A form of Reconciliation of Penitents according to the Order of the Use of Salisbury

Scenarios and Notes for Participants



^{The} Experience of Worship

Prepared for the Arts and Humanities Research Council Medieval Liturgy Network St Teilo's Church St Fagans National History Museum 23 and 24 June 2010

Reconciliation of Penitents

Three scenarios for the penitents

Mistress Judith Aveling

Also all heretics who do not believe in the sacrament of the altar, which is God's own body in flesh and blood in form, and in the other sacraments concerning the health of the soul.

A literate woman of a merchant family who has knowledge of languages and considerable learning, and an enquiring mind. She has been in the company of a scholar of radical belief from Germany, who has shared the thinking of Huldrych Zwingli with her. She herself has been heard to question the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist – a matter she did not deny when challenged by the parish priest.

Mistress Ann Duthie

Also all women who destroy their own family or their children with strong drink or other cunning.

Also all who wilfully hire out their children, or abandon them in the field, or in town, or at the church door.

A good woman whose husband and son-in-law (with their daughter) have been forced to find work elsewhere. Having been given care of her grandchild this past year, she has in her loneliness taken to drink, and has been so often full of drink that she has frequently locked the child out of the house at night. That child has been found sleeping in the hedgerow in summer and autumn, and during the winter (for want of shelter) discovered shivering in the church porch on the stone bench by the clerk opening the church before morrow Mass.

Master Nicholas Kerwin

It also curses all those who knowingly or wilfully subvert tithes; who fail to offer to God and the Church a tenth part of everything that they have lawfully acquired though gain, merchandise, or anything else, ...

Also all who fail to pay their full tithes (whether of the fruits of the earth, or cattle, or any other annual crop), by withdrawing costs for themselves.

Also all who withhold tenders, rents or offerings (or anything else that should be given to the church) because they bear a grudge against the parson, the parish priest, the clerk, or any other minister.

A carpenter, who having taken away the great oak from the churchyard that fell in the storm in November two years ago, and having sawn it into boards and let them

season, is reported to have sold off one quarter of the boards to a merchant of the city nearby for his new house. He has only paid the church for the remaining portion of the boards he sold; he has withheld both the payment received from the merchant and the tithe payable from his own profit from that sale. Further, when challenged by the parish clerk at his door, he slammed the door in anger in his face, giving him a bloody nose.

Reconciliation of Penitents

Notes for participants in the liturgy

Dress codes

Minister, assistants and singers need to bring black shoes and black or suitably sombre socks (since trousers will need to be tucked in)

Singers and banner bearer, who will be wearing cassocks and surplices, also need to bring a plain white or light-coloured shirt and plain dark (preferably black) tie for the filming.

Penitents are asked to dress as though going to a formal, solemn occasion (i.e. funeral)

Personnel

Minister and assistants

Jeremy Davies (officiant) Christoph Wutscher (first assistant) cassock, alb, amice, girdle John Harper (second assistant) John Moss (bearer of the banner)

Singers

Magnus Williamson (directing) Andrew Cichy Christopher Hodkinson Matthew Cheung Salisbury

Penitents

Judith Aveling Ann Duthie Nik Kerwin

cassock, alb, amice, girdle, stole, cope cassock, alb, amice, girdle cassock and surplice

all in cassocks and surplices