

AFTER CONFESSION

*When you return to your parents
this is the time you would spend quietly
doing your Penance - whatever the priest
asked you to do to show God you were thankful
for his forgiveness.*

*You might also want to thank
Jesus for this great sacrament
that makes you know
God loves you so much
that he wants to forgive all of your sins
and give you a new start.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Thank you, Jesus,
for loving me so much
that you died on the Cross for me.
In this way you died for all sinners, and for me,
so that I could know today
how good it is to be forgiven
and loved by you.

Help me to be a better person
and to keep my promise to you
to try to be good.

Amen.

The Church of
SAINT LEO THE GREAT
Brooklin, Ontario



CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF FIRST RECONCILIATION



"Your sins are forgiven. Go in peace!"



HOW TO CELEBRATE THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

PRAYER BEFORE CONFESSION

God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, I know that you love me. I have not always loved you back. Help me to know my sins and be sorry for them. Help me to want to be better. Mary, Mother of Jesus and my Mother, please give me your help too.

Then think about your sins - what you have thought, said, done, or failed to do.

GOING TO CONFESSION

When it is your turn, both your parents or at least one of them will take you and introduce you to the priest. Then your parents will leave you and go back to their seat.

The priest will welcome you.

Then you begin by saying:

**"Bless me, Father, for I have sinned.
This is my first confession.
These are my sins..."**

Then you tell the priest your sins, beginning with the ones you think are the biggest.

*When you are finished saying your sins, you can tell the priest,
"... and these are all of my sins."*

Then the priest will talk to you about how much God loves you and wants to forgive you.

Then the priest will give you a Penance which is asking you to do some small thing to show God you are thankful.

*The priest will ask you to say an **Act of Contrition**
You should learn the following prayer*

**"My God, I am sorry for my sins
with all my heart.
In choosing to do wrong
and failing to do good,
I have sinned against you
whom I should love above all things.**

**I firmly intend, with your help,
to do penance, to sin no more,
and to avoid whatever leads me to sin.**

**Our Saviour Jesus Christ
suffered and died for us;
in His name, my God, have mercy."**

The priest will say the words that will bring you God's forgiveness, and then will bless you.

*You make the sign of the cross and answer: **"Amen"***

*Then the priest will tell you to **"Go in peace."***

*You may answer: **"Amen"***

*or say: **"Thank you, Father."***