

A JUBILEE RESOURCE FOR THE WEEKS OF LENT 2016



CALLED TO BE a people of

HOPE



"The season of Lent during this Jubilee Year should also be lived more intensely as a privileged moment to celebrate and experience God's mercy. How many pages of Sacred Scripture are appropriate for meditation during the weeks of Lent to help us rediscover the merciful face of the Father!" MV 17



MERCIFUL

like the Father

WEEK FOUR
The woman caught in adultery

 JUBILEE
of MERCY
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WEEK FOUR THE WOMAN CAUGHT IN ADULTERY

*'Has no one condemned you? Neither do I condemn you.
Go away and don't sin any more'*

OPENING PRAYER

God of power, God of mercy,
you bring forth springs in the wasteland
and turn despair into hope.

Look not upon the sins of our past
but lift from our hearts
the failures that weigh us down,
that we may find refreshment and life
in Christ our liberator from sin,
who lives and reigns with and the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever. Amen

WORD OF GOD

John 8:1-11

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, 'Master, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by stoning. What have you to say?' They asked him this as a test, looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted with their question, he looked up and said, 'If there is one of you who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her.' Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest, until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing there. He looked up and said, 'Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?' 'No one, sir,' she replied. 'Neither do I condemn you,' said Jesus, 'go away, and don't sin any more.'

REFLECTION

Fr Henry Wansbrough OSB

*The reflection from Fr Henry is available to download from cliftondiocese.com.
Play the video clip [here](#).*

QUESTIONS FOR CONVERSATION

Are we, like the women in the gospels, grateful for the mercy shown to us?

What practical ways allow us to reflect and show that gratitude?

Fr Henry suggests that this woman caught in adultery was *waiting for an opportunity to show repentance*. What are we *waiting for* so that we can show repentance?

How does reflecting upon the Lenten gospels help us to turn away from judging others and so show mercy?

Re-read the Scripture passage for this session. You may like to follow the reading with a time of prayer and intercession after which you might pray the OUR FATHER.



FINAL PRAYER

Loving Father,
you are a God of mercy and compassion.

We thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, into our world
to show and teach us how to love.

When we walk through the
Door of Mercy during this Holy Year,
may we open our hearts to you
so that we may reflect your love, mercy
and compassion in our families,
communities and parishes.

May we walk with Jesus through the 'streets of Galilee',
comforting the sick, opening our arms
to the 'little ones', sharing with the poor
and searching out the marginalised in our society.

May it be a year when barriers between us fall
and reconciliation becomes possible:
a year when our faith in your mercy is strengthened
and we learn how to be your face of mercy in our world.

Amen.