

**ST. PETER'S SEMINARY / KING'S UNIVERSITY COLLEGE**  
**at *The University of Western Ontario***  
**Winter/Spring 2025**

**T-5542B**  
**The Art of the Confessor**  
**Tuesdays 9:30 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.**  
**St. Peter's Seminary: Room to be determined**

Instructor: Fr. Pio Beorchia  
Office: St. Peter's Seminary (SPS) Rm 303  
Hours: Contact me by email or arrange an appointment  
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**A. COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course is a preparation for transitional deacons to become ordained ministers of the Sacrament of Penance in the Latin Rite of the Roman Catholic Church. We will gather insights from the Catholic tradition, from the great confessors, and from specific pastoral material in moral and sacramental theology and canon law. Application to contemporary concerns and issues will be addressed and highlighted through role playing and reviewing diocesan practices.

**B. GOALS**

This course will assist students to grow in the following knowledge, skills and attitudes:

**Knowledge:**

1. To be familiar with some of the teachings of the great spiritual guides in the Catholic tradition regarding bringing understanding and healing to those dealing with their human situations of sin and guilt;
2. To understand the various models used in the Catholic tradition in describing how confessors are to minister to those coming to them with contrite hearts seeking mercy and for healing;
3. To know the liturgical requirements for celebrating the various rites dealing with sacramental forgiveness and healing;
4. To know the appropriate canonical instructions pertinent to the role of the confessor;
5. To know the various categories of penitents seeking sacramental forgiveness and healing and where to turn when further expertise may be required in dealing with these individuals;
6. To know the various themes covered in other areas of moral theology or spiritual theology which impact on someone coming to confession, i.e., in fundamental moral theology including conversion, sin, and guilt; in marriage and sexuality such as struggles in living out one's commitment in love and fidelity, in relating to self and others in a chaste and Christian manner; in justice, areas of commutative justice, social justice, and respect for the environment; also includes healing of memories, deliverance, etc.
7. To know the various pastoral ways to address difficult situations.

**Skills:**

1. To be able to assess individual penitents according to their specific needs;
2. To be able to apply adequate, prudential and pastoral discernment to these needs in order to be instruments of God's Mercy through various role-playing situations;
3. To be able to use the various liturgical requirements for celebrating sacramental reconciliation in a prayerful and prudent manner in both individual and communal settings;
4. To apply canon law to specific situations with great care and respect;
5. To be able to encourage Catholics to see the great value of sacramental penance;
6. To be able to integrate all the areas of his theological studies pertinent to individuals coming to confession so that these concepts and distinctions can be interwoven in sound, balanced and pastoral application for the good of each person.

**Attitudes:**

1. To enable the student to appreciate how the paschal mystery underpins all conversion and reconciliation and, in this way, to be able to take on the attitude of Christ the Redeemer and Healer in his celebration of this sacrament.
2. To engender a spirit of compassion and love for the sinner and those struggling to live a holy life amidst all the temptations of the world today;
3. To foster a deep personal love and regular practice of sacramental penance so that he will appreciate the maxim "Good penitent, good confessor";
4. To encourage a good liturgical sense and practice in the celebration of the sacrament of penance;
5. To develop a yearning to continue to read and to discover new insights and approaches to the various categories of people coming for sacramental reconciliation and conversion;
6. In all of this to respect the ultimate purpose of canonical law, namely "the salvation of souls, which is always the supreme law of the church" (Canon # 1752).

**C. ASSESSMENT**

The following will assess the student's fulfillment of the requirements of the course:

**1. Research and Reflection on a Confessional Issue (20 marks):**

The student is asked to research a confessional issue that one would encounter as a Confessor and Spiritual Director: present the fruits of your research along with a brief reflection on your findings. The product of this assignment may begin to form a *Handbook for Confessors* as personal resource. The student will be graded on the research work and the brief reflection. The research could include aspects of theology and psychology, it could identify community resources, it could draw from the experience of seasoned confessors or other professionals who have dealt with the issue, it could draw from sacred Scripture and tradition and from the writings of the saints, it could also make use of art or film to draw illustration. The issue could include, but is not restricted to the following: addiction (gambling, alcohol, drugs, etc.), chastity, use of pornography, scrupulosity, occult practice, healing of memories (post-trauma or other), narcissism, anger and violence, conversion and remorse, or a topic approved by the instructor. Submit a four-page (maximum) double-spaced synopsis and brief reflection on your findings. Include proper citations of your sources. Be prepared to speak briefly to the class.

