



AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE

**Australian Catholic Bishops Conference
Liturgical and Prayer Resources
for Days of Fasting
and Reparation
following the
Royal Commission into Institutional Responses
to Child Sexual Abuse
Lent 2018**

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EVENING PRAYER

INTRODUCTION

(All stand)

Presider: O God, come to our aid. *(All make the sign of the cross)*

**All: O Lord, make haste to help us.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Alleluia**

PROCLAMATION OF LIGHT

(The paschal candle is lit)

Presider: Light and peace in Jesus Christ, our Lord.

All: Thanks be to God

Evening Hymn: O Gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ

1. O gracious light, Lord Jesus Christ
in you the Father's glory shone.
Immortal, holy, blest is he,
and blest are you, his only Son.
2. Now sunset comes, but light shines forth,
the lamps are lit to pierce the night.
Praise Father, Son and Spirit: God
who dwells in the eternal light.
3. Worthy are you of endless praise,
O Son of God, life-giving Lord;
wherefore you are through all the earth
and in the highest heav'n adored.

Text: *Phos hilaron*, Greek 4th cent., trans. Francis Bland Tucker, 1895-1984;
© The Church Pension Fund.
Tune: JESU DULCIS MEMORIA or alt. 8.8.8.8 tune

EVENING THANKSGIVING

Presider: Let us give thanks to God our Father
always and for everything.

All: In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Cantor/
Reader:

Praise be the Lord our God,
ruler of the universe,
who led our ancestors in the faith
by a pillar of cloud by day
and a pillar of fire by night
and prepared a lamp for his Anointed.
Light up our darkness, O God, by the light of your Christ;
may his word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path,
for you are full of loving kindness for your whole creation
and we, your creatures, glorify you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
now and forever.

All: Amen.

PSALMODY

(All sit)

Psalm 140 (Incense Psalm)

Presider: Let us pray for pardon and peace,
and for protection throughout the coming night.

Antiphon: Like burning incense, O Lord, let my prayer rise up to you.

I have called to you, Lord; hasten to help me!
Hear my voice when I cry to you.
Let my prayer arise before you like incense,
the raising of my hands like an evening oblation.

*Set, O Lord, a guard over my mouth;
keep watch, O Lord, at the door of my lips!
Do not turn my heart to things that are wrong,
to evil deeds with men who are sinners.*

Never allow me to share in their feasting.
If a good man strikes or reproves me it is kindness;
but let the oil of the wicked not anoint my head.
Let my prayer be ever against their malice.

*Their princes were thrown down by the side of the rock:
then they understood that my words were kind.
As a millstone is shattered to pieces on the ground,
so their bones were strewn at the mouth of the grave.*

To you, Lord God, my eyes are turned:
in you I take refuge; spare my soul!
From the trap they have laid for me keep me safe:
keep me from the snares of those who do evil.

*Let the wicked fall into the traps they have set
whilst I pursue my way unharmed.
Give praise to the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit
both now and for ages unending. Amen.*

Antiphon: Like burning incense, O Lord, let my prayer rise up to you.

Silence

Psalm 50:3-6.12-14

(All sit)

Antiphon: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness
in your compassion blot out my offence.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

*My offences truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done.*

A pure heart create for me, O God
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

*Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise*

Give praise to the Father Almighty,
to his Son, Jesus Christ the Lord,
to the Spirit who dwells in our hearts,
both now and for ever. Amen.

Antiphon: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Silence

Canticle 1 Peter 2: 21-24

(All sit)

Antiphon: God did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all.

Christ suffered for you,
leaving you an example,
that you should follow in his steps.

*He committed no sin,
no guile was found on his lips.
When he was reviled, he did not revile in return.*

When he suffered, he did not threaten:
but he trusted to him who judges justly.

*He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree,
that we might die to sin and live to righteousness.
By his wounds you have been healed.*

Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: God did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all.

