At first glance, an index would not seem to be a thrilling subject for an issue of the Bulletin. A second look gives us more to think about.

- **Importance:** This index covers 13 years of constant and rapid development in the liturgy: from the final year of the Vatican Council, through the various reforms, the development of new ministries and liturgical books and forms of expressions, to the present period of deepening understanding. The contents of the first ten volumes of the National Bulletin on Liturgy are indexed in this issue.

- **Many uses:** Like every number of the Bulletin, this issue is written for people working at the parish level, and offers help in their efforts to promote good liturgy and worship. Bulletin 61 will also prove valuable to students of liturgy in finding useful resource material from the past.

- **Valuable resource:** Many helpful articles, texts, prayers, bible services, and commentaries have been printed in the past 61 issues of the Bulletin. Past issues contain much information that remains of value today. This issue provides a key to this wealth of liturgical resources.
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What have we here? This issue of the Bulletin is unique, for it provides a full topical index of everything contained in the National Bulletin on Liturgy over the past 13 years.

For everyone: If you want to know more about liturgy, this issue indicates many directions for further reading. It is helpful for everyone:

- Parish liturgy committees
- Pastors
- Musicians
- Readers and other ministers
- Seminarians
- Students of liturgy
- Diocesan liturgy commissions.

Grouping of subjects: The references are grouped by subjects. The table of contents on pages 258-259 shows where various topics are located in this issue. Further cross-references are included throughout the index.

How to use this index: Persons interested in particular topics or areas of liturgy can check them in detail. For example, someone wanting to see what the Bulletin has said about the Liturgy Committee will find 47 references in 14 different issues, along with a mention of a 1978 Bulletin on this topic.

Larger topics are subdivided, as indicated in the table of contents. In some cases, earlier temporary arrangements are listed separately to avoid confusion with revised rites.

The best way to learn to use the index is to take a particular topic and follow it through, looking at the cross-references as well.

Tools may look good hanging on a wall, but their value becomes apparent only when they are used. This is true also of this Bulletin: it is a valuable tool for your liturgical library.
BULLETIN TITLES: 1965-1977

In thirteen years, the National Bulletin on Liturgy has treated various aspects of liturgy in many ways. A convenient list of titles and topics is provided here, as well as useful bibliographical information.

Issues marked with an asterisk are now out of print.

Volume 1

Bulletin of the National Commission on Liturgy

No. 1* April 6, 1965 pages 1-16
New liturgical chants of the Roman missal

No. 2* April 7, 1965 pages 17-32
No title. Contents:
• Third decree of Canadian episcopate on vernacular
• Variations for Holy Week
• Decree on reading the gospel of the passion

No. 3* April 10, 1965 pages 33-80
No title. Contents:
• General decree on concelebration and communion under both kinds
• Rite of concelebration
• Rite of communion under both kinds

No. 4 May 1965 pages 81-128 $1.00
No title. Contents:
• Rites of Mass (Ordo Missae, Ritus servandus)
• Summary of changes in Mass rubrics

National Bulletin on Liturgy

With Bulletin 5, the title was changed to National Bulletin on Liturgy (Canada — English Section).

No. 5 September 1965 pages 129-152 50¢
No title. Contents:
• Cardinal Lercaro: letter on liturgical renewal
• National Council on Liturgy
• Replies from Consilium to liturgical questions

261
No. 6  December 1975  pages 155-192  75¢

_No title._ Contents:
- *Mysterium Fidei:* Latin text (Sept. 3, 1965)
- English translation
- Commentary
- Replies from _Consilium_ to liturgical questions

**Note:** The rest of the issues in volume 1 did not have consecutive page numbers. For convenience, we are suggesting these numbers in parentheses. In these issues, page number begins with the front cover and continues to the back cover, inclusive.

To add to the complication, two issues of the Bulletin appeared without a number. To simplify the situation, we have labelled them as “6A” and “9A” in the list below.

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_No title._ Contents:
- Fourth decree of Canadian episcopate
- Recommendations of National Council on Liturgy
  - Singing of the assembly at Mass
  - Role of the organ at Mass
- Replies from _Consilium_ to liturgical questions

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<td>“9A”*</td>
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No title. Contents:
- Fifth decree of the Canadian episcopate
- Episcopal statement on the liturgy of penance
- Penitential discipline in Canada
- Distribution of communion in hospitals
- Date of feast of St. Joseph in 1967
- Replies of the Consilium to questions on liturgy
- Address of Paul VI to the Consilium

No. 11* April 1967 pages 29-56

Music in the liturgy
- Introduction
- Instruction on music in the liturgy
- Explanatory notes

No. 12 May 1967 pages 57-84 $1.00

Ordination rite
- Tonsure and minor orders
- Subdiaconate
- Diaconate
- Priesthood

