

Day 2 - Renewed in Hope

Penitential Service



LENTE  
RETREAT

with Bishop Lucia



*The Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation is a powerful experience of God's forgiveness and mercy. It is a tangible sign of God's desire to reach out to us throughout our lives, even in our sinfulness, and helps us reconcile ourselves with him and with our brothers and sisters. Today's celebration is meant to help prepare to receive the Sacrament of Penance as we hear the Word of God, examine our conscience, recognize our own sinfulness, and express our true sorrow. To receive the sacrament, check with your parish for confession times or schedule an appointment with a priest.*

## INTRODUCTORY RITES

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Lord, I Need You"

(Matt Maher)

**Lord I come, I confess**

**Bowing here, I find my rest**

**Without You, I fall apart**

**You're the one that guides my heart**

Refrain:

**Lord, I need You, oh I need You**

**Every hour, I need You**

**My one defense, my righteousness**

**Oh God, how I need You**

**Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more**

**Where grace is found is where You are**

**And where You are, Lord I am free**

**Holiness is Christ in me (Refrain)**

**So teach my song to rise to You**

**When temptation comes my way**

**And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on You**

**Jesus, You're my hope and stay (Refrain)**

SIGN OF THE CROSS & GREETING

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you taught us that our Father is merciful and forgiving:

Lord, have mercy.

**R/ Lord, have mercy.**

Christ Jesus, you shared with the Church your power to release men and women from the bondage of sin:

Christ, have mercy.

**R/ Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, your Spirit has touched our hearts with the hope of salvation:

Lord, have mercy.

**R/ Lord, have mercy.**

OPENING PRAYER

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Joshua 5:9a, 10-12

*The people of God entered the promised land and there kept the Passover.*

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 34

**Refrain: Taste and see, taste and see  
the goodness of the Lord.**

**Oh, taste and see, taste and see**

**the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.**

I will bless the Lord at all times.

Praise shall always be on my lips;

my soul shall glory in the Lord;

for God has been so good to me. (Refrain)

Glorify the Lord with me.

Together let us all praise God's name.

I called the Lord, who answered me;

from all my troubles I was set free. (Refrain)

Worship the Lord, all you people.

You'll want for nothing if you ask.

Taste and see that the Lord is good;

in God we need put all our trust. (Refrain)

SECOND READING

Corinthians 5:17-21

*God reconciled us to himself through Christ.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!**

GOSPEL

Luke 15:1-3,11-32

*Your Brother was dead and has come to life again.*

HOMILY

Deacon Tim McNerney

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

✠ My friends, together we now examine our consciences.

Deacon: Let us kneel.

✠  
Reader I

Like the younger son in the parable, we can become impatient with the Father's plans and anxious to get on with our lives according to our own desires.

Have I given up on God's wisdom and providence? Do I remind myself that everything I have has been given to me by my loving Creator?

Reader II

Do I thank God for the goods of the earth and the people on my life? Have I prayed for guidance so that I can use what God has given me for service to others and for the glory of God?

✠ I sought the Lord, and he answered me

Deacon / All: **and delivered me from all my fears.**



Reader I

When we turn away from God who is the source of life, we sooner or later find ourselves in a strange place of confusion, loneliness and deep hunger.

Am I now chasing after money for its own sake, spending wastefully or engaging in destructive sexual relations?

Reader II

Do I use talents and wealth I have been given to help those who have less than I do? Do I support the work of the Church through my contributions of time, talent and finance?

+ I sought the Lord, and he answered me

Deacon / All: **and delivered me from all my fears.**

Reader I

Sometimes we have to hit bottom before we can see how bad things are. Then we are faced with a choice: Do I give in to despair or do I turn to God in humble prayer?

Reader II

Am I willing to admit I am wrong and ask forgiveness, not just from God, but from the people I may have harmed in some way? Do I listen to criticism or do I react defensively and cut people off?

+ I sought the Lord, and he answered me

Deacon / All: **and delivered me from all my fears.**

Reader I

Even when we are a long way off, God comes to embrace us and bring us back home. But we need to accept the gift of forgiveness. Is there a part of me that refuses to be forgiven, that doubts God's mercy can be extended to me?

Reader II

Do I hold grudges against people who have sinned against me? Would I rather spread gossip about people than help them straighten out their lives? Do I take the first step toward reconciliation or wait for the other person to make the first move?

+ I sought the Lord, and he answered me

Deacon / All: **and delivered me from all my fears.**

Reader I

Jesus told the parable of the Prodigal Son to the scribes and Pharisees who objected to his spending time with known sinners. Like the older brother, they were faithful to the letter of the law, but their hearts were hard. Do I rejoice when I see a "known sinner" walk into church?

Reader II

Am I envious of the success or reputation of other people? Can I appreciate the goodness of my family, friends and coworkers, or do I judge them and focus only on their faults?

+ I sought the Lord, and he answered me

Deacon / All: **and delivered me from all my fears.**

Reader I

The older son is quite right, and the father makes no attempt to excuse what the younger one has done. But despite living all this time with his father, the older son has failed to see the depth of his father's love. Am I willing to forgive as I have been forgiven?

Reader II

Do I seek unity in the Church and in society, or do I emphasize division? Am I willing to pray for my enemies and celebrate their change of heart?

+ I sought the Lord, and he answered me

Deacon / All: **and delivered me from all my fears.**

#### ACT OF REPENTANCE

*We pray an act of contrition to acknowledge our sin and express our sorrow to God, leading us to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance.*

**I confess to almighty God  
and to you, my brothers and sisters,  
that I have greatly sinned  
in my thoughts and in my words,  
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,  
through my fault, through my fault,  
through my most grievous fault;  
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,  
all the Angels and Saints,  
and you, my brothers and sisters,  
to pray for me to the Lord our God.**

#### Our Father...

#### THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

*"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"* (Thomas Ken)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

#### Refrain:

**Amen let our praises rise again  
Amen let all within us cry again**

#### CLOSING PRAYER & FINAL BLESSING

#### RECESSIONAL HYMN

*"Your Grace is Enough"* (Matt Maher)

**Great is Your faithfulness, oh God  
You wrestle with the sinner's heart  
You lead us by still waters and to mercy  
And nothing can keep us apart**

#### Refrain:

**So remember Your people Remember Your children  
Remember Your promise, oh God  
Your grace is enough -Your grace is enough  
Your grace is enough for me**

**Great is Your love and justice, God  
You use the weak to lead the strong  
You lead us in the song of Your salvation  
And all Your people sing along (Refrain)**