

RECONCILE



LENT 2022

4TH SUNDAY



***This week we are invited to look at the effect of sin in our own lives, in others and in the world.
We know that undisclosed offenses can be damaging to our health. It can make us ill.***

Ambiance: Create an environment that reflects growth and change.

• candle • broken pot. • plants • purple fabric

Song: "[Return to God](#)" by Marty Haugen

Pause for silence...

Gathering Prayer

God of light, you do not see as we see
You look beyond our limitations
And find us strong and beautiful for your purpose.
Help us now to see Jesus your Son
who, though he was despised and rejected,
became our Savior.
Show us Jesus' face in the face of those who suffer
and lead us to give your healing touch to all.
In Jesus' name, Amen.

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Sharing our Story

(The community can gather in a form of a circle of reconciliation and have a lighted candle placed at the center with all the other symbols)

Reader: Telling our stories is a process of self-reflection. In telling our stories we articulate how we understand what has happened to us, why and how it has impacted us, and how we see ourselves and others. Our way of constructing our stories, which shapes our view of reality, becomes more transparent to us when we speak the story out loud to others. *(Kay Pranis)*

Reader: Luke 15: 1-3, 11-32.



“When conflicts are not resolved but kept hidden or buried in the past, silence can lead to complicity in grave misdeeds and sins. Authentic reconciliation does not flee from conflict, but is achieved in conflict, resolving it through dialogue and open, honest and patient negotiation.”

Fratelli Tutti #244

Silence...

- Have you ever experienced being lost, discouraged and in despair because of some mistakes you made in the past and wondered how you could amend it?
- How much does your heart desire for reconciliation that will help you to love unconditionally? The Gospel today can make us recall an experience of conflict and reconciliation that we can bring to our prayer.
- Who to you is the marginalized person, the first son, the prodigal son or the Father? Do you have an experience that resonates with any of them?
- Refer to *Fratelli Tutti* #244, and ask yourself- How is authentic reconciliation happening in my life now? Recall one or more conflicts that you experience in your life - it can be our injured memory, our weakness or experience of loss. What is still hidden or buried? Under the light of the Father's love, what can you do about it?

There may be times when we find it difficult to forgive especially if painful experiences in life have left a deep wound in our hearts. Forgiveness is a two-way process, we both offer it and receive the same in return and the moment reconciliation happens "there is a new creation, the old has passed away; see, everything has become new!" 2(Cor 5:17)

To reconcile is to love in a radical way.

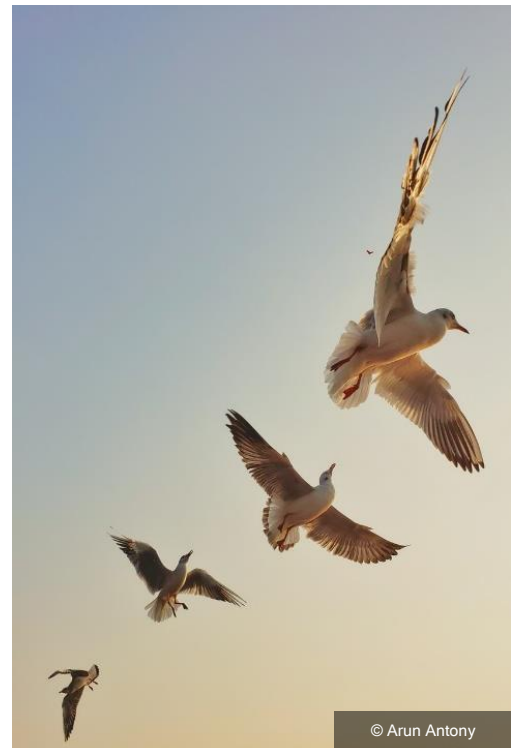
Silence...

Share your story: (sing "[Bless the Lord My Soul](#)", a Taize mantra at the end of each sharing)

Guide: Invite everyone for a gesture of reconciliation or kiss of peace to close the sharing.

Closing Prayer: [Psalm 33](#)

Closing Song: "[My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone](#)"



Prepared by Iraida Sua-an rscj with contributions from Mitch, candidate; Norlissa and Teresa, novices
Philippine District

