

LENTEN TALK 1

SIN AND MERCY

An overview of the program

WEEK 1: A brief history of how God forgives the sins of his people. It is God's will that we have life in abundance with him in his kingdom. This saving love of God is celebrated powerfully for us in the Sacraments. We will talk about the different sacraments of the Church and how they bring us closer to God.

WEEK 2: How do we see sin today? Sin is always a choice. We know the difference between right and wrong; which actions are good, and which are evil, and we make a decision based not only on what we know, but on what we feel. There are serious sins, and less serious sins, but our sins always draw us away from the loving relationship with Christ.

WEEK 3: The examination of conscience. Here we have an essential element of the Sacrament of Reconciliation, one that is often overlooked. Could it be this is at the heart of why people do not go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation anymore?

WEEK 4: The call to grace. We know we are sinners in need of God's mercy. When we examine our consciences carefully our sins are there in the forefront of our souls. Underneath the awareness of sin is a deeper desire for God's healing love. In this desire we find the invitation to let go of the burdens of sin, and receive that healing love God offers in great abundance.

WEEK 5: The process of celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Here we will discuss the difference between telling God we are sorry in private prayer, and going to the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We will also talk about how the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated.

WEEK 6: Palm Sunday; we will celebrate Communal Penance at 5:00 p.m. Those who are currently in the RCIA will also receive their first reconciliation with us.