

An Invitation to Reconciliation

Drop-in: with Rev Sonya in the Reconciliation Room (Library)

Maundy Thursday, 3:00-5:30pm or shortly after the service

Good Friday, after the Noon service until 3:00pm

By Appointment: call the office to schedule an appointment with Father Sean or Rev Sonya

I invite you to experience the healing, liberating power of the sacrament of Reconciliation. This is one of the many ways we can very directly experience the grace of God drawing us into deeper relationship. This sacrament is available during any season, for any reason (not just near death), but seems particularly fitting during the season of Lent as part of our preparation for Easter.

God is always wooing us, luring us to respond, loving us into a more whole and holy relationship. Our most profound growth occurs when God breaks through our defenses, or we soften them just enough, for God to touch our broken places. Our struggles, our weaknesses, our sins, our brokenness---what we consider our defects and failings crack open our illusion of self-sufficiency just enough for God to gain entry into our lives and love us into wholeness.

Why confession?

We all mess up. We all “miss the mark” (sin). We all do things or say things we should not. And we all fail to do things or say things we should. We either momentarily or habitually compromise our integrity. We can either just dismiss this as “being human” and continue to bumble along. Or we can take responsibility for it and try to intentionally cultivate better health, better relationships. Confession is a way to do this.

Why the sacrament of Reconciliation (Private Confession)?

A famous Anglican saying is: “None must; All may; Some should.” None must make a private confession with a priest. We are assured of receiving God’s forgiveness through our own private prayer and through our public worship (confession and absolution are part of every Eucharist). But sometimes we have a nagging sense of alienation from God, from ourselves, from others. Sometimes we carry a deep sense of shame. Shame thrives in secrecy. Sometimes we feel burdened. Burdens that are hidden are so much heavier than they need to be.

It is Love and only Love that heals. The sacrament of Reconciliation is an embodiment of God’s love. It is safe and non-shaming. Come and see.

Don’t know what to do? Stay tuned for the next article about preparing for the sacrament of Reconciliation or talk with one of your priests.