



## CONFESSION

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From time to time, we have received requests from readers of the "Sentinel" for instructive article on the subject of Confession. We, therefore, publish for their benefit the following treatise which was originally written in Italian by the Rev. Joseph Frassinetti, and has been translated into English by an able contributor to the pages of the "Sentinel."

### Confession is One of the Seven Sacraments

**I**T is of faith that confession is one of the Seven Sacraments instituted by Our Lord Jesus Christ. It is a truth proved by the Gospel of St. John, Chapter XX., taught by all the Fathers of the Church, and defined by the Council of Trent. The following is the definition of the Council: "If any one says that, in the Catholic Church, Penance, that is, Sacramental Confession, is not really and truly a Sacrament instituted by Our Lord Jesus Christ to reconcile the Faithful with God whenever they fall into sin after Baptism, let him be excommunicated." Sess. 14, ch. 1.

They, then, who affirm that Sacramental Confession was not instituted by Our Lord Jesus Christ, or that it is not really a Sacrament, ought to be looked upon as heretics and excluded from the true Church of Jesus Christ. Such are, for instance, those that, in our day, declare Confession to be an invention of priests, of popes, or of some one or other of the Councils, that deny that it is a Sacrament, and necessary to obtain the remission of sins committed after Baptism.