

The Rich Man & Lazarus

A Communal Penance Service for Lent 2017
Diocese of Madison

This year's Penance Service is based upon the Holy Father's Lenten Message for 2017.

Lent is a new beginning, a path leading to the certain goal of Easter, Christ's victory over death. This season urgently calls us to conversion. Christians are asked to return to God "with all their hearts" (Joel 2:12), to refuse to settle for mediocrity and to grow in friendship with the Lord. Jesus is the faithful friend who never abandons us. Even when we sin, he patiently awaits our return; by that patient expectation, he shows us his readiness to forgive. (*Lenten Message, 2017*)

GENERAL INFORMATION

The *Rite of Penance* is available separately or as part II of *The Rites of the Catholic Church*. A study edition, which includes the texts of all of the options for prayers and readings, is available from the USCCB.

The outline below is for a Lenten Penance Service. See appendix II of the *Rite of Penance* or the study edition for suggestions and examples of other services, including services for children, young people, and the sick.

If you adapt this service for your parish, be sure that the major elements are retained. ***Every penance service should include:***

- ❖ Scripture readings (one Old Testament and / or one New Testament reading, a Psalm, and Gospel)
- ❖ Examination of Conscience
- ❖ Act of contrition and general confession of sins
- ❖ Individual confessions and individual absolution
- ❖ Proclamation of praise for God's mercy

As a reminder, it is not permissible to use Form III at these liturgies. Contact the Office of Worship at (608) 821-3080 for assistance or more information.

MUSICAL SUGGESTIONS

The music provided in the leaflet is intended to assist in the celebration of Lenten Penance services. It is familiar to most Catholics. Other music may be selected that is familiar to the parish. Contact the Office of Worship if you would like assistance.

OPENING HYMN

Lord, who throughout these forty days is printed in the leaflet and is in most standard hymnals. It is in the public domain and needs no copyright acknowledgment.

Other appropriate songs and hymns may be used, such as

- ❖ I heard the voice of Jesus say
- ❖ Love divine, all loves excelling
- ❖ Forgive our sins
- ❖ The glory of these forty days
- ❖ What wondrous love is this
- ❖ The Master came to bring Good News
- ❖ Amazing grace
- ❖ Seek the Lord
- ❖ Parce Domine

Most hymnals have a “Penance” or “Reconciliation” section noted in the table of contents or index.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Any familiar setting of Psalm 112 (or another appropriate penitential Psalm) may be used. The suggested Responsorial Psalm is the appointed Psalm for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (cycle A). It also is found in the Psalter section of most hymnals.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

It is best to use the acclamation used most regularly during Lent in your parish.

PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE

There's a wideness in God's mercy works well for this and is in most standard hymnals. Any other hymn or psalm that praises God for his mercy and forgiveness is also appropriate. The Rite of Penance also includes a number of spoken options. Contact the Office of Worship if you need assistance.

MUSIC DURING CONFESSIONS

Instrumental music is always appropriate and helpful as people are going to individual confession.

ELECTRONIC FILES

If you would like an electronic copy of the Presider Book, Examination of Conscience, or the People's Leaflet, please visit the diocesan web page (<http://www.madisondiocese.org/penance>). If you want to customize our material for your parish, please call or email the Office of Worship.

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

You may use the one provided or one of your choosing. Additional Examinations are available on our diocesan website (<http://www.madisondiocese.org/penance>).

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Visit our website at www.madisondiocese.org/penance.

Introductory Rites

HYMN OR SONG (All stand)

GREETING

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

All: Amen.

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

All: And with your spirit.

See *The Rite of Penance*, nos. 49 and 94-96 for alternative greetings.

INTRODUCTION

The priest offers an introduction and may use these words.

Presider: Dear friends, Lent is the season for renewing our encounter with Christ, living in his word, in the sacraments and in our neighbor. Let us pray for the grace of a true journey of conversion, so that we can rediscover the gift of God's word, be purified of the sin that blinds us, and serve Christ present in our brothers and sisters in need.¹

Pause for silent prayer

¹ Pope Francis, Lenten Message 2017.