**2. Research on a Vice and its contrary Virtue (20 marks):**

Each student is to choose one of the seven deadly sins, define it, relate it to the Decalogue,

identify the virtue contrary to that vice, define that virtue, and suggest a penance-satisfaction that might develop that virtue. Once again the fruit of this work can serve as the beginnings of a Handbook for Confessors. Submit a four-page (maximum), double-spaced, synopsis of your research and pastoral approach. Include proper citations of your sources. Be prepared to speak to the class.

### **3. Class participation (10 marks):**

Each student is expected to come with a good attitude, be present, respectful and attentive, and be prepared and participate in the discussions in class. Sample confessional situations will be role-played for the benefit of students. Students may be called upon to present their research work and reflections.

### **4. Faculties Exam (50 marks):**

A 2.5-hour oral exam for Faculties will be held at the end of the course. Two students will meet with two faculty members appointed by the course instructor. The exam will comprise all areas of theological study as they pertain to the pastoral ministry of the parish priest.

#### **Marks:**

Confessional Issue Research Paper	20
Vice & Contrary Virtue Research Paper	20
Class Participation	10
Faculties Exam	<u>50</u>
	100

## **D. READINGS OR TEXTBOOKS:**

### **Textbook:**

- Prieur, Michael R. 2017. *The Art of the Confessor: A Vademecum for Seminarians and Priests*. London, Ontario: Michael Prieur.

### **1. Highly Recommended:**

- *The Code of Canon Law*, 1983.
- Fastiggi, Robert L. 2017. *The Sacrament of Reconciliation: An Anthropological and Scriptural Understanding*. Chicago: Hillenbrand Books.
- Pontifical Council for the Family. 1997. *Vademecum for Confessors Concerning Some Aspects of the Morality of Conjugal Life*, Vatican City. (NB: this is found in Stasiak)
- *Rituale Romanum*. 1974. *Ordo Paenitentiae*, Rome. (USCCB updated 2010).
- Stasiak, Kurt. 2010. *A Confessor's Handbook*. Rev. and Expanded ed. New York: Paulist Press.

### **2. Recommended:**

- Ashley, Benedict. 1996. *Living the Truth in Love – A Biblical Introduction to Moral Theology*, N.Y.: Alba House, pp. 271-92; 323-340. (for justice section)
- Coffey, David M. 2001. *The Sacrament of Reconciliation*, Collegeville, MN: Liturgical Press.
- Cuschieri, Andrew. 1992. *The Sacrament of Reconciliation – A Theological and Canonical Treatise*, Lanham, Md., University Press of America.
- Peschke, Karl H. 1985, *Christian Ethics: Moral Theology in the Light of Vatican II*, Alcester, C. Goodliffe Neale, (revised ed.), Vol. II, 513-73 (justice section)
- Woodgate, Michael. 2008. *A Priest's Guide to Hearing Confessions*. London: Catholic Truth

Society.

