

Reparation

What is reparation? Reparation means making amends for something we did wrong or for an offense we committed against someone. By dying on the Cross, Jesus Christ, the Son of God, offered His life out of love and obedience to God the Father; and in doing so, He atoned for all the sins of mankind. Jesus canceled the entire debt of sin – past, present, and future – thereby removing the necessity for Old Testament sacrifices. In Catholic theology, personal reparation means making amends for personal sins, which are an offense against God and neighbor. Scriptural basis for the reparation of personal sins is rooted in the Old Testament restitution laws (Leviticus 6:1-7). The prophet Daniel says, “Atoned for your sins by good deeds, and for your misdeeds by kindness to the poor, then your prosperity will be long.” (Dan 4:24)

The Gospels call for both repentance and reparation: John the Baptist told the crowds who came to him for baptism: “You brood of vipers... Produce good fruits as evidence of your repentance; and do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God can raise up children to Abraham from these stones. Even now the ax lies at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.” (Luke 3:8-9) In Luke 19, Jesus blessed Zacchaeus for his pledge of reparation, promising to pay back four times the amount to those he defrauded.

The Catechism emphasizes that reparation is considered an essential part of repentance – to repair the damage done by sin and to restore justice. The Catechism teaches that “many sins wrong our neighbor. One must do what is possible to repair the harm. But sin also injures and weakens the sinner himself, as well as his relationship with God and neighbor. Absolution takes away sin, but it does not remedy all the disorders caused by sin. The sinner must recover his spiritual health by doing something more than confess his sins; he must make amends for the sin. He must make personal reparation or “satisfaction” for his sins. (CCC1459) The penance given in the Sacrament of Reconciliation constitutes this personal reparation or “satisfaction.” Ultimately, however, all personal reparation or “satisfaction” done for personal sin must be done as a participation in the atonement made by Christ for all the sins of mankind through His death on the Cross.

Every offense committed against justice and truth entails the duty of reparation, even after a person has been forgiven. When it is impossible to make reparation publicly; for example, if the person who has suffered harm cannot be directly compensated, the offender can make personal reparation or “satisfaction” in the name of charity. Reparation must also be done for offenses against another person’s reputation; this reparation must be evaluated in terms of the extent of the damage inflicted. (CCC 2487)

Another important aspect of reparation is that it restores spiritual order and heals the damage caused by wrongdoing. It is deeply linked to the atonement of Christ on the Cross, as it allows us to participate in His redemptive suffering. In addition, reparation also seeks to appease Divine Justice and to express our love for God. Reparation can also be vicarious; i.e., we can make reparation for the sins of blasphemy, profanity, etc. committed by others.

The most common forms of personal reparation include prayer and devotion; our Lady of Fatima encouraged reparation for sins to appease divine justice, to console Jesus and to convert sinners; she asked for prayers (especially the Rosary), sacrifice and devotion to her Immaculate Heart. Other acts of reparation include offering Masses and Eucharistic Adoration, offering up our daily struggles and acts of self-denial.

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PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attention children and parents: We will have Sunday School class today!

Attention Chinese Cursillo members! We will have our monthly Ultreya meeting today.

Fr. Teng Lin will lead our Lenten Parish Mission on Saturday, March 14. The morning session will be from 10:00am to 12:00pm, break for lunch, and the afternoon session will be from 1:00-3:00pm. We invite everyone to join us in the evening for dinner with Fr. Teng, exact time and place TBA. On Sunday, March 15, Fr. Teng will offer a sharing after the 10:30am Mass. Fr. Teng Lin comes from the Liaoning Diocese of China. He is studying pastoral theology at St. John's University in New York, focusing on pastoral companionship, spiritual reflection, and life integration.

The Archbishop's Annual Appeal for 2026 has begun. Our goal is \$3,500. For your convenience, you can make your donations through our church. If you wish to donate through our church, please make sure your check is payable to HNOJ and write AAA in the memo. Please use the AAA envelopes provided. Thank you for your support.

The Archdiocese of Atlanta will soon launch its Rooted in Christ – Growing in Faith capital campaign which begins on April 2026 and ends on September, 2028. Its target goal is to raise \$185 million with the support of all the parishes. The goal assigned to our parish church is \$60,000.

Our current building fund expires on June 30, 2027. We will not be able to have another building fund until after the Archdiocese completes its capital campaign in September, 2028.

Did you know that you can make donations to the church directly from your retirement account? Each time you make a distribution from your retirement account, it is counted as taxable income. However, if you make a donation (up to \$108,000), to qualified charities through QCD (Qualified Charitable Distributions), these donations, although not tax-deductible, are excluded from taxable income. Many older retired donors use this strategy to lower their taxable income, but it also satisfies Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs) without increasing their adjusted gross income (AGI). Consult your financial advisor or contact your retirement account specialist.

The 10th year anniversary of the dedication of our church will be on November 19, 2027. We would like all church members to have their picture taken for the 10th year anniversary commemorative parish book. Please sign up with Tommy Puk.

Prayer List: Xie Yannong, Bian Meiyi, Chen Shupeng, Ni Yufang, Lydia Chen, David Wang, Chen Jianxin, Liang Chenjing and Xu Taicheng.
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Mass Schedule	Confessions	Bible Study
Sundays 10:30 AM (Chinese)	By Appointment	Wednesdays 10:00 AM (Chinese)
Sundays 2:00 PM (English)		
	Anointing of the Sick	Eucharistic Adoration
Mondays 12:00 PM (English)	First Sundays after 10:30 AM Mass	Sundays 9:00 to 10:00 AM
Tuesdays 12:00 PM (English)	First Fridays after 7:00 PM Mass	
Wednesdays 12:00 PM (Chinese)		
Fridays 12:00 PM (English)		
First Friday 7:00 PM (English)		