No. 13 May 1967 pages 85-92 75c

No title. Contents:
- Decisions of the Canadian episcopate
- Decisions of the episcopal commission on liturgy
- Formula for blessing the Canadian flag
- Ritual for the sacrament of penance
- Commentary and explanation of the new penance ritual

No. 14* May 1967 pages 93-112

Funeral rite for adults: an experiment
- Introduction
- Station at the home or funeral home
- Station at the church
- Commendation and farewell
- Station at the grave

No. 15 June 1967 pages 113-152 $1.00

List of consecutive readings for weekdays
- Indult
- Introduction
- Readings

No. 16*  
June 1967  
_pages 153-184

*No title. Contents:
- Second instruction on the liturgy
- Commentary by A. Bugnini
- Clarifications with respect to the second instruction
- Changes to the Ordo Missae

No. 17*  
July 1967  
_pages 185-216

Instruction on the worship of the eucharistic mystery
- Introduction
- General principles
- Celebration of the memorial of the Lord
- Worship of the eucharist as a permanent sacrament

No. 18  
November 1967  
_pages 217-248

The canon of the Mass in English
- Foreword
- Approbation of provisional translation of the canon
- Introductory pastoral observations prepared by ICEL
- Text of Roman canon in English translation
- Translators’ notes to the text
- Catechesis on the canon of the Mass
- Musical settings for central portion of canon, doxology, and final blessing

No. 19  
December 1967  
_pages 249-276

Commentary on the instruction on the worship of the eucharistic mystery

No. 20  
January 1968  
_pages 277-304

*No title. Contents:
- Directives of the episcopal commission on the liturgy for the prayer of the faithful
- Practical directory on the prayer of the faithful
- A history of the common prayer or prayer of the faithful
- Index to volume 2 of the National Bulletin on Liturgy
- Rectifications in volume 2
Volume 3

With volume three, the title was simplified to National Bulletin on Liturgy, and the current square box design was adopted for the front cover.

No. 21* February-March 1968 pages 1-36

Baptism of adults in several stages:
Experimental rite
(The order of the catechumenate for adults)

No. 22 April-May 1968 pages 37-60 $1.00

Baptism of adults in several stages:
Appendices on experiments

No. 23 May-June 1968 pages 61-108 $1.00

Particular lectionary

No. 24* October 1968 pages 109-124

New eucharistic prayers
• Guidelines for catechesis
New ordination rites
• Commentary

No. 25 November 1968 pages 125-188 $2.00

Eucharistic prayers and prefaces
• Texts (interim translation)
• Melodies
• Translators' notes
• Norms for concelebration

No. 26 March 1969 pages 189-236 $2.00

The ordination of deacons, priests and bishops

No. 27 October 1969 pages 237-268 75¢

Liturgical calendar for Canada (1970)
• Calendar for interim use
• Index to volume 3

265
Volume 4

No. 28* January 1970 pages 1-60

Order of the Mass
- Apostolic constitution of Pope Paul VI
- General introduction for the celebration of the eucharist

No. 29* April 1970 pages 61-160

Rite of baptism for children

No. 30* May 1970 pages 161-200

Rite for celebrating marriage

No. 31 December 1970 pages 201-236

Extraordinary ministers of the eucharist
- Extraordinary ministers for the administration of holy communion
- Index for volume 4

$1.25

Volume 5

No Bulletins were issued in 1971. During this year, its purpose was changed from being primarily a vehicle for promulgating new documents and rites. Now it was to become a means to help the Church in Canada realize the tremendous importance of liturgy in the life of Christians. The task of the Bulletin is to provoke thought about liturgy and its needs in Canada, rather than to provide solutions. “It will work for constructive developmental criticism, leading to a better understanding and celebration of the liturgy. The Bulletin will seek to promote a deepening of the spirit of the liturgy.” (See Bulletin 32, page 3.)

No. 32* March 1972 pages 1-56

New task, new approach:
Your share of the job

No. 33* June 1972 pages 57-112

Ideas for community worship:
The work goes on

No. 34 September 1972 pages 113-174

Celebration and growth

$1.50

No. 35 October 1972 pages 175-238

$1.50

Parish liturgy committees

No. 36 November 1972 pages 239-302

$1.50

Advent and Christmas

266
Volume 6

In 1973, the Bulletin was gaining more self-confidence. It acquired a Mayfair cover (light cardboard), and was published in 64-page issues at regular dates: every two months, except July and August.

During 1973, a statement of purpose appeared on the masthead on the inside front cover: "This Bulletin is primarily pastoral in scope, and is prepared for members of parish liturgy committees, musicians, singers, teachers, religious and clergy, and all who are involved in preparing the celebrating of the community liturgy." This statement, with minor changes, has remained on the masthead since Bulletin 40.