### E. SCHEDULE, TOPICS & READINGS

*\*Please note that the following schedule may be subject to changes.*

Week	Date	Topic	Background Readings
<b>Unit One: Theological, Pastoral, and Liturgical Aspects of the Sacrament</b>			
1	Jan. 7	Introductory remarks: A Confessor's Handbook The Sacrament of Penance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Theological, Pastoral, and Liturgical Aspects</li> </ul>	Contact your Chancery to obtain copies of your Diocesan Priestly Faculties!  See: Catechism of the Catholic Church: Pt. 2, Sec. 2, Chp. 2, Art. 4 (on the Sacrament of Reconciliation)
2	Jan. 14	The Sacrament of Penance The Rites of Penance	Rituale Romanum, <i>Ordo Paenitentiae</i> , Rome, 1974; (USCCB updated 2010).  See also: Coffey, David M., <i>The Sacrament of Reconciliation</i> . Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2001. Cf: p. 126-171.
<b>Unit Two: The Confessor</b>			
3	Jan. 21	The Confessor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Models, Roles, Virtues</li> <li>The Formation of the Confessor</li> </ul>	Prieur, Michael. <i>Handbook for Confessors</i> . Aylmer: Aylmer Express, 2016. Chp 3.  Studzinski, R. "The Minister of Reconciliation: Some Historical Models", in <i>The Rite of Penance: Commentaries, Background and Directions</i> . Washington: The Liturgical Conference, 1978. Cf: p. 58ff.
4	Jan. 28 Confessional Issue Assignment Due	The Confessor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Office</li> <li>Qualities</li> <li>Obligations</li> </ul>	Prieur, Michael. <i>Handbook for Confessors</i> . Aylmer: Aylmer Express, 2016. Chp. 4.

			Stasiak, Kurt. <i>A Confessor's Handbook</i> . New York: Paulist Press, 2010. Cf. p. 18-23, 28-59, 60-84.
<b>Unit Three: Canon Law</b>			
6	Feb. 4	Canon Law and the Sacrament of Penance (Fr. P. Baillargeon): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Faculties (Canons 965-982)</li> </ul> The Sacramental Seal (Can. 983-984)	The Code of Canon Law: Canons 965-984.
7	Feb. 11	Canon Law and the Sacrament of Penance (Fr. P. Baillargeon): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ecclesiastical Penalties (Can. 1321-1325; 1331-1333; 1355-1359)</li> </ul>	The Code of Canon Law: Canons 1321-1325; 1331-1333; 1355-1359)
	Feb. 18	<i>Second Term Reading Week No Class</i>	
8	Feb. 25	Canon Law and the Sacrament of Penance (Fr. P. Baillargeon): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• General Absolution (Can 961-963)</li> <li>• Internal Forum Solution</li> </ul>	The Code of Canon Law: Canons 961-963.  John Paul II. <i>Misericordia Dei</i> . Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 2002. (found on Vatican site)
<b>Unit Four: The Penitent</b>			
5	Mar. 4	The Penitent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Celebrating Sacramental Reconciliation</li> </ul>	Prieur, Michael. <i>Handbook for Confessors</i> . Aylmer: Aylmer Express, 2016. Chp. 5.  Pontifical Council for the Family. <i>Vademecum</i> , Vatican City: Libreria Editrice Vaticana, 1997. (found online on Vatican website and in Stasiak)
9	Mar. 11	The Penitent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Types of Penitents</li> <li>• The Penitent's Point of View</li> </ul>	Prieur, Michael. <i>Handbook for Confessors</i> . Aylmer: Aylmer Express, 2016. Chp. 10 and 12.  Stasiak, Kurt. <i>A Confessor's Handbook</i> .

			New York: Paulist Press, 2010. Cf. p. 85-125.
<b>Unit Five: The Decalogue: Love of God and Love of Neighbour</b>			
10	Mar. 18 Vice-Virtue Assignment Due	The Decalogue: 1-3	<p>Pinckaers, Servais. <i>Morality: The Catholic View</i>. South Bend: St. Augustine's Press, 2001.</p> <p>Coffey, David M., <i>The Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>. Collegeville: Liturgical Press, 2001. Cf: p. 1-31.</p> <p>Ashley, Benedict. <i>Living the Truth in Love</i>. New York: Alba House, 1996. Cf: p. 28-38.</p>
11	Mar. 25	The Decalogue: 4-10 • Justice • Restitution	<p>Prieur, Michael. <i>Handbook for Confessors</i>. Aylmer: Aylmer Express, 2016. Chp. 7.</p> <p>Peschke, Karl H., <i>Christian Ethics</i>, vol. 2. Birmingham: C. Goodliffe Neale Ltd., 1981. Cf. p. 513-573</p> <p>Ashley, Benedict. <i>Living the Truth in Love</i>, New York: Alba House, 1996. Cf: p. 271-92; 323-340.</p>
12	Apr. 1	The Virtues and Vices Pastoral Issues Dealing with the Problem of Evil	
	Exam Period	Faculties Exam	