Silence

SCRIPTURE READING

Choose from the following examples or other appropriate readings. [Relevant refs to Australian Lectionary (1981).]

Isaiah 49:8-15	<i>I have given you as covenant of the people to establish the land. (Lect, Vol. I, p. 288)</i>
Isaiah 59:6b-8, 15-18	<i>The Lord is appalled by evil and injustice.</i>
Joel 2:12-18	<i>Let your hearts be broken, not your garments torn. (Lect, Vol. III, p. 703)</i>
Job 3:1-26	<i>Lamentation of Job.</i>
Lamentations 3:1-24	<i>I am one who knows affliction.</i>
Lamentations 3:49-59	<i>When I called, you came to my aid.</i>
Micah 4:1-4	<i>There will be no more training for war. (Lect, Vol. III, p. 615)</i>

SHORT RESPONSORY

Cantor/s: Hear us Lord, and have mercy, for we have sinned against you.
All: Hear us Lord, and have mercy, for we have sinned against you.

Cantor/s: Listen, Christ, to the prayers of those who cry to you.
All: for we have sinned against you.

Cantor/s: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
All: Hear us Lord, and have mercy, for we have sinned against you.

GOSPEL CANTICLE – Canticle of Mary (Luke 1:46-55)

*(During the Magnificat,
all make the sign of the cross.
The altar may be incensed,
and then also the priest and people.)*

Antiphon: Stay with us Lord, for evening draws near, and daylight is fading, alleluia.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour;
for he has looked with favour on his lowly servant,
and from this day all generations will call me
blessed. The almighty has done great things for me:
Holy is his Name.
He has mercy on those who fear him
in every generation.
He has shown the strength of his arm,
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,
and has lifted up the lowly.
He has filled the hungry with good things,
and has sent the rich away empty.
He has come to the help of his servant Israel
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,
the promise he made to our fathers,
to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Antiphon: Stay with us Lord, for evening draws near, and daylight is fading, alleluia.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Presider: We place our prayers of petition before God, mindful of our sinfulness but confident in the Lord's mercy.

Reader: We pray for all victims of sexual abuse: that they may experience truth, justice and healing in their lives.

Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for all families of victims of sexual abuse: that they may be comforted by the support of the Church and all your people.

Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for our communities where sexual abuse has occurred: that all those in positions of responsibility in relation to children will accord them the honour and respect to which they are entitled.

Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for forgiveness for the sins committed by members of the Church in the sexual abuse of children.

Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for forgiveness for the sins committed by Church authorities who covered up the abuses and ignored the suffering of victims.

Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Reader: We pray for all members of society: that they will honour human sexuality and treat all people with respect and decency.

Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord, hear our prayer.

Presider: Gracious and loving God, source of all truth, justice and healing, we implore you to hear the prayers we offer and to look favourably on the pleas of your people. We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Let us unite all our prayers in the prayer that Jesus gave us:

All: Our Father . . .

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Presider: Lord God, strength of those who hope in you,
support us in our fervent prayer
for all victims of sexual abuse and their families.
Because we are weak and can do nothing without you,
grant us always the help of your grace
so that, in fulfilling your commandments,
we may please you in all we desire
and do to help those in need of our care.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

SIGN OF PEACE

Presider: Before we conclude, let us take a moment to offer each other a sign of peace.

BLESSING

Presider: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

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

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Presider: Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God

OR *(when lead by a lay person)*

May God bless and keep us.

May God's face shine on us.

May God be kind to us and give us peace.

All: Amen.

Sources

The Divine Office (London & Glasgow: Collins, Sydney: E. J. Dwyer, and Dublin: Talbot, 1974); *The Psalms: A New Translation - Singing Version* (London: Collins, 1963); *Worship: The Liturgy of the Hours – Leader’s Edition* (Chicago: GIA, 1989). Musical settings of the responses, psalms, canticles and hymns can be located in *Catholic Worship Book* (Sydney: E. J. Dwyer & London: Collins Liturgical, 1985); *Gather Australia* (Chicago: GIA/Melbourne: NLMC Publications 1995), *Catholic Worship Book II* (Melbourne: Morning Star Publishing, 2016) or other sources. Thanks to staff at the National Office for Liturgy, Bishops Commission for Liturgy and Bishops Commission for Church Ministry in the compilation of this prayer.