OPENING PRAYER
Source: Rite of Penance, no. 100

Presider: **Father of mercies
and God of all consolation,
you do not wish the sinner to die
but to be converted and live.
Come to the aid of your people,
that they may turn from their sins
and live for you alone.
May we be attentive to your word,
confess our sins, receive your forgiveness,
and be always grateful for your loving kindness.
Help us to live the truth in love
and grow into the fullness of Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.**

For other forms of the Opening Prayer, see *The Rite of Penance*, nos.50, and 97-100.

Celebration of the Word of God

See *The Rite of Penance*, nos. 101-201 for other texts.

See pages 11-12 of this presider book for the Scripture readings.

READING (All sit) Micah 6:6-8
Do the right and love goodness; walk humbly with God.

PSALM Psalm 112
The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.
The suggested Responsorial Psalm is the appointed Psalm for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (cycle A). It also is found in the Psalter section of most hymnals.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (All stand)

GOSPEL Luke 16:19-31
You received what was good, Lazarus what was bad; now he is comforted, whereas you are tormented.

HOMILY (All sit)

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

See the attached handout or *The Rite of Penance*, appendix III.

Rite of Reconciliation

GENERAL CONFSSION OF SINS (All stand)

(For additional texts, see *The Rite of Penance* nos. 54 and 202-205.)

Presider: Brothers and sisters, let us call to mind the goodness of God our Father, and acknowledge our sins, so that we may receive his merciful forgiveness.

[All kneel.]

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, continue:

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.

[All stand for the litany.]

Presider: Jesus Christ is the victor over sin and death: in his mercy may he pardon our offences against God and reconcile us with the Church we have wounded by our sins.

The litany may be led by the priest, deacon, cantor, or lector.

Healer of our body and soul, bind up the wounds of our hearts,
Response: that our lives may grow strong through grace.

Help us to strip ourselves of sin,
and put on the new life of grace.

Redeemer of the world, give us the spirit of penance and a deeper devotion
to your Passion,
so that we may have a fuller share in your risen glory.

May your Mother, the refuge of sinners, intercede for us,
and ask you in your goodness to pardon our sins.

You forgave the woman who repented,
show us also your mercy.

You brought back the lost sheep on your shoulders,
pity us and lead us home.

You promised paradise to the good thief.
take us with you into your Kingdom.

You died for us and rose again,
make us share in your death and resurrection.

**Presider: Let us ask God our Father to forgive our sins
and to bring us to forgive those who sin against us.**

All: Our Father . . .

**Presider: Lord,
draw near to your servants
who in the presence of your Church
confess that they are sinners.
Through the ministry of the Church
free them from all sin
so that renewed in spirit
they may give you thankful praise.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord.**

All: Amen.

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The presider or another minister announces the stations for confession. Please encourage those assembled to remain until the end of the penance service. You may use these or similar words: “Please remain with the community of penitents after going to confession. Pray for your brothers and sisters who are present, and those who could not be with us. After we have all confessed and received absolution for our sins, we will celebrate the forgiveness of our merciful God.”

Individual priests assign a penance to the penitent.

PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE FOR GOD’S MERCY (All stand)

**Presider: Brothers and sisters,
The Lord has remembered his mercy.
[Let us praise God in song.]**

If a psalm, canticle, or song is not sung, a psalm may be recited. See *The Rite of Penance* no. 206 for additional texts.

CONCLUDING PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Source: *Rite of Penance*, no. 211

For additional texts, see *The Rite of Penance* nos. 57 and 207-211.

**Presider: Lord Jesus Christ,
your loving forgiveness knows no limits.
You took our human nature
to give us an example of humility
and to make us faithful in every trial.
May we never lose the gifts you have given us,
but if we fall into sin
lift us up by your gift of repentance,
for you live and reign for ever and ever.**

All: Amen.

