

## CONFESSION, PENANCE & RECONCILIATION II

Scripture in order by book

Wis. 11:23	In his mercy, God allows repentance from sin
Is 1:13-20	God wants not offerings and worship from sinners, but repentance and virtue
Lam 3:22-23	The steadfast love and mercy of the Lord never ceases
EZ 18:24-32	Sinners will die but the virtuous will live, and God desires repentance of those who sin
Mt 18:10-14	The shepherd seeks the lost sheep, and Heaven rejoices over the repentant sinner
Lk 15:11-32	The Parable of the Prodigal Son, showing the Father's merciful forgiveness
Jn 20:22-23	Jesus gives the apostles the power to forgive sins
Rom 3:23-25	We have all sinned and are justified by Jesus sacrifice and God's forgiveness
2 Cor 5:18	And all this is from God, who has reconciled us to himself through Christ and given us the ministry of reconciliation
Acts 9:1-9	The ascended Christ lets Saul know that all His followers are a part of his body. As such, we are reminded our actions to the good or ill affect the whole

**Examination of Conscience:** Thoughtful preparation for the sacrament

**Confession:**

"Bless me Father, for I have sinned. This is my first confession."

*(At this point you will confess your sins as thoroughly as possible through what you discovered in your examination of conscience.)* You will then conclude by

saying: "I am sorry for these sins and the sins of my whole life"

**Penance:** The priest may follow with a couple of questions, some helpful guidance and insights then assign a fitting penance.

The Act of Contrition follows. (See separate sheet)

**Reconciliation:** The priest prays, "God the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give 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.**"

Priest: Know that God loves you, your sins are forgiven. Go in peace.

### DISCUSSION

1. Which of the Scripture verses above touched you the most and why?
2. Knowing of the two natures of Jesus being both fully human and fully divine, discuss the emotional and physical impact of His agony in the garden, then His sacrifice for us/for you on the altar of the cross. Please share how that makes you feel? Talk about the impact of how such a timeless redemption could have on so many if they only believed and understood His love that constantly invites us to be more in His grace.