

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. Amen.

✦ Individual Confessions / Sacrament of Reconciliation

Meanwhile play quiet music and encourage children to think about getting ready to meet Jesus in Reconciliation and what it means to be truly sorry.

If waiting time is long, plan other activities for children to do while they wait such as for example: making a FRIENDS AGAIN card, or writing their own sorry prayer and drawing picture about the same theme.

✦ Sharing Peace

Priest/Leader: Now as a sign of our willingness to grow in friendship let us offer each other a sign of peace.

✦ Final Prayer and Blessing

Priest/leader: Father, thank you for the gift of friendship.

Thank you for this time together when we are able to express our sorrow for our lack of love in friendship.

May we continue to grow in friendship today and always.

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Priest/leader: Wherever you go in the world, may you be true friends to those you meet, especially the poor and the lonely.

And may Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit come upon you and remain with you forever.

All: **Amen.**

✦ Final hymn / music



**RECONCILIATION SERVICE
FRIENDS**



RECONCILIATION SERVICE



FRIENDS

✦ Welcome and Introduction

We all want to have friends.

Having friends is very important for everyone.

But sometimes we do things that our friends do not like.

We sometimes do this to our friend Jesus too.

Today we ask God to heal our broken friendships with him and with one another.

We ask him to help us be REAL FRIENDS

✦ Opening hymn / music

✦ Opening prayer

The priest / leader says this prayer:

Loving Father,

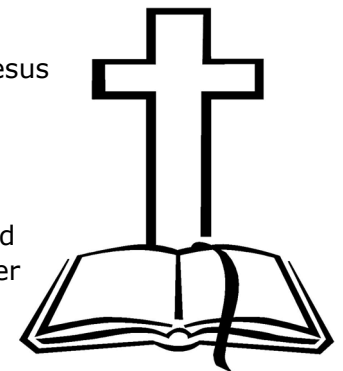
We thank you for giving us our friend Jesus

We thank you for all our friends.

Thank you for the Gift of Friendship

Help us be true friends. Help us to be strong and say sorry for the times we failed to show real friendship with Jesus and other people in our life.

All answer: **Amen.**



✝ Bible Reading - GOOD FRIENDS

Dramatized - based on 1 Sam 19:2-7

3 children to read and act out the following parts.

Narrator: This story is taken from the First Book of Samuel: Jonathan, the son of King Saul, was a really good friend of David and held him in great affection. He warned him:

Jonathan: My father Saul is looking for a way to kill you; go into hiding; don't let him find you. I will see what the situation is and then tell you.

Narrator: Jonathan spoke highly of David to Saul his father and said:

Jonathan: The king should not harm his servant David; he's been so good to you and he has done many things to help you. He risked his life and he killed the Philistine giant Goliath. Why then sin against innocent people by killing David for no reason?

Narrator: Saul was impressed by Jonathan's words. He promised:

Saul: As Yahweh lives, I will not kill him.

Narrator: Jonathan called David and told him all this. He then brought him to Saul. They continued to be friends together as before.

Gospel

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do that I command. I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master's business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you.

This is the Word of the Lord. *John 15:9-15*

✝ Reflection / Homily

Priest/Leader of the group talks briefly about the main message and theme of the readings: FRIENDS AGAIN.

✝ Silent Time for Quiet Reflection

✝ Examination of Conscience

Leader introduces the Examination of Conscience as a time to reflect before asking God's forgiveness; a time to see if we have truly been friends of Jesus and others.

Reader: The response is: **Lord Jesus help us to be true friends.**

All: **Lord Jesus help us to be true friends.**

Reader: A true friend is one who loves everyone.

All: **Lord Jesus help us to be true friends.**

Reader: A true friend is one who is kind and who shares.

All: **Lord Jesus help us to be true friends.**

Reader: A true friend is one who is patient with everyone.

All: **Lord Jesus help us to be true friends.**

Reader: A true friend is one who is never jealous.

All: **Lord Jesus help us to be true friends.**

Reader: A true friend is one who always shows respect.

All: **Lord Jesus help us to be true friends.**

Reader: A true friend is one who is never selfish.

All: **Lord Jesus help us to be true friends.**

Reader: A true friend is one who always tell the truth.

All: **Lord Jesus help us to be true friends.**

✝ Prayer of Sorrow

Priest/Leader: Let us now all show how truly sorry we are for our lack of friendship by saying together the prayer "I confess..."

All: I confess to almighty God and to you my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in