CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD

- Gathering Ambulatory -
- Cross (Veneration) Carried by Cardinal.
- Candles Book of the Gospels Candles
- Penitential Procession Forms
- Sign of Cross & Greeting Door of Ambulatory

INTRODUCTION

Standing at the ambulatory entrance to the cathedral.

Presider:

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

The Lord be with you.

R: And with your spirit.

Presider:

I invite all those gathered here to pray that our time here tonight may be inspired by the Holy Spirit.

As we travel these stations, let us pray that it may bring healing and hope. May silenced voices be heard; may justice be done; may God show us the way forward.

Presider:

Let us pray.

Pause for silent prayer.

Lord God,

your church has been sanctified by the blood of your Son and is filled with the Holy Spirit.

Be with us this night as we pray to you in earnest for all those whose lives have been forever touched by the abuse

of those who were meant to be holy.

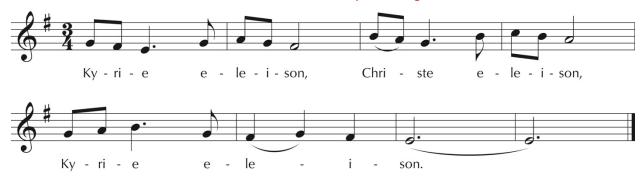
May your church stand always and everywhere, first and foremost,

for the poor, the suffering, and all victims of sexual abuse.

Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

Cardinal Tobin carries the cross to first station while the Kyrie is sung.



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1. FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS

Reader:

Jesus said to his disciples: "This kind (of demon) can only be removed through prayer." (Mark 9:29)

Minister:

My brothers and sisters in Christ,

the reason we are here today is to pray to God during this time of trouble.

Let us now pray firmly and resolutely to God for those who have suffered these violations of their bodies, minds and souls by members of the clergy and of the church.

Minister: If one part of the Body suffers...

All the parts suffer with it.

Presider:

God our Father,

in the waters of baptism, we were washed from sin.

In the anointing of confirmation, we were filled with the Spirit.

Enkindle in the hearts of all who suffer the fire of your love so that they may know beyond any doubt that they are your beloved sons and daughters.

Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

All sing Kyrie as the procession moves to the second station.

2. FOR VICTIMS OF ABUSE WHO HAVE DIED

Reader:

Jesus said to his disciples: "Amen, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will not enter the kingdom of heaven. Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." (Matthew 18:3-4)

Minister:

Let us pray, dear brothers and sisters in Christ, for those victims of sexual abuse who are no longer with us. We pray now that the Lord receive the deceased children of abuse home to a place of safety and rest.

Minister: If one part of the Body suffers...

All the parts suffer with it.

Presider:

Lord God,

your Son blessed the children

and held them as an example for all to emulate.

In their innocence and beauty, they reflect what it means

to be a disciple of Christ and a member of your kingdom.

Hear our prayers as we lift up to you those victims of abuse who have died, especially those who have taken their own lives.

They never wished to separate themselves from you

but only to separate themselves from pain.

Hear our prayer for all deceased victims and their families, and embrace them in your kingdom with peace and love.

Through Christ our Lord. All: Amen

All sing Kyrie as the procession moves to the third station.

3. FOR THOSE WHO WERE UNHEARD

Reader:

Jesus said to his disciples: "Whoever causes one of these little ones* who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone hung around his neck and to be drowned in the depths of the sea." (Matthew 18:6)

Minister:

My friends in Christ,

let us pray for those who were unheard during their time of abuse. For those who, especially as children, reached out to parents and church leaders but were silenced or not believed.

For all those who are faced with the reality of pain and suffering but who are ignored by those who can help them.

Minister: If one part of the Body suffers...

All: All the parts suffer with it.

Presider:

God of compassion,
you listen in love to the cry of your people.
You heard the cries of children
begging to be relieved from their pain and suffering.
Your heart was broken as on the day your Son died,
as you saw your church turn a deaf ear to those in pain.
Just as your Son opened the eyes of the blind
and gave voice to the mute, open now our ears to listen for
suffering voices and our mouths to speak out on behalf
of the most vulnerable among us.

Through Christ our Lord. All: Amen

All sing Kyrie as the procession moves to the fourth station.

4. For Those Who Left the Church

Reader:

Jesus said to his disciples: "Do you also want to leave?" Simon Peter answered him, "Master, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and are convinced that you are the Holy One of God." (John 6:67-69)

Minister:

We pray now for those who have left the church.

For victims and survivors who can no longer participate in the sacramental life of the church.

For those who have been scandalized by the dark stories of abuse and for whom the church has become a place of tears instead of joy.

Minister: If one part of the Body suffers...

All the parts suffer with it.

Presider:

God our Father,

your Son gathered crowds around him to preach the good news; heal the sick; cast out demons; and feed the hungry.

May your church always be a place

where your people can gather in safety to hear your word; experience your healing; and be nourished from your table.

May all those who have fallen away from your church

because of sin and abuse

once again find a new home in your church as members of the Body of Christ.

