



Suggested Format for a Reconciliation Liturgy

Vision

Achieving Excellence in Catholic Education
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Mission

To educate students in faith-filled, safe, inclusive Catholic learning communities by nurturing the mind, body and spirit of all.



*Peterborough Victoria
Northumberland and Clarington
Catholic District School Board*

Suggested Format for a Reconciliation Liturgy

1. Opening Hymn from the attached list.
2. Introduction (and possible explanation; why, where, when).
3. Readings from liturgy can be taken from, but not limited to, attached list.
4. Homily, reflection or teaching on preparing for reconciliation.
5. Video or other media on reconciliation.
6. Examination of conscience.
7. Concluding Prayer.
8. Closing Hymn.

Note: A reconciliation liturgy can be led by a priest, chaplaincy team leader, faith ambassador or any other staff member. The various components of the liturgy include active student and staff participation wherever possible.

Hymn Suggestions

[Eye Has Not Seen](#) (CBW 482)

[Come back to me](#) (Gather 405)

[You Are The Voice](#) (CBW 576)

[Prayer of St. Francis](#) (Gather 828)

Reconciliation Song (GIFGIC Resources - access online)

[Father, I Have Sinned](#) (The Prodigal Son)

[You are Mine](#) (Gather 649)

[I Will Never Forget You my People](#) (Glory & Praise 767)

I Will Sweep Away Your Transgressions (CBW 622)

[City of God](#) (CBW 345)

[Children of the Light](#)

[Taize Songs](#)

[Come to the Water](#) (Glory & Praise 770)

[Amazing Grace](#) (CBW 480)



Introduction

Quiet yourself and enter into a state of reflection. Ask the Holy Spirit to guide you in reflecting on your life and as you examine your conscience. Pray for the wisdom to recognize your shortcomings, the courage to confess your sins, and the resolve to restore your relationship with God and with your neighbour.

Scripture Passages (NRSV)

See the full text below for a printable version.

View the Catholic Book of Worship III for the Psalm responses.

First Reading

- A. Micah 6:6-18 "Act Justly ... walk humbly with your God"
- B. 2 Cor. 4:7-10 "We have this treasure in clay jars"
- C. 2 Cor. 5:17-21 "We are Ambassadors for Christ"
- D. Romans 5:1-5 "We have peace with God"
- E. Romans 12: 4-8 "One Body ... Many Members"
- F. Romans 12: 9-18 "Rejoice in hope ... be patient in suffering"
- G. Isaiah 1:16-18 "Your sins shall be like snow"

Psalms

- Psalm 25 To You O Lord, I lift my Soul (CBW 16)
- Psalm 51 Be Merciful O Lord, for we have sinned (CBW 44)
- Psalm 119 Happy are they who follow the law of the Lord (CBW 127)
- Psalm 130 There is Mercy and Fullness of Redemption (CBW 56)
- Psalm 139 You Are Near (CBW 487)
 - Lord, You Search Me and You Know Me (CBW 474)
 - I Praise You, For I Am Wonderfully Made (CBW 220)

Gospel Readings

- A. Luke 15:11-32 The Prodigal Son
- B. Luke 10: 25-37 The Good Samaritan
- C. Luke 17: 11-19 Healing of the Lepers
- D. Luke 23: 32-43 Jesus forgives on the cross
- E. John 4:4-26 Woman at the Well
- F. John 7:53-8:11 Woman caught in adultery
- G. Matt. 18: 12-14 Parable of the Lost Sheep
- H. Matt. 18:21-22 Forgiveness "77 times"

A. Micah 6:6-18 “Act Justly ... walk humbly with your God”

A Reading from the Prophet Micah

Hear what the Lord says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,
and let the hills hear your voice.

Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord,
and you enduring foundations of the earth;
for the Lord has a controversy with his people,
and he will contend with Israel.

“O my people, what have I done to you?
In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

O my people, remember now what
King Balak of Moab devised,
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.”

“With what shall I come before the Lord,
and bow myself before God on high?

Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?

Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

The voice of the Lord cries to the city
(it is sound wisdom to fear your name):

Hear, O tribe and assembly of the city!
Can I forget the treasures of wickedness
in the house of the wicked,
and the scant measure that is accursed?

Can I tolerate wicked scales
and a bag of dishonest weights?

