



Welcome To The Holy Ghost Orthodox Church



Ambridge, Pennsylvania

A Guide to Confession

This article is simply to serve as a brief reminder for a better preparation for Holy Confession. It is not meant to be an exhaustive study of this God-given Mystery. Contact Fr. Bill for titles if more information is required.

The hardest skill is to try and come to true knowledge of yourself. When we seek to know ourselves, there is only one person to whom to turn - Jesus Christ - Who created us and knows us better than anyone. This blessing is given exclusively by Christ, who Himself founded and instituted the Sacrament of Holy Confession (Penance) in the Church. This is why we must allow no obstacle to hinder our coming to Confession. There awaits you the representative of Christ, your Spiritual Father, who being human and sinful like you is capable of understanding and sympathizing with his flock who are fellow sinners. So do away with embarrassment or fear. What is there to be afraid of or embarrassed by when your soul is suffering and being torn by terrible consequences of many kinds of sin? When you were physically ill and you were suffering not from one but many illnesses did you ever avoid the doctor or hospital due to embarrassment?

And again, do not be misled by some people who simply ask to have the "Absolution Prayer" read to them without going through the actual confession. Whenever this takes place, whether from ignorance or negligence, this is a terrible sin and mockery of God's forgiveness. Therefore, with faith and sincerity walk towards the Holy Confessional. And you must be absolutely certain that the infinite love of the Savior will receive you and deliver you and take the weight of

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