



DEVELOPING & SUPPORTING  
**SCHOOL &**  
PARISH LINKS

## **Reconciliation Service – Secondary School**

*Opening Hymn – Come back to me - Hosea*

### **Sign of the Cross**

#### **Opening Prayer**

Almighty and merciful God,  
you have brought us together in the name of your Son  
to receive your mercy and grace in our time of need.  
Open our eyes to see the wrong we have done.  
Touch our hearts and convert us to yourself.  
Where sin has divided and scattered,  
may your love make one again.  
We ask you this through Christ our Lord  
**Amen.**

#### **Confiteor Prayer**

*In recognition of our sins: in what we have done and what we have failed to do we say:*

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.

### **Blessed Sacrament exposed (optional)**

### **Explanation of confession arrangements**

#### **Scripture Reading - John 8:1-11**

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again;  
and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you

who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus 'go away, and do not sin any more.'

## **Examination of Conscience**

**Our father – reader 1**

**Questions – reader 2**

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by Thy name.**

*How often do I think about God?*

*Have I forgotten my daily prayers or said them badly?*

*Have I missed Mass on Sundays?*

*Have I let myself be distracted in Mass or distracted others?*

**Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

*Have I been impatient, angry or jealous?*

*Have I been verbally or physically violent to others?*

*Do I share with others?*

*Am I helpful to my family and neighbours?*

*Do I show respect to my teachers and classmates?*

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

*Do I remember to say thank you?*

*Am I sometimes greedy?*

*Do I appreciate the good things I have in my life?*

*Do I share with those who have no food, clothes or shelter?*

*Do I take things that don't belong to me?*

**Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

*Have I been vain, proud, selfish or self-seeking?*

*Have I looked at obscene pictures, films or books?*

*Have I been involved in any impure behaviour?*

*Do I help solve problems between my friends or do I cause more trouble?*

*Do I say bad things about people who have hurt me?*

*Have I been jealous of others?*

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

*Do I tell the truth?*

*Do I let others tempt me to do things I know I shouldn't do?*

*Do I honour my mother and father?*

*Do I swear or use the Lords name in vain?*

## Reflections

*Reflective music playing the background with the following reflections read out a various points throughout the service*

- 1) The graces of healing that flow from this sacrament are truly amazing. Jesus said the following to St Faustina, the polish nun who drew the divine mercy on which our form displays are based...

*When you go to confession, to this fountain of My mercy, the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul and ennobles it. Every time you go to confession, immerse yourself entirely in My mercy, with great trust, so that I may pour the bounty of My grace upon your soul. When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy.*

- 2) The words spoken by the priests after you have made your confession are some of the most beautiful words in the English language. As he speaks these words of absolution he places his hands over your head and the Holy Spirit heals your soul and take away all sin...

*“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.”*

- 3) Lord Jesus, We are gathered here today, as a sacramental community, gathered before You, in your Holy presence.

You are the shining light in the world. Through your life, Your teachings on earth, your death and resurrection, we know the truth! The truth that through YOU we are saved .

Lord, as you prayed in trembling fear , in the garden of gethsemane, you took the cup and gave up your life so that we may live with you forever,

Lord Jesus, Open our hearts, let us hear your voice through your Word, through You Lord! You truly are present, right here, right now in the Blessed Sacrament. We are all welcomed to your banquet, to your Kingdom of Heaven which begins now, the present.

Help us to be open to your mystery, your truth and touch our minds, our souls as we learn to pray, as we learn to connect with You, as we learn to recognize our wrong-doings, as we recognize the sins we think that don't matter, As we learn to recognize the importance of reconciliation, of forgiveness in our hearts. As we learn to forgive ourselves; knowing that we can be healed, cleansed, forgiven.

## **Blessed Sacrament reposed**

### **Concluding Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Lord God,  
creator and ruler of your kingdom of light,  
in your great love for this world  
you gave up your only Son  
for our salvation.  
Teach us to be reverent in the presence of your glory;  
fill our hearts with faith,  
our days with good works,  
our lives with your love;  
may your truth be on our lips  
and your wisdom in all our actions,  
that we may receive the reward of everlasting life.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

### ***Concluding Rite***

#### **The blessing**

May the Father, bless us, for we are his children, born to eternal life.  
**Amen**

May the Son show us his saving power, for he died and rose for us.

**Amen**

May the Spirit give us the gift of holiness  
and lead us by the right path,  
for he dwells in our hearts.

**Amen**

#### **Dismissal**

The Lord has freed you from your sins.

Go in peace

**Thanks be to God.**

*Closing Hymn – God forgave my sin in Jesus name*