Your wealthy are full of violence;
your inhabitants speak lies,
with tongues of deceit in their mouths.

Therefore I have begun to strike you down,
making you desolate because of your sins.

You shall eat, but not be satisfied,
and there shall be a gnawing hunger within you;
you shall put away, but not save,
and what you save, I will hand over to the sword.

You shall sow, but not reap;
you shall tread olives,
but not anoint yourselves with oil;
you shall tread grapes, but not drink wine.

For you have kept the statutes of Omri
and all the works of the house of Ahab,
and you have followed their counsels.

Therefore I will make you a desolation,
and your inhabitants an object of hissing;
so you shall bear the scorn of my people.

The Word of the Lord

B. 2 Cor. 4:7-10 “We have this treasure in clay jars”

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.

The Word of the Lord

C. 2 Cor. 5:17-21 “We are Ambassadors for Christ”

A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians

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

D. Romans 5:1-5 “We have peace with God”

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

The Word of the Lord

E. Romans 12: 4-8 “One Body ... Many Members”

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

The Word of the Lord

F. Romans 12: 9-18 “Rejoice in hope ... be patient in suffering”

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

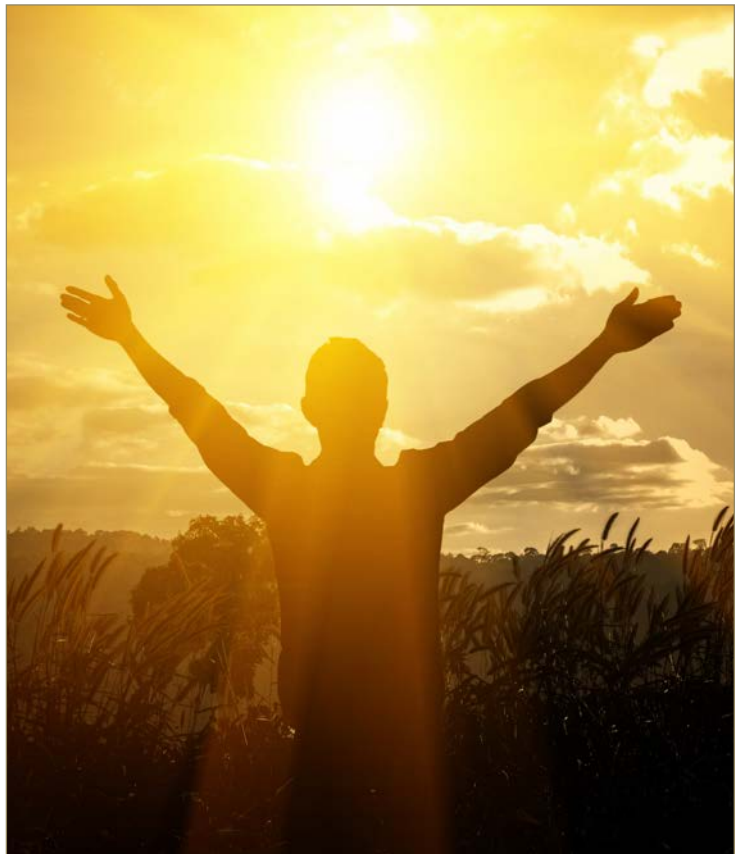
The Word of the Lord

G. Isaiah 1:16-18 “Your sins shall be like snow”

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah

Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove the evil of your doings
from before my eyes;
cease to do evil,
learn to do good;
seek justice,
rescue the oppressed,
defend the orphan,
plead for the widow.
Come now, let us argue it out,
says the Lord:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be like snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.

The Word of the Lord



A. Luke 15:11-32 The Prodigal Son

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Then Jesus said, “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later, the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

The Gospel of the Lord

B. Luke 10: 25-37 The Good Samaritan

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

The Gospel of the Lord

C. Luke 17: 11-19 Healing of the Lepers

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

The Gospel of the Lord

D. Luke 23: 32-43 Jesus forgives on the cross

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

The Gospel of the Lord



E. John 4:4-26 Woman at the Well

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

But he had to go through Samaria. So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

The Gospel of the Lord

F. John 7:53-8:11 Woman caught in adultery

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

Then each of them went home, while Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him and he sat down and began to teach them. The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had been caught in adultery; and making her stand before all of them, they said to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders; and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" She said, "No one, sir." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again."

