



# the Parish of St. Dunstan

A CHILDREN'S CATECHISM TO ECHO GOD'S LOVE IN THE WORLD

PART II: Our Church

Lesson 25: Confession and Reconciliation

This is the prayer we use to begin our church service:

**Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

I wonder what **Confession** is.

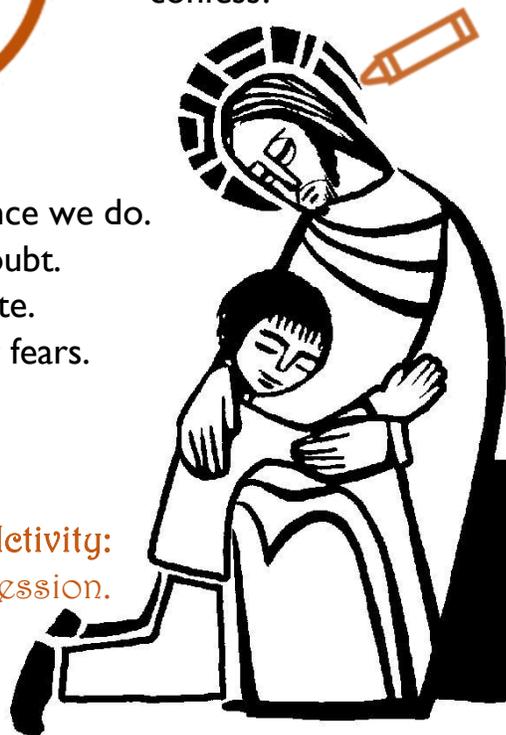
1 Confession is telling the truth about yourself



Sometimes it is hard to tell the truth. Sometimes we wish that we could hide the truth because we are afraid. Followers of Jesus are committed to **confess who they are, what they do and how they feel**. When we do, we find the healing smile of God. What do we confess?

We **confess** our sins – the violence we do.  
We **confess** our faith and our doubt.  
We **confess** our love and our hate.  
We **confess** our dreams and our fears.  
We **confess** all our feelings.

**Activity:**  
colour the picture of confession.



God hears and through the priest says,  
**Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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I wonder what **Reconciliation** is.

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## 2. Reconciliation is connecting to God

Reconciliation is becoming friends again. It means that we can work together. God is always working to bring things together.

God reconciled us and the world to God through Jesus. *2 Corinthians 5:18-19*

At church, the priest says,

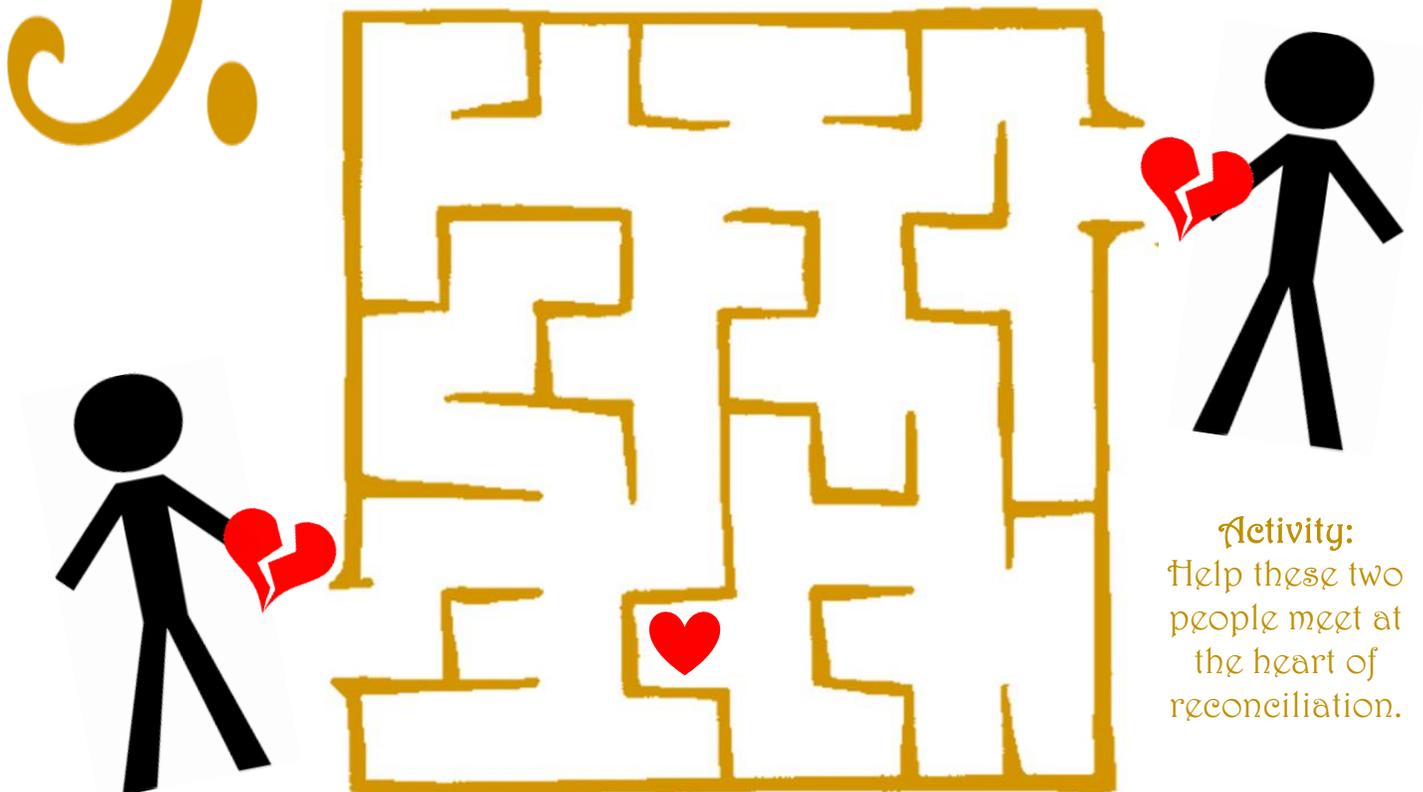
Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in **love** and infinite in **mercy**; God **welcomes** sinners and **invites** them to his table. Let us confess our sins, **confident** in God's **forgiveness**.

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## 3. Reconciliation is connecting to each other

We are invited to become like God and do the same work that God does.

God has given us the work of **reconciliation**. *2 Corinthians 5:18*



**Activity:**  
Help these two people meet at the heart of reconciliation.