The Sacrament of Penance (V of VII): the Part called Confession (cont'd)

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The Sacrament of Penance wonderfully aids the kingship of Christ; by restoring or advancing His reign in our souls, through us, it advances His reign in the world.

Today, we continue, "the Part called Confession."

We are obliged to confess our sins at the age of reason, "a time determined by no fixed years." A general principle applies: "children are bound to confess when they discern good from evil." Again, if one can knowingly sin, he is bound to confess for then "a person has arrived at the age when he must attend to the work of salvation."

After obtaining the "age of reason," we are obliged to confess our sins at least once a year. If, however, "we consult our eternal interests," we will go oftener, especially in danger of death or before engaging in some work incompatible with the state of sin e.g., going to war, administering or receiving other sacraments e.g., Communion. Moreover, by our delay, we risk becoming lukewarm, even indifferent, towards sin.

Qualities of Confession

All mortal sins must be confessed in number & in kind; venial sins, which do not separate us from God, in which we fall often, may be remitted by many other means. All mortal sins must be confessed even though they are "most secret" e.g., against the 9th & 10th commandments. Indeed, secret sins are often more dangerous then those committed openly, as we may pretend that God does not see the heart.

Circumstances, too, must be confessed which increase the sin e.g., if a man kills another, he should state whether this was a priest or layman. Again, if a man sins with a woman (in thought or deed), he must mention whether the female was married or not, a relation, or a consecrated religious for these circumstances change the nature of the sin to be either fornication, adultery, incest or sacrilege. Again, if a man steals money from a church or a store, if he steals on a Sunday or weekday, takes from a rich or poor man, etc. these will aggravate the sin.

If we knowingly do not confess all our known mortal sins, and purposefully withhold or disguise any, nothing is forgiven and the sin of sacrilege is added to our list. On the other hand, if we meant to confess our sins but forgot them at the time of confession, a good confession was made but we must "confess them to a priest in a future confession." If, however, these were forgotten due sloth in examining our conscience "the confession must be made again." If a sacrilegious or "bad" confession was ever made in one's past, this must be corrected in a new confession which recalls all mortal sins from the last honest or "good" confession to the present moment, mentioning all by number & kind & any meaningful circumstance as best as we can.

"Confession should be plain, simple & sincere." Do not disguise sin as those who, artfully, "seem more intent on defending themselves than on confessing their sins." Be frank, pointed and honest. Confess what is doubtful as doubtful, what is certain as certain. Give kind and number; do not add extraneous matter.

"Confession should be prudent, modest & brief." "A superfluity of words is to be carefully avoided." Make known the nature of the sin briefly and modestly, period.

To end, confession of sins is like showing the doctor your wound. As the doctor can not cure what he does not see, so Penance cannot cure what it does not know.



St Francis de Sales Catholic Church

An apostolate of the Priestly Fraternity of St. Peter in the Archdiocese of Atlanta preaching the Gospel & sanctifying souls according to the liturgical books of 1962.

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All Saints

(23rd Sunday after Pentecost)

November 1, 2026, A.D.

Pastor: Fr Chris Hathaway, FssP – pastor@fsspatl.com

Parochial Vicar: Fr. Joseph Favole, FssP – assistant@fsspatl.com

Fr. Brian Austin, FssP, - in residence

Rev. Mr. Doug Anderson, Deacon

Office Manager: Ms. Julieta Sanchez – officemgr@fsspatl.com

Archdiocesan 24-hour Abuse reporting Hotline: 1-888-437-0764

Church Office Hours: 8:15 am to 4:15 pm, Monday – Friday

Bookstore Hours: Sundays from 9:45-10:15 am, 12:15-12:45 pm, & 2:15-2:30 pm.

Baptism: Contact the parish three months before a birth.
Marriage: Contact the parish six months before a wedding.

Inquiring about the Catholic Faith? Call the office.

Daily Mass Times
Mon. & Wed.: 6:30 am & 9 am.
Tues. & Thurs.: 6:30 am & 12 noon.
Fri.: 6:30 am & 7 pm (followed by Holy Hour).
Sat.: 7 am & 9 am.

Sunday Mass Times
7 am low Mass
8:30 am low Mass
10:30 am high Mass
1 pm low Mass
Confessions are heard in the confessional box ½ hour before each Mass.

Church Hours

Mon.-Thurs.: 6 am - 5 pm

Fri.: 6 am - 9 pm

Sat.: 6:30 am -5 pm

Sun.: 7 am - 5 pm

Office Hours

Monday - Friday:
8:15 am – 4:15 pm.

