

Celebrating God's Forgiveness

First Reconciliation 2018



29 November 2018
Saint Teresa Church

6 December 2018
Saints John Fisher and Thomas More

Catholic Parishes of Borehamwood

Greeting

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

All: Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit

The Liturgy of the Word: Luke 19:1-10

The story of Zacchaeus, when Jesus called a sinner back to Him and changed his life by forgiving him.

Jesus entered Jericho and was going through the town when a man whose name was Zacchaeus made his appearance; he was one of the senior tax collectors and a wealthy man. He was anxious to see what kind of man Jesus was, but he was too short and could not see him for the crowd; So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to catch a glimpse of Jesus who was to pass that way.

When Jesus reached the spot he looked up and spoke to him: “Zacchaeus, come down. Hurry, because I must stay at your house today.” And he hurried down and welcomed him joyfully.

They all complained when they saw what was happening. “He has gone to stay at a sinner's house' they said. But Zacchaeus stood his ground and said to the Lord, “Look, sir, I am going to give half my property to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody I will pay him back four times the amount.”

And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man too is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek out and save what was lost”.

Examination of Conscience



Celebrant: We remember that God is always calling us, so we think about the times when we have chosen not to listen:

Our response is: **We are sorry**

Reader 1: For the times when we have failed to love our neighbour:

Reader 2: For the times we did not pray or think about God:

Reader 1: For the times we argued and quarrelled:

Reader 2: For the times we were lazy and did not help:

Reader 1: For the times we hurt another person:

Reader 2: For the times we thought only about ourselves and forgot to think about other people:

Celebrant: Remember how Zacchaeus changed, and how Jesus and all the people rejoiced. God rejoices if even one of us answers His call to come back, be sorry for our sins and be eager to try again.

First Reconciliation

The children are now invited to make their First Reconciliation. There will be a number of priests hearing individual confessions. The catechists will show the children where to go as each priest becomes available.

Going to Confession: Guide for the Children

1. Go to the priest and *take this booklet with you*; sit down and say, **“Good evening, Father.”**
2. Say, **“Bless me Father for I have sinned, this is my first Confession”**.
3. Tell the priest about the things you feel sorry for or things you know you have done wrong.
4. Finish by saying **“For these and other sins I have forgotten, I am sorry”**.
5. The priest will tell you to do something special; to make up for the wrong things I have done. This is called Penance. He might tell you to do an act of kindness or to say a prayer. You must listen carefully to hear what you should do and remember it when you go back to your place in the church.
6. The priest will tell you to say “I am sorry to God” by saying an Act of Contrition. You say:

“O my God, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you and with the help of your grace I will never sin again. Amen”
7. The priest will tell you that God our Father forgives us when we are sorry and will say a special prayer which is when your sins will be forgiven. This is called absolution.
8. You have now made your Confession and you will finish by saying, **“Thank you, Father”**.

After Confession

Each child goes to the foot of the altar and lights a candle as a symbol of the light of God's Love shining in them. They then return to their places, say a prayer, and quietly do the activity sheets at the back of this booklet until everyone has been to confession.

Other family members are invited to go to confession, if they wish, after all the children have been.

Dismissal

Celebrant: Now we are reconciled to Jesus, we pray as he taught us:

All: 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.

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

All: Amen.

Celebrant: Go in the peace of Christ.

All: Thanks be to God



WORDSEARCH

Can you find all sixteen words in the grid?

A	R	T	Y	O	Y	O	S	P	E	N	B	O	Y
S	T	C	R	E	H	S	I	F	N	H	O	J	O
Z	B	H	R	A	I	N	N	O	P	R	R	E	Z
P	R	U	O	N	C	E	S	E	N	E	E	R	A
R	C	R	S	M	O	Y	N	E	A	C	H	I	C
I	T	C	A	R	A	A	Z	I	G	O	A	G	C
E	N	H	A	R	N	S	T	O	R	N	M	A	H
S	E	N	T	C	H	E	M	E	O	C	W	I	A
T	P	R	E	S	E	R	E	O	N	I	O	N	E
D	E	A	R	P	E	E	A	T	R	L	O	I	U
E	R	R	A	A	N	T	N	E	M	E	D	L	S
A	C	T	N	O	I	T	U	L	O	S	B	A	N
F	C	O	N	F	E	S	S	I	O	N	O	Y	S
Y	A	R	P	T	F	O	R	G	I	V	E	Z	E

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Confession | <input type="checkbox"/> Priest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teresa | <input type="checkbox"/> Absolution |
| <input type="checkbox"/> John Fisher | <input type="checkbox"/> Church |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Thomas More | <input type="checkbox"/> Zacchaeus |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sorry | <input type="checkbox"/> Forgive |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Penance | <input type="checkbox"/> Repent |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pray | <input type="checkbox"/> Reconcile |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sins | <input type="checkbox"/> Borehamwood |

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE



Can you spot
the **five**
differences
between these
two pictures?





"This son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found."

The Prodigal Son