No. 37 January-February 1973 pages 1-64 $1.50

Taking Lent seriously

No 38 March-April 1973 pages 65-128 $1.50

Growth in liturgy

No. 39 May-June 1973 pages 129-192 $1.50

Summer and liturgy

No. 40 September-October 1973 pages 193-256 $1.50

Called to sing his praise

No. 41 November-December 1973 pages 257-320 $1.50

Advent unlimited

Volume 7

No. 42 January-February 1974 pages 1-64 $1.50

Call to penance

No. 43 March-April 1974 pages 65-128 $1.50

Sunday belongs to the Lord

No. 44 May-June 1974 pages 129-192 $1.50

People of prayer

No. 45 September-October 1974 pages 193-256 $1.50

Learning about liturgy

267
Celebration and proclamation

Bulletin 46 was the first issue to have a centerfold: a description of Canada’s newly issued sacramentary. A separate 12-page reprint of pages 280-289, in two colors, was included with the sacramentary.

Volume 8

In June 1974, the National Council undertook the responsibility of advising the editor on the issues for each year. During the annual meeting, the Council discusses the proposed list of issues, and helps the editor to select those which best meet the needs of pastoral liturgy in Canada.

Year of praise

This special issue on the liturgical year was an exception to the 64-page limit.

Liturgy and life

Blessed be God and his creation

Reading God’s word: the lectionary

Christian initiation

Volume 9

Reconciliation and forgiveness

The Holy See reprinted pages 14-29 of Bulletin 52 in Notitiae (AugustSeptember 1976, nos. 121-122, pages 334-354). This is the international review published by the worship section of the Congregation for the Sacraments and Divine Worship.

Ministries and liturgy
No. 54        May-June 1976        pages 129-192
              Story of the Mass
              $1.50

No. 55        September-October 1976
              Advent-Christmas
              pages 193-256
              $1.50

No. 56        November-December 1976
              Training readers
              pages 257-320
              $1.50

Volume 10

No. 57        January-February 1977
              Rites for the sick and the dying
              pages 1-64
              $1.50

No. 58        March-April 1977
              Day by day we give him praise
              pages 65-128
              $1.50

No. 59        May-June 1977
              Celebrating marriage
              pages 129-192
              $1.50

No. 60        September-October 1977
              Liturgical preaching
              pages 193-256
              $1.50

No. 61        November-December 1977
              Complete index, 1965-1977
              pages 257-352
              $2.00

Volume 11

For convenience, we include the titles approved for 1978 issues:

No. 62        January-February 1978
              Liturgy and devotion
              pages 1-64

No. 63        March-April 1978
              Children and liturgy
              pages 65-128

No. 64        May-June 1978
              Christian initiation:
              Into full communion
              pages 129-192

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### STATISTICS ON SUBSCRIPTIONS

**Volume 1 (nos. 1-9), April 1965-March 1966:**
- Bulk subscriptions: 3,259
- Individual subscriptions: 669
- Total subscriptions: 3,928

**Volume 2 (nos. 10-20), November 1966-January 1968:**
- Bulk subscriptions: 4,668
- Individual subscriptions: 885
- Total subscriptions: 5,553

**Volume 3 (nos. 21-27), February 1968-October 1969:**
- Bulk subscriptions: 3,247
- Individual subscriptions: 1,258
- Total subscriptions: 4,505

**Volume 4 (nos. 28-31), January 1970-December 1970:**
- Bulk subscriptions: 2,970
- Individual subscriptions: 889
- Total subscriptions: 3,859

**Volume 5 (nos. 32-36), March-November 1972:**
- Bulk subscriptions: 2,752
- Individual subscriptions: 783
- Total subscriptions: 3,535

**Volume 6 (nos. 37-41), January-December 1973:**
- Bulk subscriptions: 2,392
- Individual subscriptions: 1,225
- Total subscriptions: 3,617
Volume 7 (nos. 42-46), January-December 1974:

Bulk subscriptions 2,494
Individual subscriptions 1,664
Total subscriptions 4,158

Volume 8 (nos. 47-51), January-December 1975:

Bulk subscriptions 2,455
Individual subscriptions 1,797
Total subscriptions 4,252

Volume 9 (nos. 52-56), January-December 1976:

Bulk subscriptions 2,189
Individual subscriptions 2,296
Total subscriptions 4,485

Volume 10 (nos. 57-61), January-December 1977:

Statistics as of October 1, 1977:

Bulk subscriptions 2,249
Individual subscriptions 2,907
Total subscriptions 5,156

**Individual issues** are in frequent demand for courses and conferences, and by individuals who want to grow in their understanding of a particular topic. All issues from Bulletin 34 to the present are kept in print.

**Reprints:** In the past two years, more than ten issues of the Bulletin have been reprinted to meet the requests of readers. One issue, Bulletin 35 on *Parish Liturgy Committees*, has been reprinted four times! Individual articles and issues have been reprinted with permission in several countries, including the Vatican.

**Bulk prices:** These are available on recent issues. Fifty or more copies of one issue to one address receive a 33½% discount when full payment is included with your order.

