

RE Reconciliation Services

Feb. 18/19, 2020

Grades 2-8

Act of Contrition

My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart.
In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good,
I have sinned against You, Whom I should love above all things.
I firmly intend, with Your help,
to do penance, to sin no more, and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.
Our Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us.
In His name, my God, have mercy.
Amen.

Steps of Reconciliation

1. We examine our conscience to find out how we have failed God and others.
 2. Priest greets us and we pray the Sign of the Cross with him.
 3. We say “Bless me, Father, for I have sinned. It has been _____ since my last confession.”
 4. We confess our sins. We finish by saying, “I am sorry for these and for all of my sins.”
 5. The priest gives us a penance to perform.
 6. The priest asks us to recite the Act of Contrition.*
 7. We receive absolution. The priest extends his hands over our head and says, “I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” We respond, “Amen.”
 8. The priest dismisses us by saying, “Go in peace.” We say, “Thanks be to God.”
 9. We perform the act of penance given to us.
- During Reconciliation services, the priest may choose to have all the penitents pray the Act of Contrition together before hearing confessions. In that case, this step is skipped during the individual confession.

Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

—Luke 15:7-9