

The Reconciliation of a Penitent

The priest may say

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

The priest welcomes the penitent, saying

The Lord Jesus, who came to reconcile sinners,
welcomes all who are penitent.
Grace, mercy and peace be with you
and also with you.

The priest and penitent say together

**Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness;
according to the abundance of your compassion blot out my offences.
Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.
Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

The priest says

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

The penitent makes confession of sins in his or her own words, beginning

**Almighty God,
long-suffering and of great goodness:
I confess to you,
I confess with my whole heart
my neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments,
my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking;
the hurts I have done to others,
and the good I have left undone.**

In particular I confess [since my last confession ...] ...

**O God, for these, and all other sins that I cannot now remember,
I ask your forgiveness.
Forgive me, for I have sinned against you;
and raise me to newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

The priest may give appropriate counsel or guidance and whatever help is necessary to enable the penitent to complete his or her confession. The priest encourages the penitent to make restitution, and may recommend some prayer or action as a sign of repentance.

The penitent makes an act of contrition using these or similar words

**My God, for love of you
I desire to hate and forsake all sins
by which I have ever displeased you;
and I resolve by the help of your grace
to commit them no more;
and to avoid all opportunities of sin.
Help me to do this,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Absolution

The priest lays hands on, or extends hands over, the penitent. The priest may make the sign of the cross over the penitent or on the penitent's forehead. The priest pronounces an authorized Absolution (here).

The priest may say a blessing

May Christ,
who out of defeat brings new hope and a new future,
fill you with his new life;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be upon you and remain with you always.
Amen.

Priest The Lord has put away your sins.

Penitent Thanks be to God.

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