**Back copies:** Copies of the Bulletin from no. 34 (1972) to the present are kept in print, and continue to be available through Publications Service, at the address on the inside front cover.
MARKING AN ANNIVERSARY

Thirty years ago, on November 20, 1947, Pope Pius XII issued his encyclical letter, Mediator Dei, on the sacred liturgy. In this letter, the Holy Father gave his blessing, encouragement, and guidance to the liturgical movement.

Following on his earlier encyclical on the Church as the mystical body of Christ (see Mystici corporis, June 29, 1943), the 1947 letter discussed liturgy as the worship of the Church. These two documents, along with his encyclical on the scriptures (see Divino afflante Spiritu, September 30, 1943), provided a strong impetus to the liturgical movement, and led to further developments in the Second Vatican Council.

We can mark the anniversary of Mediator Dei in several ways:

- Giving praise to God for raising up pioneers in the liturgical movement in Europe and America, and for giving them the grace to persevere in the face of immense obstacles.

- Thanking God for giving us the inspired leadership of Pius XII, and of his successors, John XXIII and Paul VI.

- Rereading the encyclical in the light of the Constitution on the liturgy.

   *   *   *

Blessed are you, Lord God,  
ruler of all nations:  
you have called us to be your Church,  
your holy people of light and prayer.  
You have set us aside to sing your praises.

All glory and honor is yours, heavenly Father,  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord and brother,  
in the love of your Holy Spirit,  
always and for ever. Amen!

NEXT ISSUE

Liturgy and Devotion is the subject of Bulletin 62, which will be in the mails by the end of January, 1978. This issue looks at the main devotions of the Christian people, and analyzes current trends. Following the lead of the Second Vatican Council, it encourages popular devotions which flow from and lead to the liturgy.

Bulletin 62 is pastoral in scope, and is written for members of liturgy committees, readers, musicians, teachers, religious, clergy, and all who are involved in preparing and celebrating the community liturgy.

If you have not already subscribed for 1978, please send your subscription today: address and rates (January-December 1978, Bulletins 62-66) are given on the inside front cover of this issue.
PENANCE CELEBRATION
Advent

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

a) Purpose: Bible services are encouraged in a special way during Advent and Lent as one way of promoting a warm and living love for scripture among God’s people (Liturgy constitution, nos. 24; 35:4). Penance celebrations help the Christian community to deepen its spirit of penance, and assist individuals as they prepare to celebrate the sacrament of reconciliation.

Many members of a spiritual community may benefit from a bible service celebrating God’s gift of forgiveness. This service may be used at any time during Advent, but it is recommended for the final ten days of the season. Preparations should begin well in advance of the date chosen.

During the final days of Advent, the Christian community is preparing for the celebration of Christmas. This penance celebration should help them in making straight the way of the Lord.

b) Personal attention: The priest should seek to make the celebration of the sacrament of reconciliation a personal meeting of the penitent with Christ and his Church. Individual attention — in the form of instruction, advice, encouragement — should be given to each penitent by the priest. When the sacrament is celebrated after the bible service, as suggested in this outline, more time will be available for giving each penitent the individual attention he or she needs and desires.

c) A guide: The following outline is a guide, with suggested texts. While these may be used as printed, it is usually better to adapt them to the needs of the local congregation. Other suitable readings and psalms may be found in the lectionary for Advent (nos. 1-12 and 176-202; nos. 174-175, page 405), or in the liturgy of the hours for this season.

If general absolution is warranted (see Rite of Penance,1 nos. 31-35), the third rite is used (nos. 60-66; Canadian edition, pages 71-74; see outline of rite in Bulletin 52, pages 30-33).

In Rite of Penance, several outlines are provided for specific penitential services (Canadian edition, Appendix II, pages 113-152). As well, the rite provides an extensive list of scripture texts in nos. 101-201 (pages 86-94).

The parish liturgy committee should be encouraged to develop this service as required to meet the spiritual needs of the community.

d) Proclamation: The readings suggested are contained in the lectionary, and should be proclaimed from it or from a dignified bible. Canada’s lectionary is richly

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1 Rite of Penance, available from Publications Service (address on inside front cover of this Bulletin) at $2.00 (six or more copies, at $1.50 each).
bound in red and gold to signify our respect for the scriptures and to emphasize the place of God's word in our spiritual growth.

