

and the life of the world
are broken apart
by our sin.

Be merciful O lord...

But Jesus said: *Behold I stand at the door and knock'*
As we open the door to justice,
we ask to be forgiven.
As we open the door to peace,
we ask to be renewed.
As we open the door to love,
we ask to be made whole.

Be merciful O lord...

Prayer

Jesus Christ seeks out those who are lost and rejoices with all of the heavenly host when even one sinner repents. Let us ask God for the grace to open our hearts to his mercy so that we truly may be sorry for our sins against him and one another.

Lord,
hear the prayers of those who call on you,
forgive the sins of those who confess to you,
and in your merciful love
give us your pardon and your peace.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Reading : Joel 2:12-13

Psalm

**O God I seek you, my soul thirsts for you,
your love is finer than life.**

Gospel: John 9 :1-12

Homily

Examination of Conscience- an opportunity to reflect

- Where do I experience darkness in my life?
- What is blocking the light?
- What would help the light to shine again?
- Are there areas of my life where I choose to hold onto the dark?

Silent Pause

**Open the eyes of my heart Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see you. I want to see you.**

In what ways have I damaged my relationships with other people by my attitude or behaviour, my insensitivity or selfishness? R/.

Have there been times when I have not cared about the injustices in our world or acted against injustice within my own community of home or parish? R/.

Do I hold onto past hurts and refuse to forgive, letting them fester and control how I act with other people? R/.

Am I so determined to do things my own way that I do not care about how it might hurt other people? R/.

Have I abused or attacked or condemned others for being weaker than myself or because I dislike their way of doing things? R/.

Are there things that I could do to make life better for friends, family or colleagues but fail to do because I am more concerned with myself? R/.

Lord, my eyes deceive me,
my ears mislead me,
my tongue lets me down,
my thoughts are confused
unless you are with me,

unless you direct my looking, speaking, hearing,
and all I think and say and am.

Lord, I ask you to enter that fraction of time
before I think or speak,
so that knowledge of your presence
may influence all I do.

Our Father

Prayer

We gathered as people aware of the shadow that sin casts upon the world

**ALL: We part as people who have celebrated the healing love of God;
God's power to dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds and
souls.**

Presider

Concluding Prayer

O God, who enlightens everyone who comes into this world,
Illuminate our hearts, we pray,
with the splendour of your grace,
that we may always ponder
what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty
and love you in all sincerity

And so may the God of tenderness and compassion, who desire to heal
all our pain + bless us this night and every day into eternity; and until we
meet again:

All: May God hold us in the palm of his hand. Amen.

There is now an opportunity for Individual Confession and Absolution.
Thank you very much for coming to celebrate the gift of reconciliation
together.

Song of Repentance: 'You Are Mine