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**HOLY HOUR WITH EXPOSITION AND
BENEDICTION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT**

A. Simple Form

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed by placing the ciborium on the altar between two or more candles and incense may be used but is not mandatory.

B. Solemn Form

The Blessed Sacrament is exposed in the monstrance, therefore at least four candles are lit at the altar, and incense must be used.

EXPOSITION

After the people have assembled, a suitable hymn or song (e.g. O saving victim/O salutaris Hostia) may be sung while the minister comes to the altar. If the Blessed Sacrament is not reserved at the altar where the exposition is to take place, the minister puts on a humeral veil and brings the sacrament from the place of reservation; he is accompanied by servers or by the faithful with lighted candles.

GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

The minister then opens the tabernacle and places the ciborium on the altar, or he places the Host in the monstrance and incenses it. As he does so, a suitable hymn is sung. If the Holy Eucharist is not reserved at the altar where the exposition is to take place, the minister puts on a humeral veil and brings the sacrament from the place of reservation.

The ciborium or monstrance should be placed upon the table of the altar which is covered with a cloth. If exposition with the monstrance is to extend over a long period, a throne in an elevated position may be used, but this should not be too lofty or distant. After exposition, if the monstrance is used, the minister incenses the sacrament. If the adoration is to be lengthy, he may then withdraw.

ADORATION

During the exposition there should be prayers, songs and readings to direct the attention of the faithful to the worship of Christ the Lord.

To encourage a prayerful spirit, there should be readings from scripture with a homily or brief exhortations to develop a better understanding of the Eucharistic mystery. It is also desirable for the people to respond to the word of God by singing and to spend some periods of time in religious silence.

SILENT PRAYER

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE READINGS [relevant refs to *Australian Lectionary* (1981)]

Isaiah 49:8-15	<i>I have given you as covenant of the people to establish the land (Lect, Vol. I, p. 288)</i>
Isaiah 59:6b-8, 15-18	<i>The Lord is appalled by evil and injustice</i>
Joel 2:12-18	<i>Let your hearts be broken, and not your garments torn (Lect, Vol. I, p. 187)</i>
Job 3:1-26	<i>Lamentation of Job</i>
Lamentations 3:1-24	<i>I am one who knows affliction</i>
Lamentations 3:49-59	<i>When I called, you came to my aid.</i>
Micah 4:1-4	<i>There will be no more training for war. (Lect, Vol. III, p. 615)</i>
Matt 5:1-12	<i>Happy are the poor in spirit. (Lect, Vol. I, p. 631)</i>
Matt 5:43-48	<i>Love your enemies. (Lect, Vol. II, p. 129)</i>
Matt 10:28-33	<i>Do not fear those who kill the body. (Lect, Vol. II, p. 858)</i>
Matt 11:28-30	<i>I am gentle and humble in heart (Lect, Vol. II, p. 185)</i>
Matt 18:5-7a, 10	<i>Be careful never to despise one of these little ones</i>
Mark 4:35-41	<i>Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him. (Lect, Vol. II, p. 36)</i>
Mark 10:13-16	<i>Whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will never enter it. (Lect, Vol. II, p. 86)</i>
Luke 10:25-37	<i>Who is my neighbour? (Lect, Vol. II, p. 327)</i>
John 10:11-16	<i>The good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. (Lect, Vol. II, p. 989)</i>
John 14:1-6	<i>I am the way, the truth and the life (Lect, Vol. I, p. 493)</i>

HOMILY

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

Celebrant/Leader: When the crowds came to Jesus, he did not turn them away but fed those who were hungry. In our prayer, let us be mindful of all victims of crime, particularly those who have suffered sexual abuse.