Scripture references are to *The Jerusalem Bible*; in the case of the psalms, the second number refers to the Vulgate.

e) **Participation:** The Vatican Council suggests many ways of promoting active participation in the liturgy: pastors are to encourage people to take part by their acclamations and responses, and by singing psalms, antiphons and hymns, as well as by their actions and bodily postures. Reverent silence for reflection is an essential part of good participation (see Liturgy constitution, no. 30). An effort should be made to include all or many of these methods in this celebration.

f) **Music** should help the celebration to achieve its purpose. Hymns and songs are suggested from *Catholic Book of Worship*, the Canadian hymnal. Other ideas are given in the liturgical index of the choir edition (pages i-iv at the back of the book) under *Advent, Christian vocation, community, penance celebrations, word of God*.

g) **Full celebration:** There should be a presiding priest, a number of confessors, the reader carrying the lectionary, servers (including two with lighted candles), crossbearer, thurifer, and choir. The president presides from the chair, leads the prayers, and preaches the message of conversion. His work will be more effective when he encourages others to assume their proper roles.

h) **Team work:** A number of smaller or scattered parishes may wish to pool their efforts in celebrating penitential services in each place. A team of priests going from parish to parish on several different days will bring the benefits of this celebration to more people.

i) **People's leaflet:** Parishes may encourage the people to use the Canadian hymnal as their response book; others may wish to prepare leaflets to help their people take a full part in the psalms and responses.

j) **Prayer for sinners:** The people of God are called to be people of prayer. The entire Church prays for sinners, asking God in his mercy to bring them back to full life in his family. During the penance celebration, the president should invite and encourage the congregation to pray for sinners: for themselves, for members of the community, and for sinners throughout the world (see 1 Jn. 5: 16). This prayer may well be backed up by an appeal for individual, family, and community fasting.

k) **Prayer and fasting:** During the week before the penance celebration, members of the parish may be invited to prepare for it by prayer, fasting, and penance on one or more weekdays. By their communal prayer and fasting they will plead for God's mercy on sinners and help for all his people in this community (see Bulletin 42, pages 16-18).

l) **Suitable days:** A weekday — especially Wednesday or Friday, the Church's traditional days for fasting and penance — is more appropriate for a penance celebration than is the Lord's day. In planning these services, pastors should lead their community into greater accord with the practice of the universal Church.

m) **Banners and posters** based on the theme, or reflecting the spirit of Advent, may help to set the mood for this celebration.
CELEBRATION OUTLINE

Theme

"Waiting in hope." The theme may be explained in a few sentences before the service begins, after the greeting, or in any leaflet distributed to the congregation.

Entrance rite

1. Song

Come, thou long-expected Jesus CBW, no. 249
O come, O come, Emmanuel no. 248
Psalm 85 (84) no. 173

or another seasonal hymn

2. Enthroning the word of God

The lectionary, the book of God's word, is carried in procession by the reader, accompanied by servers with lighted candles, and the others mentioned in (g) above. He or she places the book in a place of honor (reading stand or lectern), and the candles are placed nearby. The presiding priest incenses the book after it has been enthroned.

3. Greeting

After all make the sign of the cross, the president greets the assembled community with one of the following, adapted as necessary: Gal. 1: 3; Col. 4: 18; or this greeting from The Martyrdom of Polycarp:

Mercy, peace, and love to you
from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

And also with you.

The president or one of his assistants may explain the theme briefly, if this has not already been done.

4. Opening prayer

The president may choose a suitable prayer from the Advent liturgy; he is encouraged to compose his own, based on the theme as developed in the readings chosen for this celebration. One example of this prayer:

Let us pray to God our Father,
asking him to help us love others
as we wait in hope for our salvation.

All pause for silent prayer

All praise to you, Father of all,
ruler of the universe:
you have loved us so fully
that you sent your Son to save us.
He loved us and gave his life for us, dying so that we might die to sin, rising so that we might wait in hope for your salvation.

Help us to work in faith and love as we wait with hope until he comes again in glory.

All glory and praise are yours, Father, for ever and ever.

Liturgy of the Word

God's word invites us to conversion and renewal of our life by proclaiming that Christ's death and rising have freed us from slavery to sin.

5. Readings from the word of God

The first reading is chosen from Titus 2: 11-14 (lectionary, no. 14); or 1 Pet. 1: 3-9 (no. 44).

6. Meditative silence

A few moments of silence follow the reading, allowing all to reflect and pray in response to the word they have heard in faith.

7. Psalm

After silent prayer, a psalm or hymn is sung:

Ps. 116 (114) CBW, no. 241
Ps. 25 (24): lectionary, page 405 nos. 172, 229
Forgive our sins no. 276

8. Second reading

If a second reading is used, it may be chosen from one of the NT texts above, or from readings in the seasonal lectionary. A moment of silent prayer follows this reading.

9. Gospel reading

The deacon (or another priest, but not the president) takes the gospel book and prays for God's help. After receiving the blessing of the presiding priest, he goes in solemn procession with candles and incense to the lectern. He incenses the book solemnly, and then proclaims the gospel.

Mt. 25: 31-46 lectionary, no. 161
Mk. 13: 33-37 no. 2
Lk. 21: 25-28, 34-36 no. 3
Jn. 1: 6-8, 19-28 no. 8

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10. Homily

The president proclaims the wonderful works and mercy of God as revealed in the scripture texts, and leads the assembly to prayer for sinners, to a reflective examination of conscience, and to repentance.

