

## Penance: Absolution

- d) Through the sign of absolution, God grants pardon to the sinner who manifests his (her) conversion to the Church's minister in sacramental confession, and thus the Sacrament of Penance is completed. For according to the design of God, in which the humanity and kindness of God our Savior have visibly appeared to people, God wishes to confer salvation on us through visible signs and to renew once more the broken covenant.

Therefore, through the Sacrament of Penance, the Father welcomes the son returning to him, Christ places the lost sheep on his shoulders and carries it back to the flock, and the Holy Spirit sanctifies his temple once more or inhabits it more fully. All this is manifested in a renewed and more fervent participation at the table of the Lord, at which there is great rejoicing at the banquet of the Church of God over the son returning from afar.

- **The Absolution**
- God, the Father of mercies,  
Through the Death and Resurrection of his Son  
Has reconciled the world to himself  
And poured out the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of sins:  
Through the ministry of the Church  
May God grant you pardon and peace.  
AND I ABSOLVE YOU FROM YOUR SINS,  
IN THE NAME OF THE FATHERS, AND OF THE SON, +  
AND OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- How has the Holy Spirit been poured out in my life? Do I believe that the Holy Spirit is active and helpful in my life?
- How can I be more receptive to the Holy Spirit?
- This is a basic gospel message. Can I see myself sharing these ideas with my friends or family?