## F. UNIVERSITY REGULATIONS AND SUPPORT SERVICES

**Students are responsible** for knowing the University's academic policies and regulations and any particularities of their own course of study. Ignorance of these policies is not an excuse for

any violation thereof. The following policies are particularly important to note:

**Accommodations for Tests/Examinations:** Students with disabilities work with Accessibility Services which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation\\_disabilities.pdf](https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/Academic%20Accommodation_disabilities.pdf)

Students are responsible for seeking accommodation with appropriate documentation, prior to writing tests/examinations, if they are of the view that their performance may be affected by extenuating circumstances. All students requiring academic accommodations for tests and examinations must use the services offered through King's University College.

**How to Request Academic Accommodation – King's Students:**

<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/courses-enrolment/exams-and-tests/medical-accommodation/>

**UWO Policy on Accommodation for Medical Illness:**

[https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/accommodation\\_medical.pdf](https://uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/accommodation_medical.pdf)

**Student Medical Certificate (SMC):**

<https://www.eng.uwo.ca/files/undergraduate/student-medical-certificate.pdf>

**Scholastic Offences:** Scholastic offences are taken seriously and students are directed to read the appropriate policy, specifically, the definition of what constitutes a Scholastic Offence, at the following Web site:

[http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic\\_policies/appeals/scholastic\\_discipline\\_undergrad.pdf](http://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/appeals/scholastic_discipline_undergrad.pdf)

It is expected that students will submit work that is truly their own, completed without external assistance (human or artificial) except as explicitly permitted by the course instructor. All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system; see <https://elearningtoolkit.uwo.ca/tools/Originality Reports - TurnItIn.html>. Please note that Turnitin analysis now also includes AI detection.

Within this course, use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools such as Chat GPT is not permitted for written work submitted for evaluation. Unauthorized use of AI will be subject to academic discipline.

**Copyright re: Course Material:** Lectures and course materials, including power point presentations, tests, outlines, and similar materials are protected by copyright. Faculty Members are the exclusive owner of copyright in those materials they create. Students may take notes and make copies for their own use. Students may not allow others to reproduce or distribute lecture notes and course materials publicly (whether or not a fee is charged) without the express written

consent of a Faculty Member. Similarly, students own copyright in their own original papers and exam essays. If a faculty member is interested in posting a student's answers or papers on the course web site he/she should ask for the student's written permission.

**Use of Recording:** Participants in this course are not permitted to record the sessions, except where recording is an approved accommodation, or the participant has the prior written permission of the instructor.

**Policy on Attendance:** Any student who, in the opinion of the instructor, is absent too frequently from class or laboratory periods in any course, will be reported to the Dean of the Faculty offering the course, after due warning has been given. On the recommendation of the department concerned, and with the permission of the Dean of that Faculty, the student will be debarred from taking the regular examination in the course.

**Scholarly Citation:** According to the policy adopted by the faculty of St. Peter's Seminary, all citations, references and bibliographies in written assignments are to follow the formatting prescribed in the Chicago Manual of Style. Footnotes are to be used, rather than author-date references in the body of the text. Please review and consult the summary provided by Kenrick-Glennon Seminary at <https://www.kenrick.edu/wp-content/uploads/Guide-to-Academic-Papers-and-Citations.pdf> for further information.

**Submission of Assignments:** It is the responsibility of the student to organize his or her work so that the assignments are completed on time. A penalty of 10% of the value of the assignment will be deducted for each day it is overdue without permission.

Students who are unable to hand in assignments or take examinations for legitimate reasons must consult with the instructor. If the reason is medical, students may be required to provide a note from a doctor. Ordinarily, all assignments and exams will be made up at a later date. In certain circumstances, the final grading scheme may be re-weighted if the missed assignment is of a low weight.

