

THE SACRAMENT
OF
PENANCE
OR
RECONCILIATION



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KgmQM9cDPHk>



RECONCILIATION

Hebrew & Christian Scriptures

- Fullness of our humanity comes from relationship with God.
- Love means freedom to choose and capacity to turn away.
- We turn away and need to come back



RECONCILIATION

- Officially - Sacrament of Penance, pastorally - Rite of Reconciliation.
- Scriptural foundations in the ministry of Jesus:
 - To be seen as part of healing, restoration to wholeness, re-integration into community.
Mark 1:4, 14-15 Luke 7:36-5
- Jesus entrusted the mission of Reconciliation to the Church.
John 20:19-23, Matthew 18:18 (also Acts 2:27-38)



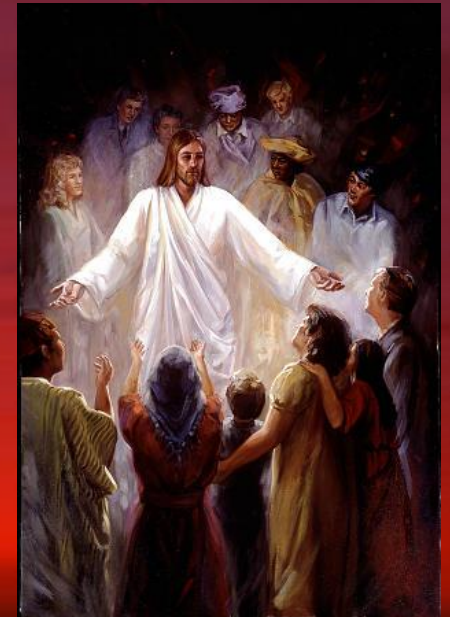
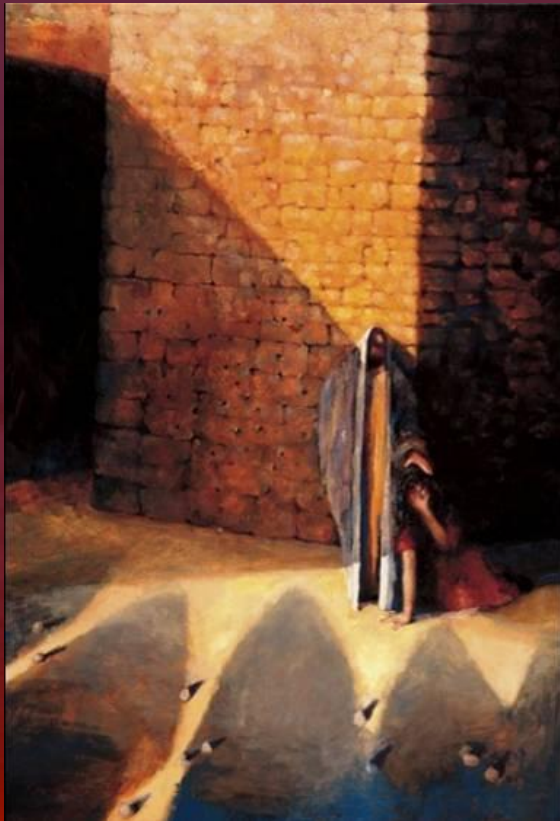
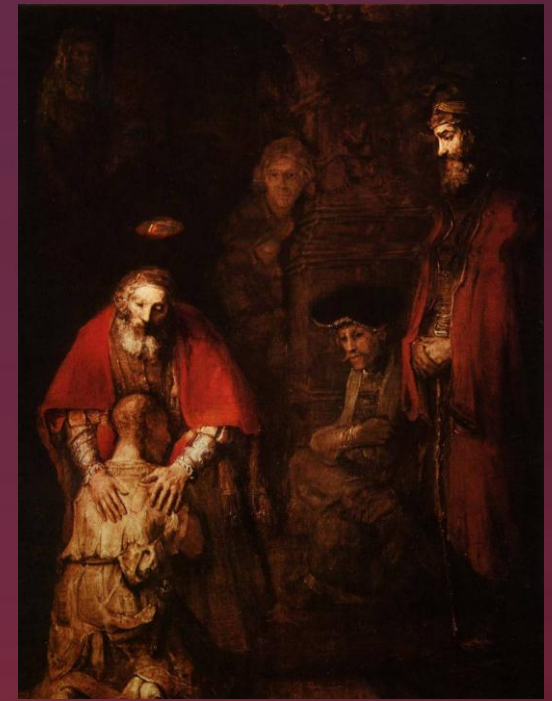
INSTITUTION OF THE SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

"Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

John 20: 22-23



REFERENCES TO FORGIVENESS IN THE GOSPELS

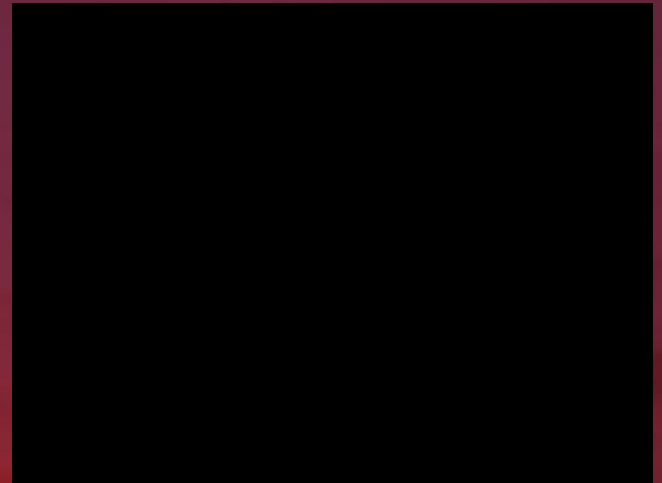


WORD, ACTION AND SYMBOL



"PENANCE (WHY WE CONFESS)" VIDEO

- ◆ Relation of the Sacrament of Penance to relationships with God and others.



