



Session 2:

THE PENITENTIAL RITE (SCRUTINY)

The Penitential Rite (Scrutiny) can be held during Mass on the third week of Lent, if the child is preparing for the Sacraments of Initiation at Easter. It is also recommended to use the readings from year A.

The Rite of the Sacrament of Penance can be offered during this time for those who have already been baptised. If the Penitential Rite (Scrutiny) is held during the Sunday Mass, we recommend that a separate Liturgy of Penance be held at another time.

The Elect attend Sunday Mass and are dismissed for the following Purification and Enlightenment session.

The rite provides the words of dismissal or, if the Elect are to remain, appropriate words of instruction can be given.

Dismissal

After the Elect are dismissed from Mass, they move with the catechist to another area which has a sacred space arranged and comfortable seating for those gathered.
Today at Mass we heard readings from ... (name the readings e.g. Isaiah or Matthew).

1. Tell me something that you heard from the Mass or the readings at Mass.
2. Let's go back and look at the gospel again. Read from the Bible and as you read this, focus on what you might have seen if you had been there. Share your thoughts if you would like to.
3. Read the passage again and pay attention to what might have been heard such as background sounds, people talking. Pay attention to the questions that Jesus or the disciples ask.
4. Now that you have heard this gospel, what will it mean for you this week? Has this created a new impression for you about God or the Church? What is Jesus saying to you? Make a commitment about what you will do differently from now on.

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Activity Book - Gospel Space

- In your Activity Book (page 31), after listening to and discussing the gospel, write down what you think Jesus is asking you to do this week.

Activity Book

Sharing after the Penitential Rite (Scrutiny)

In the Activity Book (page 32), answer the following questions:

How did you feel after the Penitential Rite (Scrutiny)?

What stood out for you at the Penitential Rite (Scrutiny)?

What was God saying to you during the Penitential Rite (Scrutiny)?

Looking forward to next week...

Next Sunday the child will be presented with a treasure of the Church, the Creed. The following week they will be presented with the Lord's Prayer.

The Presentation of the Creed and the Lord's Prayer are the handing over of our ancient treasure to the newest treasure of the Church, the Elect.

(Barbara Hixon, RCIA Spirituality p 119)

The Creed is the summary of our faith and is professed by Catholics around the world. It comes from the Latin word *credo* which, when literally translated, means "I believe".

Prayer

Before we leave today, let us ask for God's blessing upon our week with a modified prayer from Numbers 6:24-26.



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

May the LORD bless us and keep us;

May the LORD make his face to shine upon us, and be gracious to us;

May the LORD lift up his countenance upon us, and give us peace.