

Reconciliation of a Penitent

1 Introduction

Priest: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Penitent: **Amen.**

The priest and penitent together say the following prayer.

**Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving-kindness;
in your great com-compassion blot out my offences.**

**Wash me through and through from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.**

Create in me a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me.

Priest: May God, who has enlightened every heart, help you to know your sins
and trust in the mercy promised in Christ.

Penitent: **Amen.**

2 The Word of God†

The priest may read a text of Scripture

3 The Confession of Sins

Priest: The Lord be in your heart and on your lips
that you may truly and humbly confess your sins.

The penitent confesses using the following form.

**I confess to Almighty God, and to you,
that I have sinned by my own fault
in thought, word, and deed,
In things done and left undone; especially**

*Here the penitent confesses in their own words,
and concludes by saying:*

**For these and all other sins which I cannot now remember,
I am truly sorry. I pray God to have mercy on me.
I firmly intend amendment of life,
and I humbly beg forgiveness of God and the Church,
and of you, counsel, direction, and absolution.**

The priest may then give comfort, counsel and direction.

4 The Absolution

God, the Father of mercies ... I absolve you from all your sins
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Penitent: Amen.

5 Comfortable Words†

One or more of the 'Comfortable Words' may be used by the priest.

6 Conclusion

Both the priest and penitent together say the Lord's Prayer.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The priest and penitent together may say the 'General Thanksgiving'.

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we give you thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness.
We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your love in the redemption of the world
by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And give us, we pray, such a sense of all your mercies
that our hearts may be thankful, and that we show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service,
and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Priest: The Lord has put away all your sins.

Penitent: **Thanks be to God.**

Priest: Go in peace, and pray for me, a sinner.