

### ***Concluding Prayer of Thanksgiving***

PRIEST: 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. His cross has redeemed us, his death has given us life, his resurrection has raised us to glory. Through him we ask you to be always present among your family. 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***

PRIEST: May the Lord guide your hearts in the way of his love and fill you with Christ-like patience. Amen.

May he give you strength to walk in newness of life and to please him in all things. Amen.

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

The Lord has freed you from your sins. Go in peace.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

### ***Concluding Hymn***



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## **DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSION CHRISTCHURCH**

### **NEWSLETTER No. 23 – MARCH 2002**

To Priests and Pastoral Assistants  
Parish Liturgy Committees  
Parish Councils  
Directors of Religious Studies  
Religious Houses  
Principals, Catholic Schools  
**All Parishioners**



## **LENLEN RECONCILIATION SERVICE:RITE II**

### ***Opening Song***

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit

### ***Greeting***

PRIEST: Grace, mercy and peace be with you from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Saviour.

ALL: And also with you.

PRIEST: My sisters and brothers, we gather in this Lenten season to pray that by penance we may be united with Christ, who was crucified for our sins, and so share with all humanity in his resurrection.

### ***Opening Prayer***

Lord our God, you are patient with sinners and accept our desire to make amends. We acknowledge our sins and are resolved to change our lives. Help us to celebrate this sacrament of your mercy so that we may reform our lives and receive from you the gift of everlasting joy. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 15 : 4-7

### ***Brief Homily***

## **Examination of Conscience**

The Lord calls us to turn away from our sins and live a new life in Christ Jesus.

- > Am I ever mindful of God in my daily life? Do I take time to pray and to reflect on the words and acts of God?
- > Do I show reverence to the holy or have I let cynicism and disrespect affect my attitudes and values? Do I participate in the liturgy on Sundays and holy days?
- > Do I respect those in authority? Do I use the power I have to help people and to build up the kingdom of God?
- > Do I show care for those who are vulnerable and in need? Do I give of my time, treasure and talent to assist those in need?
- > Am I a good steward of the earth's resources? Do I own my things or do my things own me?
- > Do I give in to impatience, anger and violence? Have I refused forgiveness to someone who asked for it?
- > Do I treat the gift of my sexuality with respect and dignity?
- > Do I seek opportunities to give witness to my faith and bring Christ to others?

## **RITE OF RECONCILIATION**

### **General Confession of Sins**

PRIEST: My brothers and sisters, let us ask God to forgive our sins and open our hearts to his healing love.

ALL: I confess to almighty God...

PRIEST: God our Father waits for the return of those who are lost and welcomes them back as his children. Let us pray that we may turn back to him and be received with kindness into his house.

Lord, do not hold our sins against us.

- > Make us a living sign of your love for all to see: people reconciled with you and with each other.
- > In this sign of your love you forgive us our sins: may it teach us to love others and to forgive their sins against us.

- > Give light to our darkness and lead us by your truth.
- > In your mercy free us from the past and enable us to begin a new life of holiness.
- > When we stray from you, guide us back into the way of holiness, love and peace.

PRIEST: Trusting in God's mercy, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

ALL: Our Father...

PRIEST: Father, our source of life,  
You know our weakness.  
May we reach out with joy to grasp your hand  
And walk more readily in your ways.  
We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Individual Confession and Absolution**

*The penitents go to the priests designated for individual Confession and confess their sins. Each one receives and accepts a fitting penance and is absolved.*

### **Proclamation of Praise for God's Mercy**

My soul glorifies the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God, my Saviour.  
He looks on his servant in her lowliness;  
henceforth all ages will call me blessed.

The Almighty works marvels for me.  
Holy his name!  
His mercy is from age to age,  
on those who fear him.

He puts forth his arm in strength  
and scatters the proud-hearted.  
He casts the mighty from their thrones  
and raises the lowly.

He fills the starving with good things,  
sends the rich away empty.

He protects Israel, his servants  
remembering his mercy,  
the mercy promised to our fathers,  
to Abraham and his sons for ever.

