

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.

**Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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.

**God our Father, I confess to you
that I have sinned in thought, word and deed,
and in what I have failed to do; especially**

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

**I am truly sorry. Forgive me my sins,
and deliver me from the power of evil,
for the sake of your Son who died for us,
Jesus Christ, our Lord.**

The priest may then give comfort, counsel and direction.

4 The Absolution

Our Lord Jesus Christ ... 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 in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Do not bring us to the time of trial
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and for 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.