**Selection and Registration of Courses:** Students are responsible for ensuring that their selection of courses is appropriate and accurately recorded, that all prerequisite course(s) have been successfully completed, and that they are aware of any anti-requisite course(s) that they have taken.

**Classroom Conduct:** Students are expected to conduct themselves with respect for everyone and with professionalism in all classroom activities. Laptops and other electronic devices may be used for classroom academic activities only. The use of such devices must always be in accord with the common good of the whole learning community as specified by the instructor. The instructor may choose at any time to limit their use for instructional purposes or because of the disruptive use of such devices.

**Statement on the Use of Electronic Devices:** Unless explicitly stated otherwise, you are not allowed to have a cell phone, or any other electronic device, with you during tests or examinations.



The use of electronic devices by students during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., shall be for matters related to the course at hand only. Students found to be using electronic devices for purposes not directly related to the class may be subject to sanctions under the Student Code of Conduct; see <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/code-of-student-conduct1/>

Inappropriate use of electronics (e.g., laptops, tablets, smartphones) during lectures, seminars, labs, etc., creates a significant disruption. As a consequence, instructors may choose to limit the use of electronic devices in these settings. In addition, in order to provide a safe classroom environment, students attending in-person class sessions are strongly advised to operate laptops with batteries rather than power cords.

**Online behaviour and intellectual property statement:**

While this is an in-person course offering, should there be a need to move to online learning, the following will apply: all students are expected to engage online in a professional and respectful manner. This includes all interactions with peers, as well as communication between your instructor. Failure to do so will result in academic discipline and/or discipline under the Student Code of Conduct.

Recording of lectures or tutorials without the explicit consent of the instructor is grounds for academic discipline.

Course content created by a faculty member is considered the faculty member's intellectual property; it should not be distributed, shared in any public domain, or sold by a student or other third party without prior written consent of the faculty member.

**Support Services:**

Accessibility, Counselling and Student Development at King's University College:  
<https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-services/>

Students experiencing emotional or mental health distress can access services at King's University College: <http://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/campus-services/student-support-services/personal-counselling/>

MentalHealth@Western provides a complete list of options about how to obtain help:  
[https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental\\_wellbeing/](https://www.uwo.ca/health/mental_wellbeing/)

Academic Support Services at King's University College: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/academic-resources/>

King's is committed to reducing incidents of gender-based and sexual violence and providing compassionate support to anyone who has gone through these traumatic events. If you have experienced sexual or gender-based violence (either recently or in the past), you will find information about support services for survivors, including emergency contacts at: <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/about-kings/safe-campus/gender-and-sexual-violence/>

Students can connect with King's Campus and Community Social Worker (Emily Carrothers): <https://www.kings.uwo.ca/current-students/student-affairs/campus-and-community-social-worker/>. See also [https://www.uwo.ca/health/student\\_support/survivor\\_support/get-help.html](https://www.uwo.ca/health/student_support/survivor_support/get-help.html) University Students' Council offers many valuable support services for students, including the health insurance plan: <http://westernusc.ca/services/>

These services are not meant to replace those offered at the Seminary but may be beneficial to our students after consultation with the appropriate instructors, administrators, and formators.

## G. CITATIONS

According to the policy adopted by St. Peter's Seminary, all citations, references and bibliographies in written assignments are to follow the formatting prescribed in the Chicago Manual of Style. Footnotes are to be used, rather than author-date references in the body of the text. Please review and consult the summary provided by Kenrick-Glennon Seminary at <https://www.kenrick.edu/wp-content/uploads/Guide-to-Academic-Papers-and-Citations.pdf> for further information.

