

SACRAMENT OF PENANCE IN ORTHODOX LITURGY, by Ante Mateljan

Summary

In this work the author first presents the theology of sacramental act of confession/penitence in Orthodox theology, specifically following particular elements, from the act of the penitent (repentance and admission of sins) to the act of Church official (absolution from sins), with special reference to ministering and practicing the penance. Then follows the liturgical pattern of the "holy mystery of confession" after the Great Book of Rites (in Serbian Orthodox Church). In the last part the author opens up the questions about pastoral practice of penance with the Orthodox, touching on the possible ecumenical initiatives for resolving the present crisis of practicing this sacrament, both in the Orthodox and Catholic Church.

Key words: sacrament of penance; holy mystery of confession/penitence; penitential liturgy in Orthodoxy.