11. Prayer for sinners

The presiding priest introduces this prayer; he may use ideas from introductory note (). Then he invites all to prayer:

Let us pray for sinners and ask God to forgive them:

All pause for silent prayer

Heavenly Father,
you do not want sinners to die,
but to live in grace and serve you in love.
Look upon the people of the world
and draw them back to you through Christ.

With him we pray:
Father, forgive them,
for they know not what they do!

Send your Spirit to soften hard hearts,
to bend rigid wills
and to warm those who are indifferent to you.

Father, forgive us our sins
and listen to our prayers for all sinners.
Bring them back to your love through our example,
so that with them we may praise you
and celebrate our thanks through Christ our Lord.

12. Hymn

If desired, a hymn may be sung:

The Lord has done marvels CBW, no. 400
At the name of Jesus no. 369
From the depths no. 279

Examination of Our Christian Living

The points below are suggestions. The liturgy committee may develop others. Care should be taken, however, not to omit the questions that disturb you or the community: these are probably the ones that most need to be asked.

The questions should be read slowly, and a pause is to be made for reflection

2 Other forms of the examination of conscience are given in past issues of the Bulletin: for Advent, see nos. 36, 41, 46, 51 and 55; for Lent, see nos. 32, 37, 42, 47, 52, and 56. Another form is included in Sunday Mass Book, pages 1108-1112.
after each group. The examination of conscience is the heart of the penance service: unless suitable time is given for reflection during it, it becomes a waste of everyone's time.

13. Examination of conscience

Presiding priest:
Let us turn to God our Father and ask his mercy, that we may turn away from our sins and come back to him in love.

Reader:
Do I trust Jesus?
Do I really accept him as my Lord and savior?
Do I listen to his word? How often?
Am I waiting in hope for his coming?

All pause for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.

Reader:
Do I believe that Jesus is coming to judge me?
Am I ready for his coming?
What things in my life are against his will?
Is Jesus pleased with the life and actions of our parish community?

All pause for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.

Reader:
Do I try to see Jesus in other people, especially those who are in need, or down and out?
Do I support honest agencies that work for poor and helpless individuals and nations?
Do I try to use my talents and gifts to help other people and my parish community?

All pause for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.

Reader:
Do I refuse to open my heart and my purse to people who need my help and understanding?
Do I despise people who are less fortunate?
Do I look down on others because of their race, nationality, sex, or life styles?

Am I making it harder for others to live in a human and dignified way?
How much of this world's resources do I waste?
Do I gather too many goods for myself and my family?

All pause for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.

Reader:
Do I pray every day?
Do I want God's kingdom to come among us?
Am I taking time every day to listen to God’s word?
Do I encourage my family and other people to pray?
Does our parish teach us how to grow in prayer?

All pause for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.

Reader:
Do I take a full part in the worship of this community?
Am I preparing by prayer and service
for our Sunday celebration?
Do we prepare as a family?

Are there other ways in which we could help
to make our parish worship more pleasing to God?
Have I offered to use my talents in our community?
Do we pray for those who are ministers in worship?

All pause for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.

Reader:
Do I see the duties of my state in life
as God’s will for me?
Am I trying to know what God wants,
and doing it each day?
Am I seeking to do my best for Christ?
Do I respect and love those who are closest to me?

All pause for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.

Reader:
Do I respect the gifts of creation that God gives us?
Am I trying to be responsible in using this world?
Do I work with others to make the world
a better place for all to live?
Am I involved in overcoming injustice
in this community and in the world?
Am I working for justice and peace for all?

All pause for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.

The parish council or liturgy committee may wish to add other reflective questions at this point. The examination of conscience may conclude in this way:

Are we living as followers of Jesus Christ?
Do we live as the people of God, holy and blameless in his sight?
Do we ask the Holy Spirit for guidance and strength
to love others as Jesus has loved us?

All pause for a moment of silent prayer and reflection.
Presiding priest (he may extend his hands over the congregation):

People of God,
prepare a way for the Lord.
Make his paths straight in your lives,
and smooth out the rough roads in your hearts.
Let his Spirit lead you back to him,
forgiving you and filling you with his love.

14. Silent prayer

For about five minutes, all remain in silence. Sitting or kneeling as they wish, they discuss their way of life with the Lord.

For those who wish it, the sacrament of reconciliation will be celebrated after this bible service.3

15. Community act of sorrow

In this prayer, the Lord, have mercy may be sung from CBW, nos. 165-169, or with a tune familiar to the community.

Reader or president:
Lord, have you called us to be the people of love:
forgive us for choosing hatred and sin.
Lord, have mercy.

All:
Lord, have mercy.

Christ, you have chosen us to do good,
to help others in your spirit of love:
forgive us for preferring to serve ourselves.
Christ, have mercy.

