

REFLECTION: I remember when my family found out about my crime. This is how I felt...
I remember... I remember...

OUR FATHER

Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave us:
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy Kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
R. For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

SIGN OF PEACE

Jesus, you said to your apostles: “I leave you peace, my peace I give you. Look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and grant us the peace and unity of your kingdom where you live forever and ever. **Amen.**”

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
R. And with your spirit.

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: **have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: **have mercy on us.**
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: **grant us peace.**

This is Jesus, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are we who are called to his supper.
Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

COMMUNION

CLOSING PRAYER

Let us pray:
Lord God,
Help me on my journey to find your everlasting love. Help me to stay on a righteous path so I may grow ever closer to your glory and ever closer to my family.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. **R. Amen.**

Healing Relationships

WISDOM FROM THE CELLS

I remember the best day for me locked up. My beautiful daughter, who was 16 years old at the time, had been asking me for years, why was I locked up and when was I getting out. I always avoided that question because I thought she was too young to understand. I was holding her hands when I told her the news. Instantly, she let go of my hands and started crying.
Knowing I had hurt the most important person in my life again, it broke my heart too. She told me “Why didn’t you care about me? Why didn’t you love me? Why didn’t you think about your family? Why did you join a gang?” With tears in my eyes, I told her “I did care about you. I did and do love you with all my heart. I did think about my family. I joined a gang because I was young and immature. I would always tell myself that my family were the most important people in my life, but that was a lie. My actions continuously showed that my homies were the most important people in my life. Today, with all honesty, I could look you in the eyes and tell you that you are the most important person in my life.”
What started to be one of the worst days of my life, turned into the best day for me locked up because I was able to release a burden I had been storing in my heart and even though I hurt my daughter, thanks to that conversation, our father-daughter relationship grew stronger. She is my life.

- Erick, who is in a California State Prison.

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Cycle B | October 6, 2024



PENITENTIAL RITE

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life.
R. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray:
Lord God,
I know I have not lived the most righteous of lives and because of this I have hurt a lot of people I love. Give me the strength and courage to seek forgiveness and healing from those I hurt, especially my family.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord.
R. Amen.



LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Genesis 2: 18-24

The LORD God said: "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a suitable partner for him." So the LORD God formed out of the ground various wild animals and various birds of the air, and he brought them to the man to see what he would call them; whatever the man called each of them would be its name. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all wild animals; but none proved to be the suitable partner for the man. So the LORD God cast a deep sleep on the man, and while he was asleep, he took out one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. The LORD God then built up into a woman the rib that he had taken from the man. When he brought her to the man, the man said: "This one, at last, is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called 'woman,' ' for out of 'her man' this one has been taken." That is why a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and the two of them become one flesh.

The Word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 128: 1-2, 3, 4-5
R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.
Blessed are you who fear the LORD,
who walk in his ways!
For you shall eat the fruit of your handiwork;
blessed shall you be, and favored.
R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

Your wife shall be like a fruitful vine
in the recesses of your home;
your children like olive plants
around your table.
R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.
Behold, thus is the man blessed
who fears the LORD.
The LORD bless you from Zion:
may you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life.
R. May the Lord bless us all the days of our lives.

Second Reading: Hebrews 2: 9-11

Brothers and sisters: He "for a little while" was made "lower than the angels, " that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting that he, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the leader to their salvation perfect through suffering. He who consecrates and those who are being consecrated all have one origin. Therefore, he is not ashamed to call them "brothers."

The Word of the Lord.
R. Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Mark 10: 2-12

The Pharisees approached Jesus and asked, "Is it lawful for a husband to divorce his wife?" They were testing him. He said to them in reply, "What did Moses command you?" They replied, "Moses permitted a husband to write a bill of divorce and dismiss her." But Jesus told them, "Because of the hardness of your hearts he wrote you this commandment. But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, no human being must separate." In the house the disciples again questioned Jesus about this. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

The Gospel of the Lord.
R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

MEDITATION: HEALING BROKEN RELATIONSHIPS

<i>(from the eyes of a disciple)</i>		our families	
we were sitting on the boat gliding across the water the breeze was blowing cooling my head our eyes fixed ahead the distant shore the sun was beating my skin was hot with an occasional spray of fresh water	juan shared about his family how his dad left them when juan was younger now he had left his own family	shame and anger were welling up in my eyes i was feeling so lost for a moment in the absurdity worried about failure	i was feeling a spirit of healing from this deep water not just the surface water but healing as if jesus knows my pain all the broken relationships in our hearts that need to be healed by the deep waters
the twelve of us were in the boat with jesus we had listened to his teaching today but were not understanding why wives and husbands should not divorce that families should not break up when we had left our families wives and children for this mission	jesus was sitting next to me sensing my frustration "how did you like today's teaching?" feeling cautious and new to the mission i did not want to question the teacher	jesus, it all seems so hopeless sometimes	i looked inside my own heart past the broken exterior revealing a depth within my blood red heart beating life into me pulsing blood life
	in the openness of the sea cool, fresh water was spraying my face i was overwhelmed by the invitation i had a desire to share about myself with jesus feeling as if it is just two of us	looking into his eyes like the sea blue and deep i was lost now in jesus' eyes in the brokenness the families broken the lives that changed that were separated	
robert shared his dream with us last night about his soul mate and how she taught him how to love but now she was gone she died at a young age	jesus many of us come from a broken family fathers leaving mothers or their children like robert who lost his soul mate and we have left	seeing now in his eyes the tears and pain of my brokenness knowing my pain and questions jesus took my hands putting them in the water feeling the surface but looking deep below dark and unknown the answers somewhere were deep down	looking back now at jesus his eyes telling me reassuring me to stay with the twelve to trust that somehow all this brokenness is not the end that there is something deeper

