

# **THOUGH MANY, WE ARE ONE**

## **UNIT 5**

### **On the Lenten Journey**

#### **Lesson 9**

#### **The Sacrament of Reconciliation**

## Unit 5 Lesson 9

### On The Lenten Journey

#### The Sacrament of Reconciliation

##### Lesson Overview

Students will review the vocabulary and the steps involved in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

**Duration:** 40 minutes

#### CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

##### Religious Education:

**Grade 4 - CL1.2:** Identify in the Rite of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation - who can receive and celebrate the sacrament, the rituals, blessings and prayers, signs and symbols, that signify and convey the grace and identification with Christ who forgives through the Church; and the effects of the sacrament.

**Grade 4 - ML3:** Demonstrate an understanding that God is merciful (i.e. forgives sin) and offers us reconciliation through the Church and specifically the sacraments (i.e. sacraments of penance, healing, and Eucharist).

##### Language:

**Writing 1:** generate, gather, and organize ideas and information to write for an intended purpose and audience

**Writing 3:** use editing, proofreading, and publishing skills and strategies, and knowledge of language conventions, to correct errors, refine expression, and present their work effectively

#### ONTARIO CATHOLIC SCHOOL GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS & CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS

##### The Catholic Social Teachings evident in this lesson include:

Call to Family, Community, and Participation Rights and Responsibilities

##### The Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations evident in this lesson include:

A Discerning Believer Formed in the Catholic Faith Community Who:

**CGE1b:** Participates in the *sacramental life* of the church and demonstrates an understanding of the centrality of the Eucharist to our Catholic story

**CGE1j:** Recognizes that “sin, human weakness, conflict and forgiveness are part of the human journey” and that the cross, the ultimate sign of forgiveness is at the heart of *redemption*. (Witnesses to Faith)

A Responsible Citizen Who:

**CGE7b:** Accepts accountability for one’s own actions

**CGE7c:** Seeks and grants forgiveness

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	<b>GUIDING QUESTIONS (coming out of the Big Idea)</b>
	<p><b>Big Idea:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Through the work of the Holy Spirit, the Sacrament of Reconciliation provides the Grace of God's mercy and forgiveness and strengthens us to live a new life in Christ. (Celebrating, Grade 4)</li> </ul>
	<b>LEARNING GOALS</b>
	<p>At the end of this lesson, students will know, understand and/or be able to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the vocabulary, rituals, blessings and prayers, signs and symbols associated with the Sacrament of Reconciliation</li> </ul> <p><b>Success Criteria</b>, based on the Learning Goals, can be co-constructed as a class in language meaningful to students. The success criteria help students understand what to look for during the learning and what it looks like once they have learned. They identify the significant aspects of student performance that are assessed and/or evaluated (i.e., the "look-fors") in relation to curriculum expectations.</p>

<b>INSTRUCTIONAL COMPONENTS AND CONTEXT</b>	
<p><b>Terminology:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>repentance</li> <li>reconciliation</li> <li>absolution</li> <li>penance</li> <li>confession</li> <li>conscience</li> </ul>	<p><b>Materials:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>prepare the matching game by cutting apart the words and definitions and placing in envelopes or sandwich bags</li> </ul> <p><b>Resources:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sacrament of Reconciliation Word Matching Game (<i>Appendix 1</i>)</li> <li>Video: "Sacrament of Reconciliation: Explained" <a href="https://youtu.be/QtbpOERgMvk">https://youtu.be/QtbpOERgMvk</a></li> <li>"A Guide to Confession" (<i>Appendix 2</i>)</li> <li>"Act of Contrition" (<i>Appendix 3</i>)</li> </ul>

<p><b>MINDS ON</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a positive learning environment</li> <li>Connecting to prior learning and/or experiences</li> <li>Setting the context for learning</li> </ul>	
<p>Reproduce and cut apart the matching game (<i>Appendix A</i>).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Distribute one set to each pair of students and ask them to match the words to the definitions.</li> <li>Verify groups as they finish. If some pairs finish early they can play it <i>Concentration</i> style.</li> <li>Review the words and definitions once all pairs have finished.</li> </ul>	

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### ACTION

- Introducing new learning or extending/reinforcing prior learning
- Providing opportunities for practice and application of learning (guided → independent)

Play the video: “Sacrament of Reconciliation: Explained”

<https://youtu.be/QtbpOERgMvk> .

Ask students:

- During the Sacrament of Reconciliation, what is your role?
- What is the priest’s role?
- What is God’s role?

Review what happens during the Sacrament of Reconciliation (*Appendix 1*). Use “A Guide to Confession” (*Appendix 2*) as a reference. Speak to your pastor or principal for specific information about the celebration of Reconciliation in your parish or school.

Distribute copies of the Act of Contrition (*Appendix 3*), and read it together. Students could glue one half of the page into their journals, and keep the other to carry with them when they receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. (*Note: Students may have learned a different version of the Act of Contrition in the past. You may wish to consult with other teachers in the school.*)

### CONSOLIDATION

- Providing opportunities for consolidation and reflection
- Helping students demonstrate what they have learned

Have students write a procedure for Grade 2 students describing how to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The procedures can be written on cards for the Grade 2’s to take with them to celebrate the sacrament. Students could copy *The Act of Contrition* on the back of the card.

*\*Differentiated instruction: Some students may use assistive technology or work with a partner for written tasks.*

### CONTINUED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Further extensions to this lesson might include:

- Have a priest come in to celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation with the class.
- Meet with Grade 2 students and discuss the Sacrament of Reconciliation with them.

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**APPENDIX 1**

**SACREMENT OF RECONCILIATION WORD GAME**

<b>Sacrament of Reconciliation</b>	One of the seven sacraments. It is when you confess your sins to a priest.
<b>absolution</b>	The forgiveness we receive from God through the priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
<b>penance</b>	The prayers or good works that the priest asks you to do after you have confessed your sins.
<b>confession</b>	Telling the priest your sins.
<b>reconciliation</b>	Repairing a relationship after it has broken by some action or lack of action.
<b>conscience</b>	The inner voice that helps guide us to follow God's law by doing good and avoiding evil.
<b>repentance</b>	To be sorry for having done something wrong and to want to change your ways so you don't do it again.

## APPENDIX 2

### A GUIDE TO CONFESSION

1. After the priest greets you in the name of Christ, make the sign of the cross. He may choose to recite a reading from Scripture, after which you say: "Bless me Father for I have sinned. It has been (state how long) since my last confession. These are my sins."
2. Tell your sins simply and honestly to the priest. You might want to discuss the circumstances and the root causes of your sins and ask the priest for advice or direction.
3. Listen to the advice the priest gives you and accept the penance from him. Then make an Act of Contrition for your sins.
4. The priest will conclude with: "The Lord has freed you from your sins. Go in peace." You respond by saying: "Thanks be to God."
5. Spend some time with Our Lord thanking and praising Him for the gift of His mercy. Try to perform your penance as soon as possible.

**APPENDIX 3**

**Act of Contrition**

Oh 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. Amen

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