



welcome *all*

Save the Date: An Evening of Confession
at all Catholic churches in the diocese.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15 | 5 - 8 PM



"God never ever tires of forgiving us!" -POPE FRANCIS

The readings today are timeless. They point to the reality of a world with many temptations and promises for a "better life" on our spiritual journey. Just as many before us here on earth from the time of Adam and Eve, to today, we face many challenges that keep us from being faithful to God and find ourselves in need of reconciliation with God and with one another.

However, as the psalmist reassures us today, God is all loving and merciful, willing to forgive us of our sins, if only we acknowledge and ask forgiveness. God is always there to answer our call, give us back the joy of salvation, and open our lips to again proclaim God's praise.

Pope Francis tells us, "Ah! Brothers and Sisters, God's face is the face of a merciful father who is always patient. Have you thought about God's patience, the patience he has with each one of us? That is his mercy. He always has patience, patience with us, he understands us, he waits for us, he does not tire of forgiving us if we are able to return to him with a contrite heart."

It is in the Sacrament of Penance that we are able to feel God's love and mercy. It is an opportunity to feel a graced moment on our spiritual journey. During the Rite of Penance after we have confessed our sins, received guidance and a penance from the priest, we receive a blessing and absolution. In that blessing we are reminded that our sins are forgiven. We are reminded of how much God loves us and we are challenged to do our best to avoid sin and live in God's love.

Pope Francis reminds us, "Let us not forget this word: God never ever tires of forgiving us... the problem is that we ourselves tire, we do not want to ask, we grow weary of asking for forgiveness. He never tires of forgiving, but at times we get tired of asking for forgiveness."

On Wednesday, March 15th from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm we all have an opportunity to ask for forgiveness. You are invited to the diocesan-wide Evening of Confession, an opportunity for individual confession at any parish church in the Diocese of Cleveland. We encourage you to invite someone you know to return to church, practice their faith and know they are welcome home.

Timeless Message of Love and Forgiveness

First Sunday of Lent
2017 March 4/5