## Prayer Towards 2020

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#### PENANCE SERVICE

# Opening Hymn:

**Come to the Water** Frank Andersen

Refrain: Come to the water! You who are thirsty!

Though you have nothing, I bid you come!

And be filled with the goodness I have to offer!

Come! Listen! Live.

1. Why spend your money on what cannot fill

the emptiness deep in your heart?

Listen to My word and you will enjoy

Goodness and peace in your heart! *R.*

1. Just as the heavens are high above earth;

my ways and thoughts beyond you!

Call me your Father and know I am near!

I will be Father to you! *R.*

1. Just as the rain falls to water the earth;

just as a seed becomes bread.

My word upon you can never return,

until My longing is filled! *R.*

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# Introductory Rite

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

**All: Amen.**

### The presider welcomes everyone and introduces the celebration in these or similar words.

Presider: Welcome, everyone, as we gather for this penance service.

As we come, we can bring with us whatever concerns we have

and we can place our concerns before God.

In this celebration in particular,

we reflect on our failings and we ask God’s mercy and forgiveness.

Let us pray for a few moments in silence.

Almighty and most gentle God,

in the desert you brought water from the rock

to quench your people’s thirst.

Grant us now the living water of your mercy

so that our sins may be forgiven

and we may rejoice in your gift of peace.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**All: Amen.**

# Scripture Reading

*Isaiah 55:1-11*

Reader: Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters;

and you that have no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,

and your labour for that which does not satisfy?

Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,

and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live.

I will make with you an everlasting covenant,

my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples,

a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know,

and nations that do not know you shall run to you,

because of the Lord your God,

the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found,

call upon him while he is near;

let the wicked forsake their way,

and the unrighteous their thoughts;

let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,

and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,

nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

For as the heavens are higher than the earth,

so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,

and do not return there until they have watered the earth,

making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

So shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,

but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,

and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

# Responsorial Psalm

**A Trusting Psalm** Kevin Bates

Refrain: Lord let your mercy be on us

as we place our trust in you.

1. The word of the Lord is faithfulness and love,

this love can never be measured.

God’s beauty is like nothing we have ever seen,

so let us place our trust in God. *R.*

1. The word of the Lord means a patient, gentle God,

whose love can never grow weary.

God’s mercy is as though our sins have never been,

if we can place our trust in God. *R.*

1. The word of the Lord is fire burning strong

and love can never grow weary.

God will seek and save the lost until we all return,

so let us place our trust in God. *R.*

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# Scripture Reading

*2 Corinthians 5:17-21*

Reader: So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

Everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ,

and has given us the ministry of reconciliation;

that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself,

not counting their trespasses against them,

and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us.

So we are ambassadors for Christ,

since God is making his appeal through us;

we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin,

so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

# Gospel Acclamation

**All: Alleluia, alleluia!**

**God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son,**

**That all who believe in him might have eternal life.**

**Alleluia!**

# Gospel

*Luke 15:1-10*

Presider: Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him.

And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying,

“This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

So he told them this parable:

“Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them,

does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness

and go after the one that is lost until he finds it?

When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices.

And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours,

saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’

Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents

than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them,

does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it?

When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying,

‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’

Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over

one sinner who repents.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

# Homily

### The homilist could speak of the season of Easter as a time when we celebrate the gift of peace that the risen Christ offers us and when we pray for a fresh outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.

### The homilist could also speak of the Plenary Council planned for 2020 as an opportunity for renewal and invite the people to pray for renewal for ourselves personally, for our local community, for our diocese and for the Church throughout Australia.

# Reflection and Examination of Conscience

Presider: Following the readings from the Scriptures and the homily,

we take a few moments for quiet reflection.

We can use this time to examine our conscience

to see the particular ways in which we have failed to live as we should.

For all our sins we ask God’s mercy.

### All observe a quiet time for personal examination of conscience.

# Prayers of Repentance

Presider: My brothers and sisters, let us turn to God who is compassionate and merciful.

**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.**

Presider: Let us pray now in the words our Saviour gave us.

**All: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;**

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

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

**and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;**

**and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Presider: Merciful God,

your sons and daughters stand before you in humility and trust.

Look on us with compassion 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 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.

May we be renewed by the gift of your love.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God for ever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

# Individual Confession and Absolution

Presider: We now have an opportunity for individual confession and absolution.

### During this time, reflective music may be played.

# Concluding Prayers with Sign of Peace

Presider: As we conclude this time of prayer,

we give thanks to God for God’s mercy and we pray

that we might live in God’s love and peace in the days ahead.

Gracious God, we give thanks for the gift of your mercy,

poured out upon us through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

and through your Holy Spirit of love.

May your mercy be with us day by day

and may the blessing of your peace remain with us always.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,

who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Let us offer one another some sign of peace.

### All exchange a sign of peace with those around them.

Presider: We conclude with a blessing and a final hymn.

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.**

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

# Final Hymn

**Prayer of St Francis**

*(Make me a channel of your peace)*

1. Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me bring your love,

where there is injury, your pardon Lord,

and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

1. Make me a channel of your peace,

where there's despair in life let me bring hope,

where there is darkness, only light,

and where there's sadness ever joy.

1. Oh, Master grant that I may never seek

so much to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love with all my soul.

1. Make me a channel of your peace.

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

in giving to all men let we receive,

and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

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