

Dear Padre,

If God is so forgiving, why can't I just ask for his forgiveness directly? Why do I need to go to confession and ask a man, a priest, to have my sins forgiven?

It's ironic that some claim a man cannot forgive sins. That same accusation was leveled against Jesus himself when he forgave the paralyzed man (see Mark 2:5-7). But Jesus clearly told his apostles they were to be instruments of his forgiveness. When he appeared to them in the upper room after his resurrection he said: "Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained" (John 20:23).

James the Apostle also endorses the concept of humans administering God's forgiveness: "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed" (James 5:16).

Baptism, another sacrament administered by a person, starts our discipleship with Jesus. It cleanses us of all sin—including original sin. But even as Jesus' disciples, we are sometimes unfaithful and need to ask forgiveness. It's not surprising, then, that Jesus has given us another sacrament—again administered by a person—for the forgiveness of sins after baptism: the sacrament of reconciliation.

God is forgiving—so forgiving that when people killed Jesus, his Son, he did not punish and destroy the world. Rather, he used the death of Jesus to demonstrate just how patient and forgiving he is. Our gravest sins—murder, adultery, a life lived apart from God—require the intervention of the sacrament of penance. But even confessing smaller sins is useful. If nothing else, it keeps us humble enough to remember that all of us need forgiveness because all of us sin.

Fr. Gary Lauenstein, CSSR / Sundaybulletin@Liguori.org

A WORD FROM Pope Francis

Going to confess is not like going to the dry cleaner's to have a stain removed....If there is no love in the sacrament, it is not as Jesus wishes it to be. If it is functional, it is not how Jesus wants it to be. Love....toward the brother and the sister who are forgiven sinners. This is the fundamental relationship.

ADDRESS TO APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY, MARCH 12, 2021



CA: HOLIC NEWS SERV; GREGORY A. SHEVY, Z



© 2022 Liguori Publications, Liguori, MO 65057-9999. Printed in USA. Imprimatur: "In accordance with CIC 827, permission to publish was granted on September 2, 2021, by the Most Reverend Mark S. Rivituso, Auxiliary Bishop, Archdiocese of St. Louis. Permission to publish is an indication that nothing contrary to Church teaching is contained in this work. It does not imply any endorsement of the opinions expressed in the publication; nor is any liability assumed by this permission." No part of this work may be used in any form without the prior written permission of Liguori Publications. Scripture texts in this work are taken from the *New American Bible*, revised edition © 2010, 1991, 1986, 1970 Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Inc., Washington, DC. All Rights Reserved. To order Liguori Sunday Bulletins, visit Liguori.org or call 800-525-9521.

Calendar

Monday
APRIL 4
Lenten Weekday
Dn 13:1-9, 15-17,
19-30, 33-62
or 13:41c-62
Jn 8:12-20

Tuesday
APRIL 5
Lenten Weekday
Nm 21:4-9
Jn 8:21-30

Wednesday
APRIL 6
Lenten Weekday
Dn 3:14-20,
91-92, 95
Jn 8:31-42

Thursday
APRIL 7
Lenten Weekday
Gn 17:3-9
Jn 8:51-59

Friday
APRIL 8
Lenten Weekday
Jer 20:10-13
Jn 10:31-42

Saturday
APRIL 9
Lenten Weekday
Ez 37:21-28
Jn 11:45-56

Sunday
APRIL 10
*Palm Sunday of the
Lord's Passion*
Lk 19:28-40
Is 50:4-7
Phil 2:6-11
Lk 22:14-23:56
or 23:1-49

