



Second Rite of Reconciliation Advent Year A

Prayer and Reflection Centre

Use purple, grey or dark blue materials as a base. If possible, arrange these in tiers flowing over each other. Use a large white candle as the centre piece and tie ribbons of light purple around the base of the candle, having the ribbons fan out in all directions.

If possible, get flowers or pieces of green and place them in baskets so that as each person comes back from confession, they can place one into the prayer centre, to symbolize the beauty of the forgiveness they have received.

Opening Song

Christ Be Our Light, Bernadette Farrell [Gather Australia #404]

God of Mercy and Compassion, Michael Hodgetts [Gather Australia #302]

Opening Prayer

Celebrant: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

All: And with your spirit.

Celebrant: We are gathered here today/tonight as a community on a journey led by the Lord Jesus Christ who took on human nature for us. It is through Christ that we have been given the right to ask God our Father to forgive our sins.

And so, we pray:

Lord, teach us to be aware of the times we have broken your law of love and strengthen us to come to you in all honesty and humility, so we may find peace and comfort from your forgiveness.

Reading

Timothy 1: 11-15



Psalm

Psalm 139: 1-3, 4-6, 14, 24

[Sung Version: The Hound of Heaven, Christopher Willcock Gather Australia #81]

Response: Lord you have examined me and know me.

Gospel

John 12: 44-50

Homily

Examination of Conscience

Let us reflect on God's love for us and how we respond.

Do I act as a follower of God in what I say and do?

Am I letting God in his Word and in the Eucharist lead my life?

Do I put things of the world, false teachings, and worldly matters,
before my relationship with God?

Do I care for and protect the world and its people by my words and actions?

Let us reflect on the way we live our lives as members of the Catholic
Church.

Do I take time to understand and support the teachings of the Church
or do I just follow the crowd?

Am I willing to stand up for my faith in public?

Am I happy to be known as a Catholic?

Let us reflect on how we live as people of faith.

Do I show Christ-like respect and acceptance of my family and
neighbours?

Do I act with justice and mercy with others?

Let us reflect on how we live with other people.

Do I use my talents for others and the Church, or do I use them for
myself?



Do I share what has been given to me, especially with those less fortunate than myself?

Do I care for and respect my body and other people's bodies?

Do I treat the elderly with respect and compassion?

Let us reflect on our behaviour.

Do I act honestly in both word and action?

Am I respectful of other people's property?

Do I speak of other people with respect and truth?

Celebrant: Lord, help us to come to you with humble and contrite hearts, prepared to accept your forgiveness and with the intention to change our lives.

**All: 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,
[And, striking their breast, they say:]
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.**

Individual Reconciliation

Celebrant: Let us now come before the Lord in faith acknowledging our faults and accepting his forgiveness.

*An explanation should be given on how to attend this form of reconciliation.
The penitents only need to concentrate on two or three areas of difficulty in their lives. They should stay until the end of the rite.*



After personal confession, the celebrant invites the community to join him in the Lord's Prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

Celebrant: At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

Celebrant: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil,
graciously grant peace in our days,
that, by the help of your mercy,
we may be always free from sin
and safe from all distress,
as we await the blessed hope
and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All: **For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours
now and for ever.**

Celebrant: Almighty God, you show us your love and mercy, making us new again. May we always seek the truth and live as people of faith.

All: **Amen.**

Sign of Peace

Celebrant: The Lord has given us the gift of peace, let us now give the same gift to our brothers and sisters.

All exchange the Sign of Peace.



Concluding Rite

Celebrant: May we reflect the image of Jesus Christ, who came that we may be forgiven our sins by renewing our commitment to follow and live out the love of God.

May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

Celebrant: Go now to live in the peace and love of God.

All: Amen.

Recessional Song

Glory and Praise to Our God, Dan Schutte [Gather Australia #417]

Now Thank We All Our God, Martin Rinkart [Gather Australia #425]