

Pilgrim notes



Shrine of Our Lady of Martyrs

Auriesville, NY
March 21, 2010

Confirmation Retreat



The St. Isaac Jogues Youth Conference team will lead an exciting Confirmation Retreat entitled **Enter the King** on Saturday, March 27th, 10am-5pm in the Shrine Visitor Center. Pre-registration is recommended. Cost is \$5 for youth and \$10 for parents, which includes a pizza and soft drink lunch. Mass is at 4pm and parent/sponsors are invited. Call Beth Lynch at 853-3033 ext 223 for more information.

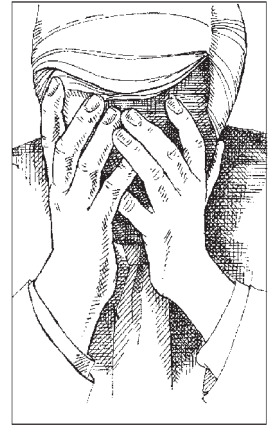
Visit our Website
www.MartyrShrine.org

The adulteress loved your word of mercy.
You said, "Neither do I condemn you."
You were a river in the wasteland.
You were shelter in the storm.

Shelter us too.

Please let us become what we receive.
Forgiven, let us always forgive.
Uncondemned, let us
lay down the
stones.

And stand before you.
liturgy.slu.edu



We Need To Become Forgiving People

Jesus has shown inexhaustible mercy and compassion to sinners by dying for our sins. But we are often self-righteous like the Pharisees, ready to spread scandal about others with a bit of spicy gossip. We are judgmental about the unmarried mother, the alcoholic, the drug addict and the shop-lifter, ignoring Jesus' advice: "Let the one among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." Let us learn to acknowledge our sins, ask God's forgiveness every day and extend the same forgiveness to our erring brothers and sisters. We too should learn to hate sin and love the sinners showing them mercy and compassion, sympathy and acceptance, leading them to noble ways by our own exemplary lives.

Judging Others

We have no right to judge others because we often commit the very faults we condemn, we are often partial and prejudiced in our judgment and we do not know the circumstances which have led someone to sin. Hence let us leave the judgment to our impartial God who reads people's hearts. We should show mercy and compassion to those who sin because we ourselves are sinners in need of God's forgiveness. The apostle Paul reminds us: "But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment." (1 Cor 11:31).

Fr. Anthony Kadavil

"I don't remember."

In his book, *A Forgiving God in an Unforgiving World*, Ron Lee Davis tells the true story of a priest in the Philippines, a much-loved man of God who carried the burden of a secret sin he had committed many years before. He had repented but still had no peace about it. In his parish was a woman who deeply loved God and who claimed to have visions in which she spoke with Christ. The priest, however, was skeptical about that. To test her he said, "The next time you speak with Christ, ask him what sin I committed while I was in the high school." The woman agreed. A few days later the priest asked, "Well, did Christ visit you in your dreams?" "Yes, he did," she replied. "And did you ask him what sin I committed back in high school?" "Yes." "And what did he say?" She smiled and answered, "Christ said, 'I don't remember.'"

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