



**ST. PETER CANISIUS INTERNATIONAL CATHOLIC PARISH
JAKARTA, INDONESIA**



RECONCILIATION WITH GENERAL ABSOLUTION

“Return to me with all your heart” Joel 12

Wednesday, March 31st 2021

Live Stream 18:00

GREETING

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

Penitent: Amen.

Priest: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Penitent: And with your spirit.

INTRODUCTION

Priest: Brothers and sisters in Christ,

“Return to me with all your heart” is God’s call to every one of us. He keeps calling us, in our sinfulness, to return to him, *“for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing”* (Joel 2:13). We may have this confidence because, in every age, God has shown his justice and his mercy. When his chosen people erred, he sent prophets to call them back. And in his greatest act of merciful love, God sent his only Son to live among us to preach the Father’s love and to set us free from sin and death. God continues to save his people and Christ continues to be present to us, especially in the Church’s sacraments. In the sacrament of reconciliation, though we cannot grasp the richness of his grace nor the depth of his compassion, God unceasingly offer us his mercy. Let us pray for the courage to seek God’s mercy and forgiveness.

Priest: Lord, have mercy

Penitent: Lord, have mercy

Priest: Christ, have mercy

Penitent: Christ, have mercy

Priest: Lord, have mercy

Penitent: Lord, have mercy

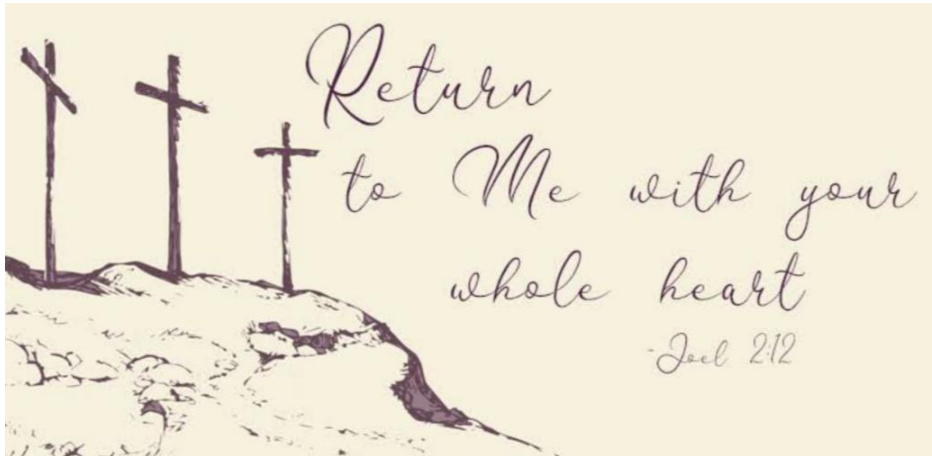
OPENING PRAYER

Priest: Let us pray

Priest and Penitent: Father of mercy 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, return to you 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 in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Penitent: Amen.

WORD OF GOD



A reading from the book of Joel (2:12-14).

Yet even now, says the Lord, return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; rend your hearts and not your clothing. Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing. Who knows whether he will not turn and relent, and leave a blessing behind him, a grain offering and a drink offering for the Lord, your God? The Word of the Lord.

Penitent: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 86: 1-2, 5-6, 9-10, 15-16

Ref: Lord, you are merciful and gracious.

1. Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy. Preserve my life, for I am devoted to you; save your servant who trusts in you. You are my God; be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long.

Ref: Lord, you are merciful and gracious.

2. For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call on you. Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my cry of supplication.

Ref: Lord, you are merciful and gracious.

3. All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

Ref: Lord, you are merciful and gracious.

4. But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. Turn to me and be gracious to me; give your strength to your servant.

Ref: Lord, you are merciful and gracious.

EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

Priest: Brothers and Sisters, I now invite you to do the examination of conscience. An examination of conscience is the act of looking prayerfully into our hearts to ask how we have hurt our relationships with God and other people through our thoughts, words and actions. As we come to seek to be reconciled to God and one another, and so to ask for his mercy and forgiveness, let us call to mind those times when we have failed to fulfill God's will.

1) IN MY RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD : *"You shall love the Lord your God with your whole heart"* (Matthew 22:37)

When was the last time I expressed sorrow for my sins and asked for God's forgiveness? Have I made decent efforts to improve my life as Christ's disciple?