## H. BIBLIOGRAPHY

### 1. Official Texts

- *Rituale Romanum, Ordo Paenitentiae*, Rome, 1974; (English Text: *The Rite of Penance*, USCCB, Washington, D.C., 2010.)
- *The Code of Canon Law*, Ottawa, CCCB, 1983;
- *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, Ottawa, CCCB, Revised 1999, #1420-98;
- Pontifical Council for the Family, *Vademecum For Confessors Concerning Some Aspects of the Morality of Conjugal Life*, Vatican City, Feb. 12, 1997; (published in Kurt Stasiak, O.S.B., *A Confessor's Handbook*, N.Y., Paulist, 2010 revised)

### 2. Some Further References (annotated):

- Ashley, Benedict. *Living the Truth in Love – A Biblical Introduction to Moral Theology*, N.Y., Alba House, 1996, pp. 271-92; 323-340; (good update on commutative justice);
- Bennett, J.M and D. Cloutier, eds. *Naming Our Sins: how recovering the seven deadly vices can renew the sacrament of reconciliation*. Washington: Catholic University of America Press, (2019).
- Brennan, Patrick J. *Guidelines for Contemporary Catholics: Penance and Reconciliation*, Thomas More Press, 1986;
- Chappell, Arthur Barker. *Regular Confession: An Exercise in Sacramental Spirituality*, N.Y., Peter Lang, 1992, 202pp.; (Good textbook, but, at \$96.00 is costly. Excellent bibliography for this subject, pp. 181-96;)
- Coffey, David M. *The Sacrament of Reconciliation*, Collegeville, Minn., Liturgical Press, 2001 (Good commentary on the rite of penance in Ch. 3 and 4)
- Cuschieri, Andrew. *The Sacrament of Reconciliation – A Theological and Canonical Treatise*, Lanham, Md., University Press of America, 1992: (a good list of the classical and canonical sources; good for technical aspects;)
- *Chicago Studies*, Vol. 34, no. 2 (August, 1995):

- Rev. Thomas Ventura, “Old Wine in New Wineskins”, 111-21 (with remarks by Cardinal Bernardin);
- Kenan B. Osborne, O.S.B., “The Ambiguity of Communal Penance”, 123-35;
- L. Örsy, S.J., “The Revival of the Sacrament of Penance: A Proposal”, 136-43;
- O. E. Cummings, “Reconciliation and Penance: Some Needed Distinctions”, 145-7;
- D. Headley, “Sin and Reconciliation in the Consciousness of Christians”, 158-71;
- Halligan, Nicholas, OP, *The Sacraments and Their Celebration*, N.Y., Alba House, 1986, pp. 81-120; (good canonical points; juridically oriented)
- Häring, Bernard, C.Ss.R., *Shalom: Peace, The Sacrament of Reconciliation*, N.Y., Image, 1969; (pastoral; needs updating, but much solid material)
- John Paul II, *The Sacrament of Penance: Dogmatic, Moral and Canonical Aspects*, edited by the Apostolic Penitentiary, Rome; (difficult source to obtain. It is referred to in an address of the Pope to Roman Confessors, “Treat sinners with understanding”, *L’Osservatore Romano*, n. 14 – 7 April, 1993, p. 3 (weekly edition); see also *The Pope Speaks*, TBS 88:261-265, S-O 1993)
- Kennedy, Robert, ed., *Reconciliation: the Continuing Agenda*, Collegeville, Minn., Liturgical Press, 1987, pp. 131-284; (updates *Ordo Paenitentiae* of 1973)
- Morneau, Robert F., *Reconciliation*, Maryknoll, N.Y., Orbis, 2007; (a literary and prayer-filled source)
- Peschke, Karl H., S.V.D. *Christian Ethics: Moral Theology in the Light of Vatican II*, Alcester, C. Goodliffe Neale, 1985(revised ed.), Vol. II, pp. 513-573 for intensive treatment on justice and restitution; and 574-614 for truth, fidelity and honour;
- Pinckaers, Servais. *Morality: The Catholic View*. South Bend: St. Augustine’s Press, 2001;
- Pinckaers, Servais. *The Sources of Christian Ethics*. Washington: Catholic University of America Press, 1995;
- “Reconciliation” in *National Bulletin on Liturgy*, Vol. 26, no. 135(Winter, 1993): good articles on the following: questions regarding sacramental reconciliation; the human need for reconciliation; reconciliation and the life of the Church; the gospel of reconciliation; justice, injustice and the Sunday worship; liturgy, justice and daily life.
- Scalone, Jonathon M., “Reconciliation: Rite II Revisited”, *Liturgy*, (90:Feb.-March, 1994), 14-5; (a parish experience with the “root sin” concept)
- Shaw, Russell, *Why We Need Confession*, Princeton, N.J., Sceptre Publishers, 1985 (Solid, popular approach to pastoral questions regarding confession)
- Stasiak, Kurt, O.S.B., *A Confessor’s Handbook*, N.Y., Paulist, 1999 (filled with good practical tips to which we will allude in the course)
- Vaillancourt, Raymond, “La Pénitence dans l’Éexistence Contemporaine”, *Études Canadiennes en Liturgie*, Année 1993, n. 5; (French bibliography: pp. 97-8)
- Weinandy, Thomas. *Sacrament of Mercy – A Spiritual & Practical Guide to Confession*, Boston, Pauline Books & Media, 1997; (short history of penance and many scriptural meditations to help to go to confession)