All:
Christ, have mercy.

Lord, you have taught us to be the light of the world;
forgive us for choosing the Kingdom of darkness.
Lord, have mercy.

All:
Lord, have mercy.

16. Acclamation

A hymn may be sung:

Prayer of St. Francis
Awake, awake, fling off the night

CBW, no. 404
no. 255

3 The act of satisfaction (formerly known as “the penance”) is to be personal and must be given individually, in a way that is fitting to each person's sins and sorrow. It is contrary to the mind of the Church to impose a general or universal act of satisfaction on all members of the congregation before or after the individual celebration of the sacrament of reconciliation (see rite, no. 55).
Or a brief prayer of the faithful may be based on the theme, ending with the Lord's prayer, no. 17, below.

**Conclusion of the Rite**

17. **Lord's Prayer**

This prayer is best sung by all, as at Mass (CBW, nos. 221-223). The president may prepare an introduction to this prayer, based on the theme of the service. For example:

God has taught us to love one another  
and to wait in hope for the coming of Jesus.  
Let us pray together to our Father in love:  
Our Father . . .

18. **Sacred action**

The presiding priest invites all to share the peace of Christ with one another. This may be done as at Sunday Mass, or less formally. He may introduce the rite in this way:

Jesus gives his forgiveness and peace  
to all the people of God.  
Let us share his peace and love with one another.

19. **Invitation to the sacrament**

The president invites the congregation to celebrate the sacrament of penance after the bible service has ended. The various locations for a personal encounter with Christ through the priest [see note (h) in the introduction] should be mentioned in a positive way. (They could also be described in the parish bulletin on the previous Sunday, with a strong encouragement to take advantage of the spiritual opportunities being offered on this occasion of grace.)

20. **Blessing**

The presiding priest may conclude with a simple blessing, or may use this form:

May the Father who has reconciled us in his love  
continue to shower his blessing upon us.  
All:  
Amen!  

May the Son who died and rose to save us  
forgive us our sins,  
and help us to love one another more.  
All:  
Amen!
May the Holy Spirit of God,
who makes us his temples of love and praise,
give us unending joy and peace.

All:
Amen!

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the + Son, and the Holy Spirit.

All:
Amen!

21. Concluding hymn

As the priests move toward the places for individual reconciliation, all sing a seasonal hymn or song of praise:

The king of glory
Help us to help each other
or another seasonal hymn:

Sacrament of Penance

Those who wish to receive individual guidance and sacramental absolution are encouraged to take the opportunity provided by the presence of a number of priests. The choir might sing meditative or seasonal hymns or psalms in a quiet manner for the first five or ten minutes after the communal service ends.
BULLETINS FOR 1978

Volume 11 of the National Bulletin on Liturgy, January-December 1978, will look at several topics in a practical and pastoral way. These subjects have been chosen in consultation with the National Council for Liturgy.

- No. 62: Liturgy and Devotion: This issue looks at the basic devotions of the Christian people, and at the ways they seek to let the liturgy flow into their daily lives by prayer and action. Also included is a penance celebration for Lent, based on the theme, “We are the light of the world.”

- No. 63: Children and Liturgy: It is most important to help children to grow into a full sharing in the liturgy. In this issue, we consider how parishes may work with parents in carrying out this responsibility.

- No. 64: Christian Initiation — Into Full Communion: The rite of initiation for adults has a special section for baptized adults who want to become full members of the Catholic Church. A similar approach may be used for helping adults come back to a full practice of their faith. This issue adapts the rites for practical parish situations.

- No. 65: Essays on Liturgy — I: In this general issue, many contributors share their understanding and approach to liturgy with our readers. This issue will also serve as a means of promoting more and better liturgical writing.

- No. 66: Diocesan Commissions and Parish Committees: Further help is provided to liturgy committees in parishes and religious communities, and to members of diocesan liturgical commissions. Particular attention is given to smaller ones without great resources. A penance celebration is included for Advent, built on the theme, “Not my will, but yours be done.”

Subscriptions for 1978, from January to December (nos. 62-66) are $6.00 ($7.00 outside Canada). Send your cheque or money order to Publications Service, 90 Parent Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 7B1, Canada.

A FIXED DATE FOR EASTER?

The desirability of a fixed date for Easter has been discussed in past issues of the Bulletin: see no. 34, page 171; no. 38, page 87; and no. 51, page 336.

In the spring of 1975, Pope Paul invited other Christian Churches to join in establishing a common date for Easter. Many Churches agreed on this possibility.

At the present time, however, the Orthodox Churches, while desiring to see all Christians celebrate Easter together, find that serious pastoral difficulties in some of their local Churches prevent their action without further study and reflection.