The Gospel of the Lord

G. Matt. 18: 12-14 Parable of the Lost Sheep

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

What do you think? If a shepherd has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? And if he finds it, truly I tell you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. So it is not the will of your Father in heaven that one of these little ones should be lost.

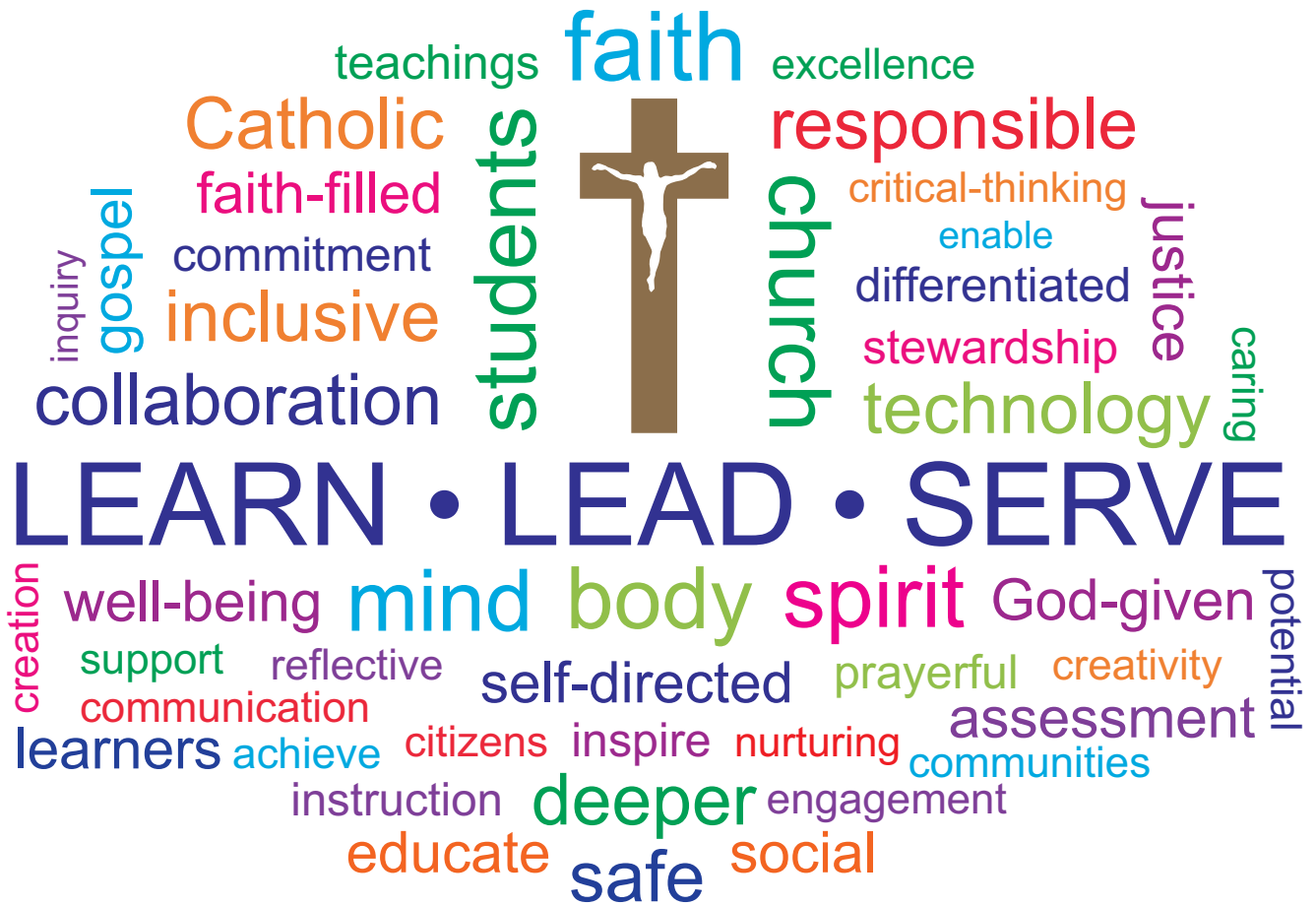
The Gospel of the Lord

H. Matt. 18:21-22 Forgiveness "77 times"

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if another member of the church[a] sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

The Gospel of the Lord



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