### 3. Further Materials on Sacramental Reconciliation:

- Carrubba, Sandra J. “Why the Sacrament of Reconciliation is Meaningful Today”, *Our Family*; January, 1995, 16-18;
- Coffey, David M. *The Sacrament of Reconciliation*, Collegeville, Minn., Liturgical Press, 2001(Solid theological commentary and good comments on the *Ordo Paenitentiae*)
- Forest, Jim. *I Confess– Doorway to Forgiveness*, Maryknoll, NY, Orbis Books, 2002; (Good biblical reflections from an Eastern Orthodox perspective)
- Gestrich, Christof. *The Return of Splendor in the World – The Christian Doctrine of Sin and Forgiveness*, Grand Rapids, Mich., Eerdmans, 1989 (reprinted 1997); (reformulates doctrine of sin and forgiveness in light of feminist theology, liberation theology, and economic ethics;)
- Gilbert, Binford W. *The Pastoral Care of Depression – A Guidebook*, N.Y., Haworth Pastoral Press, 1998; (sections dealing with “The Pastor: Unique Caregiver” and “The Minister’s Own Mental Health” are helpful for our course;)
- Grace, Madeleine. “The forgotten sacrament: The life-giving power of Confession needs to be proclaimed”, *Homiletic and Pastoral Review*, Vol. XCV, no. 5(Feb. 1995), 54-8;
- Kelly, Liam. “Reconciliation” in *Sacraments Revisited – What Do they Mean Today?*, N.Y., Paulist, 1998, 97-117; (good popular summary of Penance)
- Kennedy, Robert J. ed., *Reconciling Embrace – Foundations for the Future of Sacramental Reconciliation*, Chicago, Liturgy Training Publications, 1998; (good essays on alienation, history of P., anthropological crises, etc.)
- Linn, Dennis, Linn, Sheila Fabricant, Linn, Matthew. *Don’t Forgive Too Soon – Extending Two Hands That Heal*, N.Y., Paulist, 1996; (good material integrating the five stages of death and dying, healing processes, etc.)
- McCarrick, Bishop Theodore. “Pardon and Peace”, *Origins*, Vol. 25, no. 38(March 14, 1996), 637-43;
- McGowan, Phelim. *Welcome Home – A Prayerful Reflection on the Sacrament of Reconciliation*, & McCarthy, Flor, *Services of Reconciliation*, Dublin, Ireland, Betaprint, 2001; (very practical and wonderfully illustrated)
- Monbourquette, John. *How to Forgive – A Step-by-Step Guide*, Ottawa, Novalis, 2000. (An excellent and practical “How-to” manual)
- Sanford, Agnes. *The Healing Light*, N.Y., Ballantine Books, 1983 (orig. 1947); (good insights on the healing of emotions, the healing power of forgiveness, etc.)
- Schlenker, Richard J. “Are We Missing the Boat on Reconciliation?”, *America*, Feb. 17, 1996, 22-24; (Stresses the communal dimension of Penance)
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