Reader: For those whose lives are affected by the enduring and painful memory of sexual abuse and physical violence: May their families, friends and supporters renew their trust and security in loving relationships. May all members of the Church be instruments of healing.
We pray to the Lord. **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For the children of our land: May all families, institutions and social settings work together to ensure the happiness of every child and create an environment of safety and protection where children may flourish.
We pray to the Lord. **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For the Catholic Church in Australia, especially for our bishops and leaders of religious congregations and institutes: May their words and gestures acknowledge repentance for past failures in responding to child sexual abuse and bring comfort and reconciliation to victims.
We pray to the Lord. **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Reader: For the work of the Australian Government as it considers the report of the Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse: May its processes and its legacy acknowledge truth, bring healing and support our nation in ensuring the safety of all children.
We pray to the Lord. **All: Lord, hear our prayer.**

Celebrant/Leader: Gracious and loving God, with confidence we place these prayers before you in the name of Jesus who is Lord, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The following prayer might then be recited:

PRAYER FOR THE HEALING OF VICTIMS OF ABUSE

Loving Father

Since your mercy has been revealed
in the tenderness of your Son Jesus Christ,
who said to his disciples:
"Let the little children come to me",
we pray that your Church may be a secure home
where all children and vulnerable adults
are brought closer to your Beloved Son.
May all those who have been abused
physically, emotionally and sexually by your ministers,
be respected and accompanied by
tangible gestures of justice and reparation so that
they may feel healed with the balm of your compassion.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen

BENEDICTION

Toward the end of the exposition, the priest or deacon goes to the altar, genuflects and kneels. Then a hymn or other Eucharistic song is sung (e.g. Pange lingua, Adoro te devote, Ubi caritas). Meanwhile the minister, while kneeling, incenses the sacrament if the exposition has taken place with the monstrance. Afterward the minister rises and sings or says.

Let us pray.

(Brief period of silence)

Lord Jesus Christ,
you gave us the Eucharist
as the memorial of your suffering and death.
May our worship of this sacrament
of your body and blood
help us to experience the salvation you won for us
and the peace of the kingdom
where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

After the prayer the priest or deacon puts on the humeral veil, genuflects and takes the monstrance or ciborium. He makes the sign of the cross over the people with the monstrance or ciborium, in silence.

THE DIVINE PRAISES

Blessed be God

Blessed be his holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.

Blessed be the name of Jesus.

Blessed be his most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be his most precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the most holy sacrament of the altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her glorious Assumption.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.

REPOSITION

*After the blessing the priest or deacon who gave the blessing, or another priest or deacon, replaces the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle and genuflects. Meanwhile the people may sing (e.g. *Adoremus in aeternum*) or say an acclamation, and the minister then leaves.*

Sources

Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside Mass (Sydney: E. J. Dwyer, 1975); *Together We Pray: General Intercessions for Sundays, Solemnities, Feasts and Other Celebrations*, ed. Robert Borg (Sydney: E. J. Dwyer, 1993); Catholic Archdiocese of Sydney - Office for Liturgy
<http://www.liturgy.sydneycatholic.org/images/uploads/images/uploads/royal%20communion%20prayers.pdf>. alt.

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COMMON PENITENTIAL CELEBRATION

Ritual Notes

1. Penitential celebrations, mentioned in the *Rite of Penance* (no. 36-37), are beneficial in fostering the spirit and virtue of penance among individuals and communities; they also help in preparing for a more fruitful celebration of the sacrament of penance. However, the faithful must be reminded of the difference between these celebrations and sacramental confession and absolution.
2. The particular conditions of life, the manner of speaking and the educational level of the congregation or special group should be taken into consideration. Thus liturgical commissions and individual Christian communities preparing these celebrations should choose the texts and format most suited to the circumstances of each particular group.
3. To this end, an example of a common Penitential Celebration is offered below. This is one model and should be adapted to the specific conditions and needs of each community [*Rite of Penance* (1975) Appendix II: Sample Penitential Services]

ENTRANCE SONG

E.g. *A Hymn of Healing for the Church* by Br Michael Herry FMS (www.maristmusic.org.au) or other hymns/songs associated with penance/reconciliation and healing.