Have I prayed sufficiently each day and sought to have a continuous spirit of prayer? Have I turned to God in good and bad times and in times of temptation?

Have I been faithful to read the Word of God and to live its message in my daily life? During this past year, months, weeks and days how faithful have I participated in the Eucharist and practiced my spiritual exercises?

Have I used the Lord's name respectfully and reverently? Have I made efforts to praise and thank him for his gifts and blessings?

Have I took steps to deepen and increase my understanding of the faith? Have I professed and lived it courageously?

Have I fulfilled my commitments as a member of my faith community?

Have I made decent efforts to find God's love and presence in the beauties of nature and the circumstances of my life? Have I cared for God's creation?

2) IN MY RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS: *"Love one another as I have loved you"* (John 13:34)

Have I truly loved my neighbors as myself? Have I used or exploited others for my own selfish interests?

Have I been caring toward my family? Have I showed fidelity, patience, respect, reverence and love to my spouse, children, parents, brothers, sisters, in-laws? Have I shown good example to them?

Have my relations to others been faithful and chaste? Was I guilty of such violations in chastity as adultery, fornication, or conversation that was indecent?

Have I dealt honestly and truthfully with others? Have I harmed anyone by deceit, rash judgment, lies, gossip, calumny or slander?

Have I hated others, shown prejudice or discrimination toward them? Have I degraded the human dignity of others? Have I avoided causing scandal through my bad example?

Have I injured the life or reputation of others? Have I upheld and protected the right to life at all levels and respect the human dignity of the aged, the suffering or others?

Have I worked for the betterment of human society? Do I act justly for the good of others in the society?

How far have I got involved in the community and in the building up of a just society for the good and prosperity of all?

Have my presence and contribution been a blessing to others?

Have I got involved actively in adhering to health protocol for my own sake and for the good of others?

Have I lived in harmony with my neighbors, especially those of different background, culture, race or religion, and treated them as my brothers and sisters?

3) IN HOW I TREAT MYSELF: *"With the measure you use, it will be measured back to you"* (Matthew 7:2)

Have I made decent efforts to continue developing my natural talents and gifts, and to put them at the service of God and others?

Have I paid attention to my thoughts, accepting good and useful ones, but resisting and rejecting evil ones?

Have I tried to govern my feelings and thoughts, my imagination and fantasies, instead of being governed by them?

Have I made a good use of my time and my money, avoiding irresponsibility and waste?

Have I used the entertainment media wisely and responsibly?

Have I, as a social media user, actively participated in building positive, objective and responsible communication?

Have I made decent efforts to be responsible in all my duties and obligations, avoiding laziness and procrastination?

Have I respected my own life and person, taking reasonable care of my physical, emotional and spiritual needs?

Have I avoided abusing alcohol and other intoxicating substances?

(Moment of silence – instrumental song)

Priest: My brothers and sisters, let us call to mind the goodness of God our Father, and acknowledge our sins, so that we may receive his mercy and forgiveness. Let us join in prayer to the Father, asking him to forgive us as we forgive others.

Priest and Penitent: **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. Amen.

CONFESSION

Priest: Brothers and Sisters, I now invite you to mention your sins before the Lord in your own hearts

(moment of silence – instrumental song).

Priest: Now express your sorrow by saying the following **ACT OF CONTRITION:**

Priest and Penitent:

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 Savior Jesus Christ suffered and died for us. In his name, my God, have mercy.

GENERAL ABSOLUTION

(Then the Priest extends his hands over, saying: I now impart to each one of you the ABSOLUTION)

Priest: God, the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, **and I absolve you from your sins in the name of + the Father, + and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.**

Penitent: Amen.

CONCLUDING PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Priest: Let us pray.

Almighty and merciful God, how wonderfully you created us and still more wonderfully remade us. You do not abandon the sinner but seek him out with a father's love. You sent your Son into the world to destroy sin and death by his passion, and to restore life and joy by his resurrection. You sent the Holy Spirit into our hearts to make us your children and heirs of your Kingdom. You constantly renew our spirit in the sacrament of your redeeming love, freeing us from slavery to sin and transforming us ever more closely into the likeness of your beloved Son. We thank you for the wonders of your mercy, and with heart and hand and voice we join with the whole Church in a new song of praise: Glory to you through Christ in the Holy Spirit, now and for ever. Amen.

FINAL BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

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

Penitent: Amen.

Priest: The Lord has freed you from your sins. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Penitent: Thanks be to God.

