

CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION

The purpose of this activity is to make certain that your children understand what they are reading when they recite the Confession before Communion.



Directions: Discuss and read together the Confession below with your students, section by section. After each, provide an explanation in terms more understandable to children, as printed in *red*. Allow children to provide input and take questions as needed.

The Priest: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

I. The Children: I have sinned against the all-Holy Trinity, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. I have sinned against God. I confess before God, and before the Holy Mother of God, and before all the saints and before you, Holy Father; all the sins which I have committed; for I have sinned through, word, and deed, willingly and unwillingly. I have sinned against God. **Megha Asdoodzo.**

I have come here today to say I am sorry for the things I have done against God and against other people. I know I have said things that were wrong and done things that were wrong. I have done these wrong things knowing I was doing them as well as sometimes not realizing I was doing them. I am asking that you please forgive me.

The Priest: May God forgive you.

II. The Children: I have sinned by the seven transgressions of the deadly sins and all their forms, namely by pride, envy, anger, laziness, covetousness, gluttony and lust. I have sinned against God. **Megha Asdoodzo.**

I have sinned by the seven mortal sins:

Lying - saying things that are not true.

Pride - not wanting to do what my parents ask and thinking I know more than them.

Laziness - asking to help with work that needs to be done not helping.

Greed - wanting lots of things even though I have a lot.

Selfishness - not sharing.

Gossiping - saying bad things or talking badly about people when they are not around.

The Priest: May God forgive you.

III. The Children: Reverend Father, I have you as reconciler and intercessor with the only-begotten Son of God, that by the authority given to you, you will release me of the bond of my sins, I ask you.

Der Hayr, I know that God loves me and all of His children. You are God's helper and my priest. I am asking you to say a prayer, asking Jesus to forgive me of my sins and the wrong things I have done. I will try my best not to do them again.

The Priest: May God who loves mankind have mercy on you and forgive all of your sins, both those which you have confessed, as well as those which you have forgotten. Therefore, with the priestly authority committed to me and by the Lord's command that "Whatever you forgive on earth shall be forgiven in heaven," by His very word, I absolve you of all participation in sin, in thought, in word, and in deed, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. And I reinstate you in the sacraments of the holy Church, that whatever you may do may be accounted to you for good and for the glory of the life to come. Amen.

God loves you. And because you have come here today to tell God you are sorry, He hears your words and will forgive you for all the wrong things you have done. As your priest and His helper, I can tell you that today God will give you a new beginning to start all over again. God will always see the good things that you do and will smile each time you do them especially when you pray to Him. Jesus asks you to love Him and all other people, and to try to only do good things from this day forward. He wants you to always remember that He is with you everyday.