GREETING

The celebrant briefly explains the purpose of the celebration in the light of God's word.

INVITATION TO PRAYER

SILENCE

COLLECT

Celebrant:

Lord Jesus,
you turned and looked on Peter
when he denied you for the third time.
He wept for his sin
and turned again to you in sincere repentance.
Look now on us and touch our hearts,
so that we also may turn back to you
and be always faithful in serving,
for you live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen

SUGGESTED SCRIPTURE READINGS

First Reading

Luke 22:31-34

I tell you, Peter: the cock will not crow today before you deny me three times.

Silence

Second Reading

Luke 22:54-62

Peter went out and wept bitterly

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 31: 10, 15-17, 20 or Psalm 51 or another appropriate psalm

Gospel

John 21:15-19

Simon, son of John, do you love me?

HOMILY

The celebrant may speak about:

- *The trust we must put in God's grace, not in our own powers;*
- *The faithfulness by which we as baptised Christians must live as true and faithful followers of the Lord;*
- *Our weakness and the Church's failures in relation to sexual abuse where members of the Church have fallen into sin and failed to give witness to the gospel;*
- *The mercy of God, who welcomes as a friend the one who turns to the Lord with his/her whole heart.*

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

After the homily, the examination of conscience takes place. A period of silence should be included so that each person may personally examine his/her conscience.

During this time of prayer and penance for victims of sexual abuse, what personal attitudes do I need to change as a member of the Church faithful to the Gospel?

During this time of prayer and penance for victims of sexual abuse, what individual or communal actions do I/we need to change?

During this time of prayer and penance for victims of sexual abuse, what resolutions do I/we need to make in the future?

ACT OF REPENTANCE

Celebrant:

My brothers and sisters,
Let us turn to God who is compassionate and merciful,
and repent of our own sins and the sins of the Church.

All:

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.
In your compassion blot out my offences.
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin.

My offence truly I know them;
my sin is always before me.
Against you, you alone, have I sinned;
what is evil in your sight I have done.

That you may be justified when you give sentence
and be without reproach when you judge,
O see, in guilt I was born,
a sinner was I conceived.

Indeed you love truth in the heart;
then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.
O purify me, then I shall be clean;
O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.

Make me hear rejoicing and gladness,
that the bones you have crushed may revive.
from my sins turn away your face
and blot out all my guilt.

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,
that I may teach transgressors your ways
and sinners may return to you.

O rescue me, God, my helper,
and my tongue shall ring out your goodness.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

For in sacrifice you take no delight,
burnt offering from me you would refuse,
my sacrifice, a contrite spirit.
A humbled, contrite heart you will not spurn.

Celebrant:

Lord,
Your sons and daughters stand before you
In humility and trust.
Look with compassion on us
As we confess our sins.
Heal our wounds;
Stretch out a hand of pity
To save us and raise us up.
Keep us free from harm
As members of the Christ's body,
As sheep of your flock,
As children of your family.

Hear, Lord, the prayers we offer from contrite hearts.
Have pity on us as we acknowledge our sins.
Lead us back to the way of holiness.
Protect us now and always
From the wounds of sin.
May we ever keep safe in all its fullness
The gift your love once gave us
and your mercy now restores.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
Who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
One God for ever and ever.

All: Amen

DISMISSAL

HYMN

A New Heart, for a New World/Create a New Heart, Holy Lord [*Catholic Worship Book II* (2016) 477] or another suitable liturgical song.

Source

Excerpts from *The Rite of Penance* (1975):
Appendix II - Common Penitential Celebration. Sydney: E. J. Dwyer, 1975.

