

Confession (Reconciliation of Penitents)

The person confessing begins

Bless me, for I have sinned.

Priest/Pastor

The Lord be in your heart and upon your lips that you may truly and humbly confess your sins: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Person confessing

I confess to Almighty God, to his Church, and to you, that I have sinned by my own fault in thought, word, and deed, in things done and left undone; especially _____. For these and all other sins that I cannot now remember, I am truly sorry. I pray God to have mercy on me. I firmly intend amendment of life, and I humbly beg forgiveness of God and his Church, and ask you for counsel, direction, and absolution.

Here the Priest/Pastor may offer counsel, direction, and comfort.

The Priest then declares

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Or the Pastor then declares

Our Lord Jesus Christ, who offered himself to be sacrificed for us to the Father, forgives your sins by the grace of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Priest/Pastor

The Lord has put away all your sins.

Person confessing

Thanks be to God.

The following prayer may also be said

Let us pray.

O most loving Father, by your mercy you put away the sins of those who truly repent, and remember their sins no more. Restore and renew in your servant whatever has been corrupted by the fraud and malice of the devil, or by *his* own selfish will and weakness. Preserve and protect *him* within the fellowship of the Church; hear *his* prayers and relieve *his* pain; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Priest concludes

Go in peace, and pray for me, a sinner.