Closed on Holy Days

Liturgical Calendar for the Upcoming Week

DATE	FEAST	CLASS/COLOR	COMMEMORATION
Sun 11-01	All Saints	1/W	23rd Sunday after Pentecost
Mon 11-02	Commemoration of All Souls	1/B	
Tues 11-03	Daily Mass of the Dead	3/B	
Wed 11-04	Daily Mass of the Dead	3/B	
Thu 11-05	Daily Mass of the Dead	3/B	
Fri 11-06	Sacred Heart of Jesus	3/W	
Sat 11-07	Immaculate Heart of Mary	3/W	
Sun 11-08	Resumed 5th Sunday after Epiphany	2/G	



Mass Intentions for the Upcoming Week

Sun 11-01	(7 am) *Pro-populo* (ff)	
	(8:30 am) Ramon Ramirez + (ff)	rb R Rosas
	(10:30 am) Fr Chris Hathaway (fh)	rb Sanchez family
	(1 pm) Dominic Rasnick (fh)	rb Anonymous
Mon 11-02	(6 am) The Holy Father (fh)	
	(6:30 am) All Souls in Purgatory (fh)	rb J & I Bragg
	(9 am) Fr Patrick O'Doherty + (fh)	
	(7 pm) Isabella Wagner (ff)	rb K&C Hanlon
Tues 11-03	(6:30 am) Jean Marie Zigui (fh)	rb M-T Zigui
	(12 pm) Maria Wagner +	rb K&C Hanlon
Wed 11-04	(6:30 am) Holy Souls in Purgatory (fh)	rb M G Felix
	(9 am) Corey Ann Nolan	rb N Nolan
Thu 11-05	(6:30 am) Jonathan Bress (fh)	rb N Cardenas
	(12 pm) Marjorie Diaz	rb M Diaz
Fri 11-06	(6:30 am) Barbara Williams (fh)	rb R Berry
	(9 am) special Mass for Co-Op (ff)	
	(7 pm) Joseph Graebner (ff)	rb S Ii
Sat 11-07	(7 am) Matthew Lehrmann (fh)	rb L Chancey
	(9 am) Bertha M Morell + (ff)	rb Insinga family
Sun 11-08	(7 am) *Pro-populo* (fh)	
	(8:30 am) James Viney + (fh)	rb R Serredell Jr.
	(10:30 am) Florence Boyzo + (ff)	rb R Rosas
	(1 pm) Deceased FssP priests (ff)	

Today, CCD (9:30-10:15 am), the Bookstore will be closed, and an All-Saints party follows the 10:30 am Mass – everyone, saints & sinners, are welcome!

This week, Monday, All Souls Day Masses (see infra), staff meeting (1 pm); Wednesday, **Inquiry Class** (7 pm); First Friday, normal Mass & devotions, special Co-Op Mass (9 am), Co-Op activities (9:30 am -1:30 pm); First Saturday, normal Mass & devotions.

The Archdiocese of Atlanta is publicly announcing its capital campaign, *Rooted in Christ – Growing in Faith,* a campaign to strengthen our parishes & priests, form the next generation of faithful, and care for our neighbors in need. So far, Catholics across north and central Georgia have already pledged $80 million, 43% of the goal. For more, beginning November 2, visit https://geogiabulletin.org/podcasts/#bearing-light. Please keep this campaign in your prayers.

Last week's collection: cash $3,581.04; online $8,246.00; total: $11,827.04.
Attendance: 7 am-77; 8:30 am-154; 10:30 am-241; 1 pm-183; 655 total souls.

Thank you to those who responded to our call for money counters! *Deus retribuat vos!*

On All Souls, the Church allows a priest to offer three Masses on this feast. One must be offered for all the faithful departed & another for the intentions of the Pope. Fr Hathaway will offer three Masses this day. Beginning at 6 am, he will offer the first then second Mass, as found in your hand missal, but only distribute Communion after the second Mass. At 9 am, he will offer the third Mass, as found in your missal. Fr Favole, will offer a sung Mass at 7 pm; it will be the first Mass as in your missal.

November is dedicated to the Holy Souls in Purgatory. From Nov. 1 through Nov. 8, inclusive, a plenary indulgence, applicable to the Poor Souls, is granted to those who visit a cemetery and pray, if only mentally, for the departed. On Nov. 2, the same may be gained in any church by reciting an Our Father & the Apostles' Creed. There is no stipulation that the cemetery be Catholic.

All indulgences whatsoever may be applied to the Poor Souls at any time by way of suffrage. The simple intention to offer them for the Poor Souls is sufficient.

Ms. Rose Graebner has graciously offered to teach a special children's choir on the Saturdays after the 9 am Mass of 11/14, 11/21, 12/12, 12/19 and 1/9/2027. This Fall/Winter practice will be like the Summer practice. Children will learn hymns, review their knowledge of sacred music and chant, and sing the high Mass on January 10, 2027 (the Feast of the Holy Family).

Please pray for: Philip Fender, Anna Fender, Lenord Ray Ables, baby Silverman (10/25); Jana Toups, Jamie & baby Graebner, & Tommy Kinsella (10/4).

You are invited to put names of deceased family, friends, enemies in the basket in the vestibule of the church. These will be placed on the altar for the duration of November that they might be recommended before the Lord at the Holy Sacrifice.

Maxim of St Francis de Sales

Let us not forget the maxim of the Saints, which warns us that every day we must feel that we begin our perfection; and if we bear well this in mind we will not be astonished at the mysteries we find in ourselves. The work is never done; it must be always recommenced and recommenced with a good heart.