THE RITES OF RECONCILIATION



Three rites:

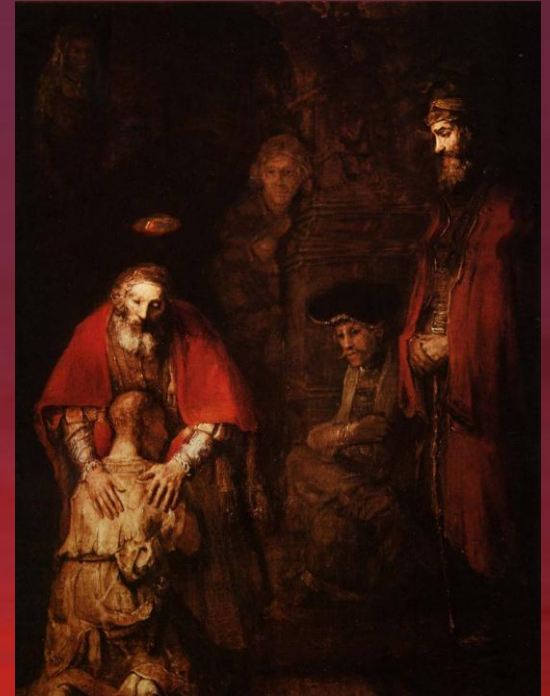
I – Individual confession and absolution

II – Communal rite, with opportunity for individual confession and absolution

III – General confession and absolution
(rarely permitted).

RECONCILIATION: CELEBRATING GOD'S FORGIVENESS

- ◇ Conversion
- ◇ Confession
- ◇ Celebration



CONVERSION

- ❖ "Coming to one's senses" as the prodigal son did.
- ❖ Prompted by a faith response to God's call, conversion initiates a desire for change.
- ❖ Conversion is always a response to being loved by God and realising that God's love saves us.
- ❖ Conversion is a continuous, ongoing, lifelong process bringing us even closer to God.



CONFESSION

- ◇ A step in the total process – not the greatest emphasis.
- ◇ Our attitude toward the Sacrament of Reconciliation is intimately related to our image of God. We need to really believe that our God is ever ready to reach out in forgiveness.
- ◇ The Prayer of Absolution is not a prayer asking for forgiveness – it is a prayer signifying God's forgiveness of us.

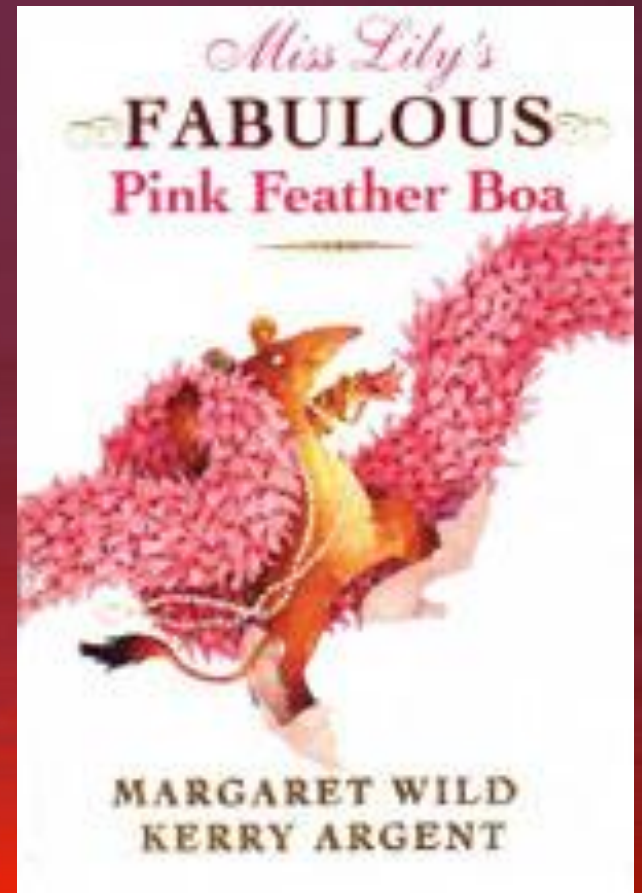
CELEBRATION

- ◇ The community's liturgical celebration of Reconciliation places a frame around the picture of our continual journey from sin to reconciliation.
- ◇ Having been forgiven, we are empowered to forgive ourselves and to forgive one another, heal one another and celebrate the fact that together we have come a step closer to the peace, justice and reconciliation that makes us the heralds of Christ's Kingdom on earth.



CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

- ◇ Conversion
- ◇ Confession
- ◇ Celebration











The Last Potoroo buried the piece of boa at the bottom of the hill. For nights afterwards, she was plagued with dreams of the boa wriggling out of the soil and dancing up the steps of the holiday house.







Very early the next Sunday,
No-Longer-the-Last Potoroo and her new friends
tiptoed through the gate of the Holiday House
and up the steps to surprise Miss Lily –

