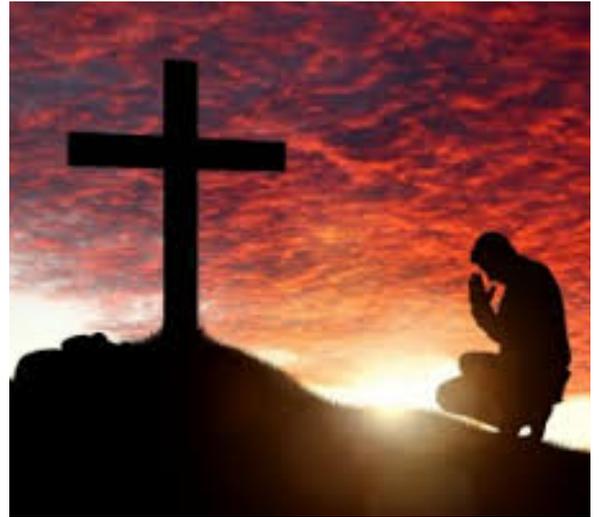


Season of Lent - Week One

Pray

*Jesus,
You have known us from the beginning of time,
you have known us in the depths of our dreams
and in the darkness of our shame,
you know us as your beloved.
Help us to own that core identity more and
more in this season of repentance and mercy.
Give us the rock-solid assurance of your
unwavering faith in us
as we seek the same in you.
Amen.*



Mercy—the grace of God’s willingness to love us for our goodness, despite our shortcomings—is steadfast. It never goes away.

This must be what makes mercy such a gift, because we’re given the opportunity to come back to God from any place of distance we might be, knowing we are loved.

Introduction - Where Are You?

When we go off course in life, God often sends us a wake-up call to draw us back. But sometimes it’s difficult – even painful – to stop, listen and turn around. Thankfully, God doesn’t ask us to do it on our own. He not only calls us home, but he also walks with us every step of the way.

Video

Forgiven: The Transforming Power of Confession ~ Session 1: Where Are You?

Watch the video episode on Formed ~ **Session 1 “Where Are You?”**

To access the video: log onto www.formed.org

- Click “**sign up**” to register for a **free** account.
- Choose “sign up as a parishioner.”
- Create a new account either enter Canton Catholic Community (1860 Washington St.) or enter 02021.

It is easy to register, you simply use your email address and create a password. Once on the Formed site: **Go to the "Programs" tab at the top of the page and choose “The Sacraments” from the drop down and select the program “Forgiven.”**

Reflection

God loves us so much the he won't let anything at all stand between us and his love. God seeks us out when we have sinned. This is the incredible beauty of God's mercy!

He seeks us not to scold or punish us, but to offer us his healing and his forgiveness. God is our loving and merciful Father. If we understand this, then guilt is not something bad to be avoided or ignored, or another wound in our already broken hearts; rather, it becomes a step toward reconciliation.

God doesn't wait for us to come back to him after we have sinned - he comes looking for us. In his merciful love he searches for us to come home.



God is calling each one of us:

“Where are you?”

What are some areas of your life that you need to surrender to God’s merciful love?

Will you allow him to find you and heal you?

Meditation Song:

"Return to God" - Marty Haugen

<https://youtu.be/puuPB4XWrJs>

Digging Deeper

Use the “Forgiven Study Guide” for further reflection. It can be found on the the Formed site with the videos.

Mercy is...

Love, Compassion, and Forgiveness