## CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT

**Priest:** How long since your last confession?

**Priest:** What are your sins?

Priest: For your penance, please...

Now, please say the Act of Contrition.

Penitent: Lord Jesus, Son of God,

have mercy on me, a sinner.

**Priest:** God, the Father of mercies,

through the death and

resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and poured out the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God grant you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

Penitent: Amen.

## DISMISSAL

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

Penitent: For his mercy endures forever.

**Priest:** The Lord has forgiven your sins. Go in peace.

Penitent: Thanks be to God.