Through Christ our Lord. All: Amen

All sing Kyrie as the procession moves to the fifth station.

5. FOR THE OFFENDERS

Reader:

Jesus began to teach them: "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your heavenly Father, for he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and causes rain to fall on the just and the unjust. (Matthew 5:43-45)

Minister:

With heavy hearts, we pray to God for the perpetrators of sexual abuse, especially the clergy and religious who have abused children. We cannot understand what plagues their minds to cause them to perform these acts. Help us to pray for them as they struggle with their demons.

Minister: If one part of the Body suffers...

All the parts suffer with it.

Presider:

God in heaven, you call men and women to serve your church. Many have responded with devout and faithful lives, dedicated to serve in the name of your Son.

Father, we do not fully understand the brokenness and illness that has touched the lives of some in the church who have inflicted terrible pain on the young and vulnerable.

We pray that healing and justice will flourish for all victims. May God guide us in how to treat the offenders as would his Son. And may we learn from the sins of the past to protect the children of the future.

Through Christ our Lord. All: Amen

6. FOR THE ABILITY TO FORGIVE

Reader:

The LORD's acts of mercy are not exhausted, his compassion is not spent; They are renewed each morning— great is your faithfulness! (Lamentations 3:22-24)

Minister:

We ask God for the strength to look into the eyes of those who have hurt us so deeply while searching our hearts for the ability to forgive. We know this is not easy and so, we ask God for courage and strength so that the evil we have witnessed may not harden our hearts.

Minister: If one part of the Body suffers...

All the parts suffer with it.

Presider:

God of justice, hear our prayers as we seek to obey the hardest commands of your Son: "Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." (Mt 5:44)

We know that when we refuse to forgive, we only make our own hearts heavier, but when we learn to forgive we bring healing to our own lives. Please, Lord, make it possible for those who have been hurt most to find healing through forgiveness in your name.

Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

All sing Kyrie as the procession moves to the sanctuary where the cross is placed.

Facing the people, Cardinal Tobin says:

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.

R: Amen.

All sit.

Isaiah 58: 6-12

The Word of God

Is this not, rather, the fast that I choose: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; Setting free the oppressed, breaking off every yoke?

Is it not sharing your bread with the hungry, bringing the afflicted and the homeless into your house; Clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own flesh?

Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your wound shall quickly be healed; Your vindication shall go before you, and the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer, you shall cry for help, and he will say: "Here I am!"

If you remove the yoke from among you, the accusing finger, and malicious speech;

In Spanish

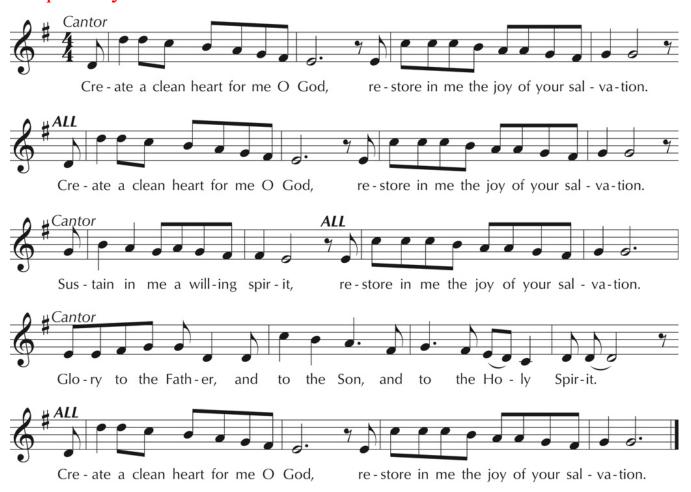
If you lavish your food on the hungry and satisfy the afflicted; Then your light shall rise in the darkness, and your gloom shall become like midday;

Then the LORD will guide you always and satisfy your thirst in parched places, will give strength to your bones And you shall be like a watered garden, like a flowing spring whose waters never fail.

Your people shall rebuild the ancient ruins; the foundations from ages past you shall raise up; "Repairer of the breach," they shall call you, "Restorer of ruined dwellings."

The Word of the Lord!

Responsory



Speaker: Dr. Patricia Kelly

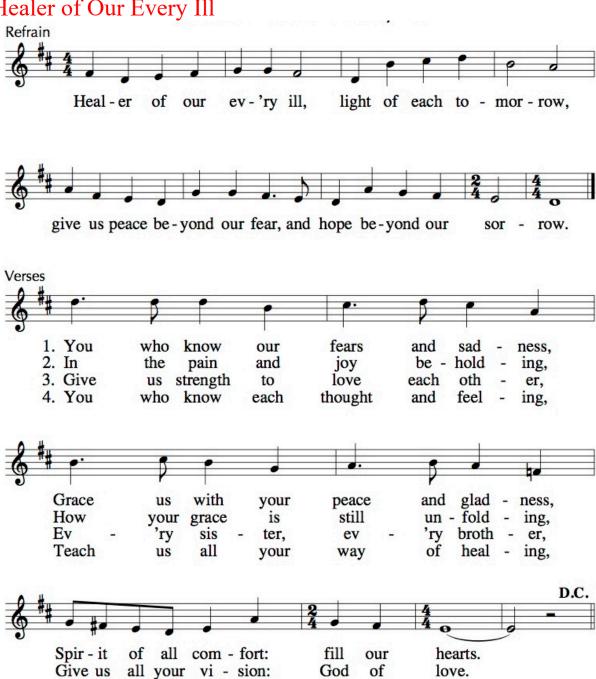
Healer of Our Every Ill

Spir - it

Spir - it

of all kind - ness:

of com-pas - sion:



be

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heart.

