

Please explain Auricular confession

First, allow me to give a little background to your question. There were confessional booths in operation in all of the Catholic churches. Pope John Paul II did much to bring the confessional back into popular usage. Auricular confession, meaning "confession in the ear," is the Catholic doctrine that the priest has the authority to forgive sin in Christ's stead. In some cases, the priest merely sat on a chair in a corner of the church and the confessor sat in a chair beside him and whispered his confession. In most cases, the priest sat in confessional booth while the confessor kneeled on the side and spoke his confession through a screen.