

Lord, I Love Your Commands - A Penance Service for Lent 2019

The following celebration is a suggestion based on the FDLIC Preparation Aid for Lent-Pentecost 2019 - found [here](#) in its entirety.

Introductory Rites

Opening Hymn
Greeting
Introduction
Opening Prayer

Celebration of the Word of God

First Reading
Responsorial Psalm
Second Reading
Gospel Verse
Gospel
Homily
Examination of Conscience

Rite of Reconciliation

General Confession of Sin
Litany of Repentance
Lord's Prayer
Concluding Prayer
Individual Confession of Sin and Absolution
Proclamation of Praise for God's Mercy

Concluding Rite

Blessing
Dismissal
Closing Hymn

Introductory Rites

Opening Hymn

Greeting

Presider: Grace and peace be with you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ who laid down his life for our sins.

All: Glory to God for ever. Amen.

Introduction

Presider: It seems that we live in a society which is constantly debating about right and wrong. Opinions are shared on social media and on the evening news; in Congress and in courthouses; in coffee houses and in classrooms. Great moral issues have merely become subject to the latest headline or opinion poll.

Issues of right and wrong are also debated in our own hearts and minds. “Is it okay if I cheat as long as no one gets hurt?” “Is it okay if I skip Sunday Mass and just pray on my own?” “Is it okay if I buy expensive cars and clothes, yet neglect the poor?”

God is aware of our human frailties. That is why God gave us the Ten Commandments. That is why God sent his Son to preach about his Kingdom. That is why God gives us the Holy Spirit to form our conscience and teach us God’s statutes. It’s already beyond debate.

God calls each of us here tonight (today) to the sacrament of reconciliation. We come to acknowledge our sins and to seek God’s forgiveness. As we approach this sacrament of mercy, let us be mindful of those times when we have not lived a life in harmony with God’s clear commands.

Opening Prayer

Presider: Brothers and sisters, God calls us to conversion: let us therefore ask God for the grace of sincere repentance.

Silent Prayer

Father of mercies and God of all consolation,
you do not wish the sinner to die
but to be converted and live.

Come to the aid of your people,
that they may turn from their sins
and live for you alone.

May we be attentive to your word,
confess our sins,
receive your forgiveness,
and always be grateful for your loving kindness.

Help us to live the truth in love
and grow into the fullness of Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Celebration of the Word of God

First Reading	Deuteronomy 4:1, 5-9 <i>Keep the commandments and your work will be complete.</i>
Responsorial Psalm	Psalm 119:57, 72, 76-77, 127-128, 129-130 <i>Lord, I love your commands.</i>
Second Reading	Hebrews 4:14-16 <i>Let us confidently approach the throne of grace.</i>
Gospel Verse	John 14:23 <i>Whoever loves me will keep my word, says the Lord; and my Father will love him and we will come to him.</i>
Gospel	Matthew 22:34-40 <i>You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbor as yourself.</i>
Homily	
Examination of Conscience	

Rite of Reconciliation

General Confession of Sin

Presider: Brothers and sisters, let us call to mind the goodness of God our Father, and acknowledge our sins, so that we may receive his merciful forgiveness.

All: I confess to almighty God
and to you, my brothers and sisters,
that I have greatly sinned,
in my thoughts and in my words,
in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,
through my fault, through my fault,
through my most grievous fault;
therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,
all the Angels and Saints,
and you, my brothers and sisters,
to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Litany of Penance

Presider: Christ our Lord was given up to death for our sins
and rose again for our justification.
Let us pray to him with confidence in his goodness.
You were sent with good news for the poor and healing for the contrite.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You came to call sinners, not the just.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You forgave the many sins of the woman who showed you great love.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You did not shun the company of outcasts and sinners.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You carried back to the fold the sheep that had strayed.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You did not condemn the woman taken in adultery
but sent her away in peace.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You promised Paradise to the repentant thief.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You are the atonement for our sins and the sins of the world.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Presider: You became the source of salvation for all who obey you.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

Presider: Let us now pray to God our Father in the words our Savior gave us, and ask
him for forgiveness and protection from all evil.

All: Our Father...

Concluding Prayer:

Presider: Deliver us, Father, from every evil
as we unite ourselves through penance
with the saving Passion of your Son.
Grant us a share in the joy of the Resurrection of Christ
who is Lord forever and ever.

All: Amen.

Individual Confession of Sin and Absolution

Prayer of Absolution

Proclamation of Praise for God's Mercy - *individual prayer & penance*

Concluding Prayer of Thanksgiving - *entire assembly*

Presider: Lord God,
creator and ruler of your kingdom of light,
in your great love for this world,
you gave your only Son for our salvation.
His cross has redeemed us,
his death has given us life,
his resurrection has raised us to glory.

Through Christ
we ask you to be always present among your family.
Teach us to be reverent in the presence of your glory;
fill our hearts with faith,
our days with good works,
our lives with your love;
may your truth be on our lips
and your wisdom in all our actions,
that we may receive the reward of everlasting life.
Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Concluding Rite

Blessing

Presider: May the Father bless us
for we are his children, born to eternal life.

All: Amen.

Presider: May the Son show us his saving power,
for he died and rose for us.

All: Amen.

Presider: May the Spirit give us the gift of holiness and lead us by the right path,
for God dwells in our hearts.

All: Amen.

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

All: Amen.

Dismissal

Presider: The Lord has freed you from your sins. Go in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

Closing Song