

KEEPING FAITH FIRST- FAMILY FUN

I N S H H L R E P S
 N O L C C U N O R S
 H I A M O I N E B S
 E S U S W U N G E E
 R S G S R N N E E C
 I A H S I E S T M R
 T P T S E I K P R B
 A M E Z R B R R E Y
 N O R A R O I L O A
 C C H I P E O R B W
 E P N E T N W F C M
 U G R A G P O D S S
 P T T I J X A T C U
 Y S N Y O U N G E R
 E G D E C A R B M E
 S C O L L E C T E D
 D E R E D N A U Q S
 E V R E S E D H N L
 Q G J F A M I N E X

BELONGINGS
 COLLECTED
 COMPASSION
 COUNTRY
 DESERVE
 EMBRACED
 ESTATE
 FAMINE

HEAVEN
 HUNGER
 INHERITANCE
 PHARISEES
 PODS
 PROPERTY
 RING
 ROBE

SCRIBES
 SINNERS
 SLAUGHTER
 SQUANDERED
 SWINE
 TAX
 WORKERS
 YOUNGER

Catechizing Corner!

The story of the prodigal son is so rich with images, insights and teachings.

Kenneth Bailey offers a marvelous interpretation of the events of the parable that help to illustrate five thematic points.

1. *Sin.* The parable shows two types of sinners and the nature and consequences of their sin.
1. *Repentance.* Jesus illustrates two types of repentance: one in which the sinner thinks he can save himself and another in which he knows he cannot.
2. *Grace:* The parable demonstrates the love of God that seeks out sinners and suffers for them in order to save them. The visible demonstration of love in humiliation is seen to have clear overtones of the atoning work of Christ.
3. *Joy.* Joy is experienced when the sinner is found and saved and when the entire community rejoices over the one who was lost, but is now found and restored.
4. *Sonship.* One son is restored from death and from servant hood. The other son *chooses* to remain a servant. *We are all invited to repent and to embrace our status as fully redeemed, forgiven, graced, joyful children of God.*

Mary Birmingham, Word and Worship Workbook, Cycle C
 Paulist Press, 1998

Teachers must have the sight and



Holy Family Catholic Church
 South Pasadena, CA
www.holyfamily.org

Disciple's Reflection for the Question of the Week

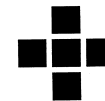
Fourth Sunday of Lent
 3/30/2025

A Call to Prayer

The Word of God
 Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

Faith Sharing
 Questions of the week

Closing Prayer



HOLY FAMILY CHURCH

Holy Family is a welcoming Catholic Eucharistic community of disciples of Jesus Christ connecting faith with life and reaching out to those in need!

Call to Prayer

Begin by calling upon God: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Let us pause for a moment and listen attentively to this week's passage.

The Word of God Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to listen to Jesus, but the Pharisees and scribes began to complain, saying,

"This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So to them Jesus addressed this parable:

"A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father give me the share of your estate that should come to me.'

So the father divided the property between them.

After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country

where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine.

And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any.

Coming to his senses he thought,

'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him,

"Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as

you would treat one of your hired workers.'" "

So he got up and went back to his father.

While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion.

He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him.

His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.'

But his father ordered his servants,

'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.

Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.'

Then the celebration began.

Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him,

'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.'

He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him.

He said to his father in reply,

'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends.

But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.'

He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'" "

The Gospel of the Lord.

Gospel Glossary

Tax collectors in Roman times were not always honest. Often they would steal from the people by keeping the money they collected for themselves. Since they worked for the Romans, they were hated and scorned.

The **Pharisees** are Jews who try to remain faithful to Moses' law, even in the smallest acts of daily life. Jesus criticizes them for too severely judging those who don't live like they do.

The **scribes** are Jewish religious scholars. They know the Scriptures well and are often at the Pharisee's sides.

A **pod** is a long, split shape that some vegetable grow in,

Faith Sharing

Questions of the Week:

Adults: How have you or your family welcomed a family member who has been distant or absent from you?

Teens: When you say 'I'm sorry' do you always mean it? Explain.

Children: Who is the one person in your family you most need to say "I'm sorry" to?

Families: How does it feel to be forgiven?

Closing Prayer

Lord, You have called us to be your disciples, to live in faith, walking always in your footsteps. By your suffering, death, and resurrection, you have made us children of God. As you have loved us and asked us to love one another, help us to love and embrace everyone in our lives.

Fill us with love, compassion, forgiveness, patience, understanding, and tolerance, even when we face the pain of hatred, rejection, and failure.

Guide us to be good disciples. May we seek always the praise and glory of God and the good of all people. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Fourth Sunday of Lent