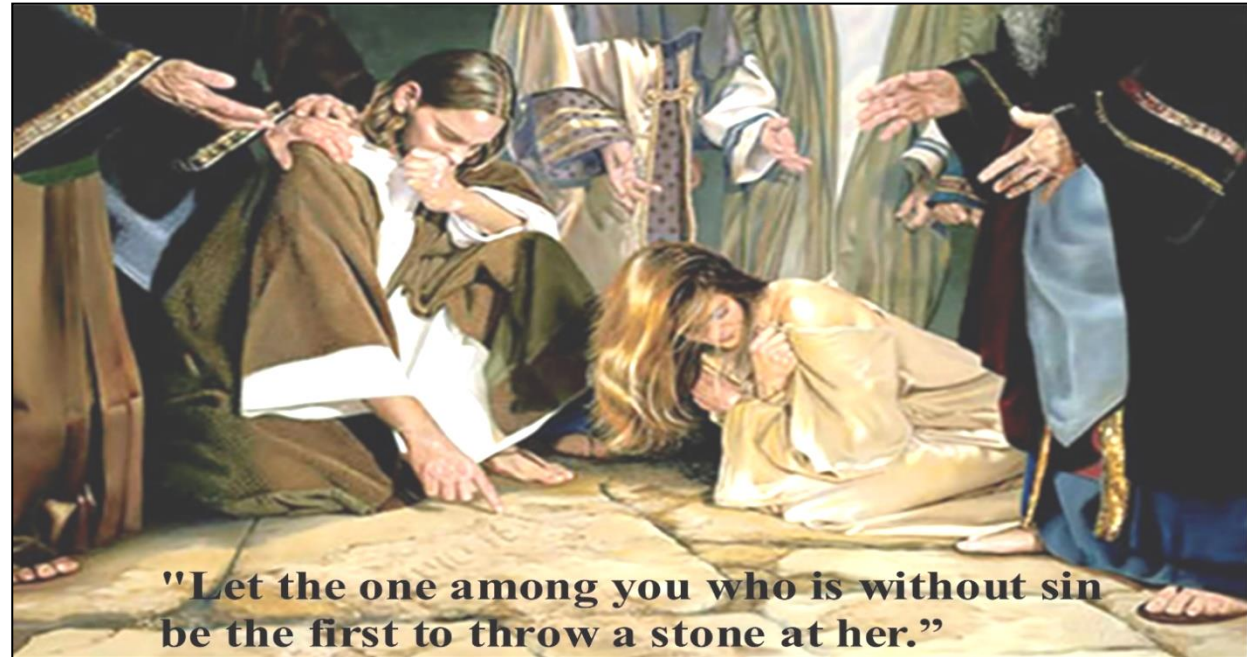


Fifth Sunday Of Lent

April 3, 2022

Holy Spirit Catholic Parish & Christ the King Mission
Reverend Peter Kmiecik, Pastor

Deacon John E. Jennings † Deacon Norbert Lloyd, Jr.
Parish Office 283-5252 – Fr. Peter's Office 233-0947 - Fax 283-5255
holyspiritcc@bellsouth.net – www.holyspiritcc.com
Office Hours: Mon-Thur-8:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m. Fr. Peter is off on Monday



Holy Spirit Mass Schedule & Intentions

Week of April 2 – April 8

Sat 6:00 pm Nathan Smith (Healing)
Sun 11:00 am †Bob Fisher
Sun 6:00 pm Parishioners Living & Deceased
Mon 8:00 am NO MASS
Tue 8:00 am Johanna Raquel & Alberto Ortiz (Anniv)
Wed 8:00 am †Judy Salinas
Thr 10:00 am Sick Parishioners from Holy Spirit Catholic Church and Christ the King Mission
Fri 8:00 am †Paul Bahnick, Sr.

Christ the King Mass Schedule & Intentions

Week of April 2 – April 8

Sat 4:00 pm †Ann Newman
Sun 9:15 am †John & Delores Radich
Tue 6:00 pm NO MASS –NO ADORATION

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Before and after daily Mass, and by Appointment
1st Friday Adoration – 8:30am- 6:00pm
at Holy Spirit in St. Patrick's Chapel
Adoration at Christ the King
Tuesday 5:30pm-6pm