

Thursday 19th November 2020

Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us

The first words of Jesus recorded in Mark's Gospel (1:15) include a call to repent. In order to repent, we first have to acknowledge our sin. Then comes forgiveness.



Acknowledgement and confession — Repentance — Forgiveness

"If we claim that we're free of sin, we're only fooling ourselves. A claim like that is errant nonsense. On the other hand, if we admit our sins - make a clean breast of them - he won't let us down; he'll be true to himself. He'll forgive our sins and purge us of all wrongdoing. If we claim that we've never sinned, we out-and-out contradict God - make a liar out of him." 1 John 1:8-9 MSG

Today we focus our prayers particularly on the Church, and also our own part in the Body of Christ, loved by Christ who is the head —

"As you come to him, the living Stone - rejected by men but chosen by God and precious to him - you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house..." (1 Peter 2:4)

"But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." (1 Peter 2:9)



— but also called to examine herself and repent. We reflect and pray -

For unity:

- Jesus last prayer: "That all of them may be one, Father" (John 17:21)
- How good and pleasant it is when brothers live together in unity! (Psalm 133:1)
- "That all of you agree with one another in what you say and that there be no divisions among you" (1 Cor 1:10)



- For those who have been disregarded, disbelieved or abused:
- God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth. (1 John 1:5)
 - Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give account. (Hebrews 4:13)

"Lord have mercy, forgive us and transform us that we may shine your light."

