



THE ORDER FOR RECONCILING INDIVIDUAL PENITENTS



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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.



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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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www.fdlc.org 202-635-6990

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