WED MARCH 9: "Do not forget the things your eves have seen, not let them slip from your heart all the days of your life: rather. tell them to your children and to your children's children." Deut. 4

PRACTICE: Even the small things are important to God. Take time to notice the small things, and for each one, say a 'thank you!' Even the small things have made us what we are.

THUR MARCH 10: "Listen to my voice. then I will be your God and you shall be my people. Follow right to the end of the way that I mark out for you, and you will prosper." Jeremiah 7

PRACTICE: Be still, to hear His voice. Amidst the napers and the exams take time for silence... A few minutes needed to collect self and to open our lives to Him. He waits.

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FRI MARCH 11: "To love Him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself, this is far more important than any sacrifice." Mk 12

PRACTICE: Look for the beautiful, and know He wants your Happiness. Today when you sacrifice, love Him first. Think of the beautiful. Thank Him for peace.

SAT MARCH 12: "Bless the Lord, my soul, and remember all his kindnesses, for He pardons all my faults." Ps. 102

PRACTICE: Think of His sacrifice. Know that He loves you first. In the same way, sacrifice for others. Be conscious during the day, of setting self aside... feel another's joy, pain, confusion. Feel how Christ does the same for you.

What Catholics should know about...

MORALITY

Fr Drew Christiansen, S.J. Department of Theology

> 7-8:30 PM. Keenan-Stanford Chapel SUN/TUES MAR 6/8

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"Managing Conflict

in Relationships: How to Fight Fair." with Sally Coleman and Chris Conway

Wed. Mar 23 7:30 PM Keenan/Stanford Chapel ****



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not covet You shall uour neighbor's house.



No question is more frequently asked about the Sacrament of Reconciliation than, "Why do I need a priest?" And a very good question it is. After all, if God is the Absolute Love which the Christian tradition claims, then why can't I confess my sin to God directly and be certain that, so long as my repentance and determination to change my life are real, I am forgiven? The priest is another human being. Why do I need that intermediary between God and me?

The answer, quite bluntly, is that I don't. In one way or another, sin is the refusal to accept the love of God. When I am converted, i.e. when I turn again in grateful acceptance to that love, the Absolute Love which is God immediately fills me without any conditions whatsoever. Then why the priest? The presumption that underlies that question is that the priest's role in the sacrament is primarily to be a representative of God. And that presumption is based on the notion that sin is a breach between God and the indvidual. There lies the problem, for such an understanding of sin is inadequate. Sin alienates me from God and from everyone else. All sin is sin against the Church, the community of believers. The mission of the Church is to continue the work of the Risen Lord and so to make Christ present in the world. That mission is given to all of us in Baptism. Each of us is uniquely placed to further that mission because each of us is related to those around us in ways that no one else ever has been or will be. And therefore each of us can frustrate that mission by our failure to make Christ present in the place, time, and way that only he/she can. Thus, my sin impedes all the other members of the Church in their fulfillment of our common work. As a result, I need to be reconciled with them. The priest, himself a member of the Church, acts as the representative of all my brothers and sisters in the Church whom I have injured by my sin. The Absolution which the priest extends to me reconciles me with them.

The real difficulty which the question, "Why do I need the priest in the Sacrament of Reconciliation?" brings to light is a misunderstanding of sin as being a "God-and-me" matter, when in fact it is also about me and the community. Reconciliation with God is given through reconciliation with one another.

...Fr. Michael Himes, ND Theology



DAILY SCRIPTURE QUOTE & PRACTICE 3 MINUTE DAILY REFLECTION

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Sunday March 6: THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT "I will prove my holiness through you. I will gather you from the ends of the earth; I will pour clean water on you and wash away all your sins. I will give you a new spirit within you, says the Lord." Ezek. 36

PRACTICE: Love and laughter is His Holiness through you. Remember during the day to love and to laugh and to share His Holiness with others.

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MON MARCH 7: "And I will come to the altar of God, the God of my joy. My redeemer I will thank you... O God, my God." Ps. 42.43

PRACTICE: How do you thirst for God? How does He fill you? Spend a few minutes thanking Him for all the ways he renews your life: friends, family, work, social life... Know He is there.

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TUES MARCH 8: "And now we put our whole heart into following you, O Lord, into fearing you and seeking your face once more." Dan 3

PRACTICE: Look for Eyes. We are pilgrims, seeking His face. We must persevere to know our God. Look for Eyes - and He is there.

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