For now, therefore, the Western Churches will retain the present method for computing Easter until the time is ripe for a common celebration by all Christians of the central mystery of our faith.
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- **Lenten celebrations:**
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BOOK REVIEWS AND DESCRIPTIONS

In the past six years, the Bulletin has reviewed many books (some unfavorably), and has recommended many resources to its readers. Where possible, these titles have been included with this index under specific topics. General books, a few articles, and other bibliographical notes are listed in this section. See also Liturgical Books.

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Art of Choosing, The
At Your Service
Basic Truths of the Catholic Faith
Beatitude People, The
Come, Lord Jesus
Community of Quality, A
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Best in the world
Guidelines for Pastoral Liturgy
Liturgical Calendar
Ordo to be published in vernacular
Sign value of liturgical books

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In 1978, Bulletin 66 is entitled *Diocesan Commissions and Parish Committees.*

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PRAYER AT THE END OF THE YEAR

All praise and glory are yours,
Father of heaven and earth, Lord of all ages:
you have brought us to the end
of another year in your service.
We praise you for the gifts you have given us,
and for the ways we have been led to use them
for your people and for your world.

Forgive us, Father, for our failures this year:
for neglecting your word,
for failing to listen to your Spirit,
for refusing to love you in others.

As we begin a new year in your service,
let your Son be our leader and your Spirit our guide,
your word a lamp for our feet and strength for our hearts.
Help us to work for your honor and glory
and for the salvation of all your people.

Praise and honor and glory are yours, Father,
through your Son, our Lord and brother,
in the love and unity of your Holy Spirit
now and evermore. Amen!

UNLESS . . .

Unless we are growing,
we are becoming stunted.

Unless we are vibrant,
we are dead.

Unless we are open,
we are closed.

Unless we are a door,
we are a barrier.

Unless we are gathering with Jesus,
we are scattering his work.

Unless we are building up,
we are tearing down.

Unless we decrease,
Christ cannot increase.
SEND YOUR SPIRIT

Lord Jesus,

send your Spirit into our hearts
so that we may die to sin
and live with you for the Father’s glory,
now and always and for ever. Amen!

PRAYER FOR SINNERS

Let us pray to God our Father,
asking him to reconcile us with all,
for Jesus died that everyone might be saved:

All pause for silent prayer.

Praise to you, Lord God, king of the universe:
you have chosen us to be your beloved children,
united to you in your Son, our savior.

Lead us from sin
and help us to love and forgive others
as you have loved and forgiven us.

Father,
we praise you and bless your name
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

(See Bulletin 51, pages 316-317.)

BULLETIN NATIONAL DE LITURGIE

Similar to the National Bulletin on Liturgy in scope and format, the Bulletin National de Liturgie is prepared in French by the Office national de Liturgie in Montreal.

The five issues for 1977 cover these topics:

- No. 58: Formation des Animateurs de Célébration, 2.
- No. 59: La Liturgie de la Parole, 2.
- No. 60: La Liturgie Eucharistique, 1.
- No. 61: Documents.

The annual subscription is $6.00, from January to December. Write to Publications Service at the address on the inside front cover of this issue.
HOW TO READ THE BULLETIN

What is the best way to read a copy of the National Bulletin on Liturgy? The answer depends on several factors:

- **A current or recent issue** takes about three to four hours to read carefully from cover to cover. Since each issue is centered around a particular theme or subject, it is best to read most of it over a short period of time. Then individual articles can be reread as desired.

- **Past issues** on a particular subject are best read in the way described for current issues.

- **General issues** can be read sporadically, and need not be read in a short period of time.

- **Discussion groups:** When an issue of a Bulletin is being used as the basis of discussion or planning, it is sometimes better to concentrate on one or two articles, and refer to others as needed.

* * *

The index in Bulletin 61 serves as a guide to all the articles contained in 61 issues of the Bulletin over a period of 13 years: it is a key to the riches of our liturgy, past and present. It may be used often when looking for further notes and ideas on almost any subject in the liturgy.

HOMILY PREPARATION

Some ideas for getting help in preparing homilies are described here. These are being carried out in various Canadian communities now, and all involved are pleased because of the improved preaching that has resulted.

**Area priests** meet each Tuesday morning from ten to noon. They come prepared, having read, studied, and prayed over next Sunday's readings. After a prayer, especially one based on a Sunday text, they listen as the scriptures are read solemnly, as at Mass. They discuss the exegesis of the passages, using suitable resources they have already studied. They share their thoughts and reactions for life, for their pastoral concern for their people, and for the homily next week. Those who take part in these weekly gatherings feel that they all benefit, but especially their parishioners.

**Priests and sisters working in one parish** meet each Wednesday, and pray and discuss the Sunday scriptures, as described above.

**A pastor and some of his people** meet each week to pray and read the Sunday texts, and to discuss the needs of the parish and the world in the light of God's word. They share their ideas for next Sunday's homily, and sometimes offer feedback on last week's preaching.

What about your parish or community?