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**SAMPLE PRAYERS AND PENITENTIAL LITANY
FOR VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ABUSE**

**PRAYERS FROM THE PONTIFICAL COUNCIL FOR THE PROTECTION OF
MINORS (alt.)**

Father

Since your mercy has been revealed
in the tenderness of your Son Jesus Christ,
who said to his disciples:
"Let the little children come to me",
we pray that your Church may be a secure home
where all children and vulnerable adults
are brought closer to your Beloved Son.
May all those who have been abused
physically, emotionally and sexually by your ministers,
be respected and accompanied by
tangible gestures of justice and reparation so that
they may feel healed with the balm of your compassion.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord,
Amen

Heavenly Father,
who loves and cares for all of your children,
especially the smallest and most vulnerable,
we entrust to you the lives of the many children and vulnerable adults,
who have been sexually abused,
and whose trust and innocence have been destroyed.
Help us to hear their cries of pain
and to take responsibility for so many broken lives.
We pray that within their communities and families
they may find understanding and support
so that with the help of your grace their wounds may be healed,
and they may again know peace.
Grant this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who shared our weakness in all things but sin,

and lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for
ever and ever,
Amen.

Source: <http://www.catholicreligiousaustralia.org.au> –
[These prayers were first published in www.protectionofminors.va](http://www.protectionofminors.va)

A LITANY OF REPARATION

Lord, have mercy · Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy · Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy · Lord, have mercy.

God, the Father of mercy, reconciling the world to yourself · Have mercy on us.

God the Son, mediator between God and humankind · Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit, filling our hearts with love · Have mercy on us.

Eternal God, holy and undivided Trinity · Have mercy on us.

Be merciful to your people · Spare us, O Lord.

Forgive us our failings · Spare us, O Lord.

Restore us to life in you · Spare us, O Lord.

For a lack of reverence among Christians · We make reparation, O Lord.

For lukewarm faith · We make reparation, O Lord.

For coldness of heart · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sacrilege which profanes your holy name · We make reparation, O Lord.

For indifference of your call to change of heart · We make reparation, O Lord.

For contempt for your sacrifice of love · We make reparation, O Lord.

For fearful discipleship · We make reparation, O Lord.

For neglect of your gifts of grace · We make reparation, O Lord.

For tepid response to your ever-faithful love · We make reparation, O Lord.

For lack of generosity in your service · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sin and its harmful compulsion · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sin and its destructive potential · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sin and its deathly power · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sin that hurts children and the vulnerable · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sin that steals innocence and disbelieves truth · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sin that defiles the Temples of the Holy Spirit which are our bodies · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sin that crushes spirits and breaks hearts · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sin that is overlooked and disregarded · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sin that is ignored and hidden away · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sin that judges victims and excuses offenders · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sin that is criminal · We make reparation, O Lord.

For sin that harms the Body of Christ the Church · We make reparation, O Lord.

Hear our supplication, Lord · And show us your compassion.

Restore us to your grace · And show us your compassion.

Forgive the failures of your people · And show us your compassion.

Pardon our Church which has sinned · And show us your compassion.

Accept this our act of reparation · And show us your compassion.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world · Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world · Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world · Grant us peace.

Let us pray.

Hear the humble prayer of your people, merciful God, as we implore your mercy. Forgive your Church for the wrong that has been committed and the harm that has been done.

Grant the grace of repentance to all who have broken sacred trust and abused your beloved children.

Bring healing to all who have suffered abuse and restore them to fullness of life.

Reconcile us to one another and never allow us be parted from you.

Through our Lord, Jesus Christ, your son, who has freed us from sin and death, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever · Amen.

A PRAYER FOR REPARATION

God of endless love,
ever caring, ever strong, always present, always
just: You gave your only Son
to save us by the blood of his cross.

Gentle Jesus, shepherd of
peace, join to your own
suffering
the pain of all who have been
hurt in body, mind, and spirit
by those who betrayed the trust placed in them.