Concluding Rite

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

Presider: May the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come upon you and remain with you for ever.

All: Amen.

Presider: [Be merciful, just as your heavenly Father is merciful.]
Go in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

A closing hymn is not necessary, but may be sung.

First Reading

Micah 6:6-8

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Micah.

With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow before God most high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with myriad streams of oil?
Shall I give my first-born for my crime,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?
You have been told, O man, what is good,
and what the LORD requires of you:
Only to do the right and to love goodness,
and to walk humbly with your God.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel

Luke 16:19-31

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Jesus said to the Pharisees:
“There was a rich man who dressed in purple garments and fine linen and dined sumptuously each day.
And lying at his door was a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who would gladly have eaten his fill of the scraps that fell from the rich man's table.
Dogs even used to come and lick his sores.
When the poor man died,
he was carried away by angels to the bosom of Abraham.
The rich man also died and was buried,
and from the netherworld, where he was in torment,
he raised his eyes and saw Abraham far off
and Lazarus at his side.
And he cried out, 'Father Abraham, have pity on me.
Send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue,
for I am suffering torment in these flames.'
Abraham replied,
'My child, remember that you received
what was good during your lifetime
while Lazarus likewise received what was bad;
but now he is comforted here, whereas you are tormented.
Moreover, between us and you a great chasm is established
to prevent anyone from crossing who might wish to go
from our side to yours or from your side to ours.'
He said, 'Then I beg you, father,
send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers,
so that he may warn them,
lest they too come to this place of torment.'
But Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets.
Let them listen to them.'
He said, 'Oh no, father Abraham,
but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.'
Then Abraham said, 'If they will not listen to Moses and the prophets,
neither will they be persuaded if someone should rise from the dead.'”

The Gospel of the Lord.

From a 10th-century illuminated manuscript depicting the story of Lazarus and the Rich Man.



Reader Help us to strip ourselves of sin,
All **and put on the new life of grace.**

Redeemer of the world, give us the spirit of penance and a deeper devotion to your Passion,
so that we may have a fuller share in your risen glory.

May your Mother, the refuge of sinners, intercede for us,
and ask you in your goodness to pardon our sins.

You forgave the woman who repented,
show us also your mercy.

You brought back the lost sheep on your shoulders,
pity us and lead us home.

You promised paradise to the good thief.
take us with you into your Kingdom.

You died for us and rose again,
make us share in your death and resurrection.

At the conclusion of the litany: Our Father . . .

INDIVIDUAL CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

All are encouraged to remain in the church after your individual confession and absolution, praying with and for those who are present, as well as those not gathered.

PROCLAMATION OF PRAISE FOR GOD'S MERCY

CONCLUDING PRAYER

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

COMMUNAL PENANCE SERVICE

Diocese of Madison | Lent 2017

Introductory Rites

HYMN

Lord, who throughout these forty days



1. Lord, who through - out these for - ty days, For
2. As you with Sa - tan did con - tend, And
3. As you did hun - ger and did thirst, So
4. And through these days of pen - i - tence, And
5. A - bide with us, that through this life Of



us did fast and pray, Teach us to o - ver -
did the vic - t'ry win, O give us strength in
teach us, gra - cious Lord, To die to self, and
through your Pas - sion - tide, For ev - er - more, in
doubts and hope and pain, An East - er of un -



come our sins, And close by you to stay.
you to fight, In you to con - quer sin.
so to live By your most ho - ly word.
life and death, O Lord! with us a - bide.
end - ing joy We may at last at - tain!

GREETING

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

All: **And with your spirit.**

COLLECT

Celebration of the Word of God

READING

Micah 6:6-8

Do the right and love goodness; walk humbly with God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 112

The just man is a light in darkness to the upright.