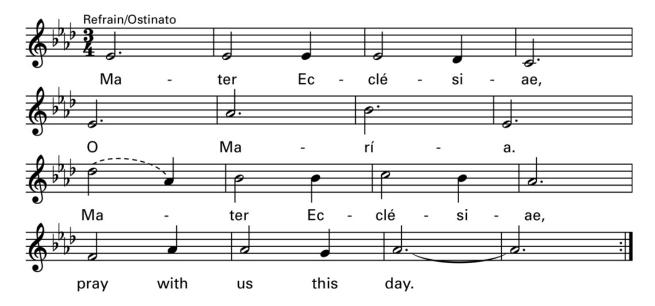
Remarks: Cardinal Tobin

Marian Hymn:

MATER ECCLESIAE

(Mother of the Church)

Ricky Manalo



Verses: Cantor

- With Mary we pray to our God. To God, the Creator of all: receive our prayer.
- 2. With Mary we ask of our God.
 Through Jesus, our life and our hope: receive our prayer.
- 3. With Mary give praise to our God. In God's Holy Spirit: receive our prayer.
- 4. With Mary we sing to our God. To God be glory and praise: receive our prayer.
- 5. With Mary proclaim to our God. Through Jesus, our Saving Lord: receive our prayer.
- With Mary rejoice in our God. In God's Living Spirit: receive our prayer.

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Simple Blessing and Exit through Sanctuary

Presider: The Lord be with you.

R: and with your spirit.

Presider: May almighty God bless you

the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

R: Amen

Presider: Go in peace.

DAY OF PARDON – FORMAT -March 12, 2000 Lent 1 – JPII asked "forgiveness from the Lord for the sins, past and present, of the sons and daughters of the Church."

In every generation the holiness of the Church has shone forth, witnessed by countless numbers of her sons and daughters; **yet this holiness has been contradicted by the continuing presence of sin which burdens the journey of God's People.**

The Church can sing both the *Magnificat* for what God has accomplished within her and the *Miserere* for the sins which she stands in need of purification, penance and renewal.

The acknowledgement of sins is a means of favoring dialogue, reconciliation and peace.

II. Elements of the celebration

The presence of the Cross is meant to emphasize that the confession of sins and the begging of pardon are addressed to God, who alone can forgive sins.

The initial "statio" – At Pieta – Which is certainly an image of Mater Ecclesia - (Mary Mother of the Church image is Mary holding the broken body of Christ)

The Penitential Procession - The Cross is accompanied by candles and the Gospel Book...

The confession of sins and the request for pardon

.. The prayer *opens* with an introduction by the Pope followed by an invitatory and a prayer preceded by a brief moment of silence and the chanting of a triple *Kyrie eleison*.

(During the chanting of the *Kyrie eleison* the lamps in front of the Crucifix are lit. After the concluding prayer the Holy Father embraces and kisses the Crucifix as a sign of veneration and the imploring of pardon.)

Commitment for a conversion of life - At the end of the celebration, following the solemn blessing, the Holy Father asks that the purification of memory and the request for forgiveness be translated into a commitment of renewed fidelity to the Gospel on the part of the Church and of each of her members.

Theological Rationale:

The Church feels the need to purify her memory -

The purification of memory is thus "an act of courage and humility in recognizing the wrongs done by those who have borne or bear the name of Christian." It is based on the conviction that because of "the bond which unites us to one another in the Mystical Body, all of us, though not personally responsible and without encroaching on the judgement of God, who alone knows every heart, bear the burden of the errors and faults of those who have gone before us." If one suffers, we all suffer! (Pope Francis)

Along the entire earthly pilgrimage, however, the good grain always remains inextricably mixed with the chaff; holiness stands side by side with infidelity and sin. And it is thus that the remembrance of scandals of the past can become an obstacle to the Church's witness today, and the recognition of the past faults of the Church's sons and daughters of yesterday can foster renewal and reconciliation in the present.

One can distinguish, however, the *holiness of the Church* from *holiness in the Church*. The former - founded on the missions of the Son and Spirit – guarantees the continuity of the mission of the People of God until the end of time and stimulates and aids the believers in pursuing subjective personal holiness. Holiness *in* the Church must therefore correspond to the holiness *of* the Church.