Hear our cries as we agonise
over the harm done to our brothers and
sisters. Breathe wisdom into our prayers,
soothe restless hearts with
hope, steady shaken spirits
with faith:
Show us the way to justice and wholeness,
enlightened by truth and enfolded in your
mercy.

Holy Spirit, comforter of
hearts, heal your people's
wounds
and transform our brokenness.
Grant us courage and wisdom, humility and
grace, so that we may act with justice
and find peace in you.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

(Source: United States Conference of Catholic
Bishops)

A PRAYER IN SORROW

Lord, we are so sorry
For what some of us did to your
children: Treated them so cruelly,
Especially in their hour of need.
We have left them with a lifelong
suffering. This was not your plan for
them or us.
Please help us to help
them. Guide us, Lord,
Amen.

(Source: 50th Eucharistic Congress, Dublin, 2012)

**Australian Catholic Bishops Conference
Liturgical and Prayer Resources for Days of Fasting
and Reparation following the Royal Commission into
Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse
Lent 2018**

PRAYERS FOR USE AT HOME

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

INTRODUCTION

Lord Jesus,
you turned and looked on Peter
when he denied you for the third time.
He wept for his sin
and turned again to you in sincere repentance.
Look now on us and touch our hearts,
so that we also may turn back to you
and be always faithful in serving,
for you live and reign for ever and ever.
R. Amen

SCRIPTURE READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

49:8-15

I have given you as covenant of the people to establish the land.

Thus says the Lord:

At the favourable time I will answer you,
on the day of salvation I will help you.
(I have formed you and have appointed you
as covenant of the people.)

I will restore the land
and assign you the estates that lie waste.
I will say to the prisoners, "Come out",
to those who are in darkness, "Show yourselves".

On every roadway they will graze,
and each bare height shall be their pasture.
They will never hunger or thirst,
scorching wind and sun shall never plague them;
for he who pities them will lead them
and guide them to springs of water.
I will make a highway of all the mountains,
and the high roads shall be banked up.
Some are on their way from afar,
others from the north and the west,
others from the land of Sinim.
Shout for joy, you heavens; exult, you earth!
You mountains, break into happy cries!
For the Lord consoles his people
and takes pity on those who are afflicted.

For Zion was saying, "The Lord has abandoned
me, the Lord has forgotten me."
Does a woman forget her baby at the breast,
or fail to cherish the son of her womb?
Yet even if these forget,
I will never forget you.

The word of the Lord.

Silence

A PRAYER FOR HEALING

Gracious and loving Father,
Since your mercy has been revealed
in the tenderness of your Son Jesus Christ,
who said to his disciples:
“Let the little children come to me”,
we pray that your Church may be a secure home
where all children and vulnerable adults
are brought closer to your Beloved Son.
May all those who have been abused
physically, emotionally and sexually by your ministers
be respected and accompanied by
tangible gestures of justice and reparation so that
they may feel healed with the balm of your compassion.
We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord
Amen.

SAMPLE PRAYERS OF PETITION

We pray for all victims of sexual abuse: that they may experience truth,
justice and healing in their lives.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all families of victims of sexual abuse: that they may be
comforted by the support of the Church and all your people.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for our communities where sexual abuse has occurred: that all
those in positions of responsibility in relation to children will accord them
the honour and respect to which they are entitled.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R. Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all members of society: that they will honour human sexuality and treat all people with respect and decency.

Let us pray to the Lord.

R: Lord, hear our prayer.

OUR FATHER

Let us unite our petitions with the prayer that Jesus taught us . . .

CONCLUSION

Lord Jesus, our Saviour,
you called Peter to be an apostle;
when he repented of his sin
you restored him to your friendship
and confirmed him as first of the apostles.

Turn to us with love
and help us to imitate Peter's example.
Give us strength to turn from our sins
and to serve you in the future
with greater love and devotion,
for you live and reign for ever and ever.

R. Amen

The Lord bless us, and keep us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life. **R. Amen.**

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