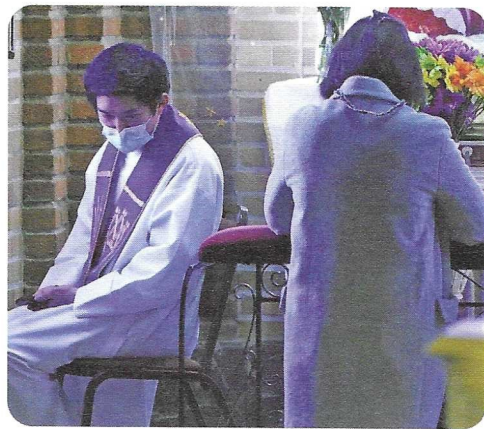


# Dear Padre,

*I have done some really terrible things in my life. When I did them, I didn't think anything about them, but now I feel very guilty. Can God really forgive me?*

As we Redemptorists like to say, "With God there is plentiful redemption." God's mercy is everlasting and overflowing in its abundance. As we continue in Lent, let's remember that Easter is the sign that God forgave even the great sin of the crucifixion of his only Son. Time and time again throughout the Scriptures, Jesus demonstrates this bountiful mercy. He forgave Zacchaeus, the tax collector. He forgave the woman caught in adultery. He was tender with the Samaritan woman we hear about in today's Gospel. He spent his days living among and forgiving all manner of sinners. He even forgave Peter's great denial. The Church has named a multitude of saints, but note that in 2,000 years it has never declared anyone to be definitively condemned to eternal punishment. There is hope and mercy for all.

No matter how great the sin, God will forgive it. All you have to do is ask for mercy sincerely. All that takes is a repentant heart. From the tone of your message, you are truly sorry. Find a priest with whom you are comfortable and ask him to celebrate with you the sacrament of reconciliation. If you don't know how to go to confession, just ask. The priest will help you. Be at peace. ●



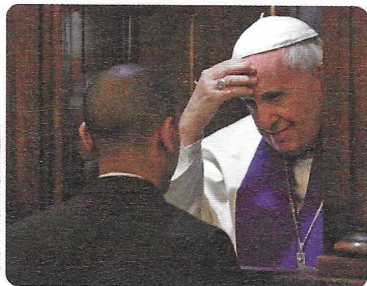
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Fr. Rick Potts, CSSR / DearPadre.org

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
March 13	March 14	March 15	March 16	March 17	March 18	March 19
Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Lenten Weekday	Fourth Sunday of Lent
2 Kgs 5:1-15ab	Dn 3:25, 34-43	Dt 4:1, 5-9	Jer 7:23-28	Hos 14:2-10	Hos 6:1-6	1 Sm 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a
Lk 4:24-30	Mt 18:21-35	Mt 5:17-19	Lk 11:14-23	Mk 12:28-34	Lk 18:9-14	Eph 5:8-14
						In Jn 9:1-41

## Know Someone Overly Anxious about Sin?

Since 1964, the Redemptorists' *Scrupulous Anonymous* free monthly newsletter has ministered compassionately to those struggling with scrupulosity. To subscribe, visit [ScrupulousAnonymous.org](http://ScrupulousAnonymous.org).



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## A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

*We all have the right to be forgiven. All of us....Forgiveness is a "right" in the sense that God, in the Paschal Mystery of Christ, has given it in a total and irreversible way to every person willing to accept it with a humble and repentant heart.*

ADDRESS AT A COURSE ORGANIZED BY APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY,  
MARCH 25, 2022