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:

R/ Lord, have mercy.
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.

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.
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 that 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.

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)