GOSPEL

Luke 16:19-31

*You received what was good, Lazarus what was bad;
now he is comforted, whereas you are tormented.*

HOMILY

Rite of Reconciliation

GENERAL CONFESSIOIN OF SINS *(stand)*

Following the invitation, all kneel and pray together:

I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters...

LITANY *(stand)*

Presider Jesus Christ is the victor over sin and death: in his mercy may he pardon our offences against God and reconcile us with the Church we have wounded by our sins.

Reader Healer of our body and soul, bind up the wounds of our hearts,
All **that our lives may grow strong through grace.**

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DIOCESE OF MADISON ❖ LENT 2017
EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

The Seven Capital Sins

According to Church Doctrine, there are Seven Capital (or Deadly) Sins. Aside from each being sinful in itself, these deadly sins are also a gateway to greater sin. This examination of conscience seeks to reflect upon our lives in light of these deadly sins.

Pride

- Am I humble before God? Do I love God above *all* things? Do I seek to draw closer to him each and every day? Do I acknowledge that without God I am nothing? Do I fear and respect God?
- Do I pray frequently? Do I try to listen to God through Scripture? Do I seek God's help? Do I wrongly assume my will is also God's will? Do I blame God for my problems?
- Am I humble in all things? Am I willing to admit I'm wrong? Am I willing to ask for God's mercy? Am I willing to seek the forgiveness of those I have wronged?
- Do I honor and care for my parents?
- Do I look down on others? Do I respect others, even those of other races, societies, and economic situations?
- Have I accepted the Church's teachings on respect for *all* life including the unborn, the elderly and sick, the poor and vulnerable, immigrants and refugees, and condemned criminals?
- Do I rejoice in others' achievements or do I rejoice when others fail or are wronged? Do I expect the best or the worst from other people? from myself? Am I willing to forgive others, even those who don't ask for forgiveness?
- Do I humbly consider others as more important than myself (see. Philippians 2:3)? Or does the world revolve around me and my problems?

Covetousness

- Do I covet the possessions or popularity of others? Have I taken something that belongs to another?
- Have I destroyed someone's reputation? Do I gossip? lie? cheat?
- Am I willing to place my money and possessions, to the extent that I can, in service to the poor?

Lust

- Am I faithful to my spouse? Do I live a chaste life? Do I accept the Church's teaching regarding human sexuality?
- Do I view pornography? Do I objectify others for my sexual pleasure? Do I make sexually suggestive comments to others? Do I avoid temptation?

Anger

- Do I take the Lord's name in vain? Do I make oaths in his name? Do I commit violence in his name?
- Do I verbally, emotionally or physically abuse others? Am I a bully?
- Am I quick to yell at others? Do I *really listen* to others before responding?
- Has my anger turned to hate? Has the political turmoil in our country caused me to hate and become unforgiving of people with whom I disagree?
- Do I spread rumors about others or discuss them in a negative way?

Gluttony

- Do I take care of my body, a temple of the Holy Spirit? Do I frequently overindulge? Do I take care to remain mentally and spiritually healthy? Do I have an addiction to alcohol, drugs or anything else?
- Am I wasteful? Am I willing to share and assist with others in need? Do I do my part in preserving the environment?

Envy

- Am I jealous of others? Am I quick to judge others?
- Am I grateful for the gifts God has given me, or do I constantly complain about what I don't have?
- Am I preoccupied with what others have and I do not have?
- Do I judge others based upon the possessions, skin color, political affiliation, etc.?

Sloth

- Do I put in an honest day's work? Am I willing to help others?
- Do I spend too much time in front of the computer or TV? Do I put my free time at the service to others? Do I spend enough time with my spouse and children?
- Do I expect others to do things for me?
- Have I missed Sunday (or Saturday evening) Mass? Have I missed Mass on a holy day of obligation? Do I participate fully in Mass?
- Do I go to confession at least once a year? Do I confess all of my sins? Do I ask God for mercy and forgiveness daily?