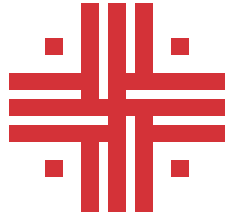


# THE ORDER FOR RECONCILING INDIVIDUAL PENITENTS



## THE RECEPTION OF THE PENITENT

The Priest welcomes the penitent. Together, they make the Sign of the Cross.

✠ In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Priest invites the penitent to have trust in God, in these or similar words:

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

**Penitent:** Amen.

## THE READING OF THE WORD OF GOD *(Optional)*

## THE CONFESSION OF SINS AND THE ACCEPTANCE OF SATISFACTION

The penitent confesses sins. The Priest may offer suitable counsel.

The Priest proposes a work of penance and the penitent accepts it to make satisfaction for sin and amend his(her) life.

## THE PRAYER OF THE PENITENT

The Priest then invites the penitent to express his (her) contrition, using the prayer below or other options. One's own words may also be used.

**Penitent:** O my God,  
I am sorry and repent with all my heart  
for all the wrong I have done  
and for the good I have failed to do,  
because by sinning I have offended you,  
who are all good and worthy to be loved above all things.  
I firmly resolve, with the help of your grace,  
to do penance,  
to sin no more,  
and to avoid the occasions of sin.  
Through the merits of the Passion of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
Lord, have mercy.

## **ABSOLUTION**

Then the Priest, extending his hand(s) over the penitent's head, says:

**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 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.

## **THE PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE OF GOD**

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

**Penitent:** For his mercy endures for ever.

## **DISMISSAL OF THE PENITENT**

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

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This guide offers the order of the celebration of the sacrament with an individual penitent.  
The Order of Penance offers a rich variety of alternate prayers and dialogues.

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